

SEAM LEAKAGE – CARE AND MAINTENANCE

No matter the finest water repellent fabric used for your boat cover, its component parts have to be assembled together somehow. From experience, we consider the best method to be sewing.

Over the years we have watched sewing threads develop so as to perform their role in the best way. As a result we've always taken great care to use in our work the very best UV resistant, marine grade threads available with the smallest needles possible. Making our double-stitched seams: strong and resistant.

The fact that the thread holes of our seams are extremely small combined with anti-wick properties of the thread helps reduce the chance of water infiltration.

IMPORTANT FACTS:

Wherever seams are sewn there is a chance for water to leak through the holes made by the needle during the sewing operation.

Actually all boat tops and covers can leak through stitching holes and no boat top can be guaranteed 100%. Water infiltration through the seams is not a manufacturer defect.

Although your marine canvas is water repellent ; with new canvas, the greatest potential for leakage is through the sewn seams. All seams are sewn with a marine grade anti-wick Polyester thread that you may see light through on a dry day.

The thread is designed to instantly expand to fill the hole in the presence of water preventing leaks. In some cases, the thread will not swell up enough to fill out the holes created by sewing, but usually, the movement of the fabric in use will move the fibers enough to seal the holes.

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To avoid surprises and reduce the chance of leaks, we recommend the following:

Care and maintenance

1. Once you've installed your new boat top or cover, it should be hosed with water to allow seam take up. Let it dry and repeat 5-6 times. Not only will this minimise any seam leakage it gives you the chance to become familiar with your new boat top.
2. When your boat cover is wet, **DO NOT TOUCH**, it disrupts the fabric fibers and will make a greater possibility for it to leak. Let it dry before doing anything to it.
3. The thread swelling process will also occur after a couple of rainfalls.
4. For Sunbrella , Surlast and Seamark fabrics, if the problem persist after 5-6 rainfalls, you may apply a couple of light coats of 303 High tech fabric Guard to the seams to speed up this process.
5. For Top Gun and Odyssey fabrics, if the problem persists after 5-6 rainfalls, you may apply a quality seam sealer for polyester fabrics, available from your local sporting goods store. (follow manufacturers recommendations)

Good to know

1. Seam sealing the seams when your boat top or boat cover is brand new, is **NOT** recommended as this will disrupt the thread swelling process.
2. Avoid prolonged contact of any object against your tent, as this may break down the waterproofing.
3. Never overstretch your camper top or boat cover, as too much tension may cause the seams to open and tear.

CONDENSATION – CARE AND MAINTENANCE

GIVE YOUR TOP SOME AIR

Under certain conditions such as cold weather and high humidity, condensation will form on the inside surfaces of your camper top enclosure. It is caused by water vapour that cannot escape from the bimini top.

Sources are body heat, wet carpet or clothing inside the boat top - it is **NOT LEAKAGE** through boat top fabric. When this occurs, avoid touching the bimini top and enclosure walls.

To reduce condensation, provide as much ventilation through the boat top as possible by leaving doors and windows open, this will help remove the sources of moisture from the boat.

Some condensation is normal with marine fabrics and should not be considered as a defect.