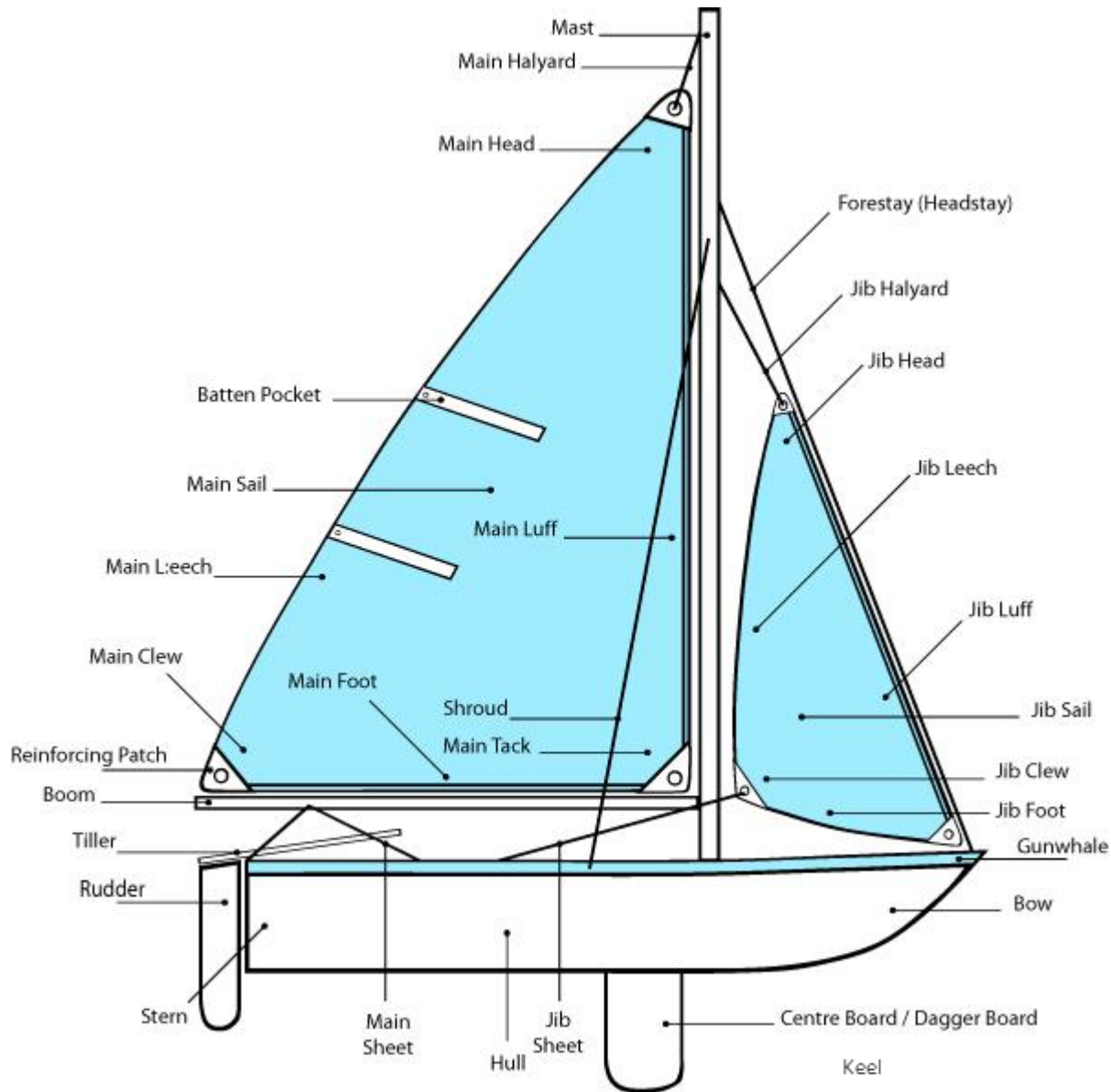


Parts of Sail & Sailboat



Sailing Glossary

*Parts of a Sail, Sailboat
and Related Terms*



- ✚ Study the Parts of a Sailboat
- ✚ Know Sailing Terminology
- ✚ Understand Orientation Terms
- ✚ Become Familiar with Parts of a Sail
- ✚ Learn Purpose of Sail Controls
- ✚ Prepare to be Knowledgeable Crew

May 2017

*Sailing Singles of South Florida
Sailing Orientation Session*

Sailboat & Sail Parts, Orientation, Related Terms



Sailboat Parts

Boom: Hinged, horizontal pole supports bottom of mainsail.

Center Board: Swinging fin projects down into the water, counteracts force of the sail. A variation is a **Daggerboard:** slides up/down.

Cockpit: Inside boat where crew sits.

Gooseneck: Hinged attachment at point where boom meets mast.

Gunwhale: Upper edge of boat.

Hull: Body of boat.

Keel: Fixed underwater appendage.

Lines: Pieces of rope on a boat.

Mast: Vertical main pole supporting the sail.

Rudder: Movable steering fin at back of boat.

Shrouds: Side wires supporting the mast.

Spreaders: A spar used to deflect shrouds allowing them to better support the mast.

Stays: Wires from high on mast to deck

- *Backstay:* mast leading aft.
- *Forestay:* mast to foredeck.
- *Headstay:* mast to bow, outermost stay.

Tiller: Steering arm that moves the rudder.

Winch: Geared drum for mechanical advantage when pulling lines under load. *Turns clockwise.*

Orientation

Aft: Toward rear or stern of boat.

Abeam: Direction 90° angle from boat.

Beam: Boats maximum width.

Bow: Front end of boat.

Draft: Distance water to boat bottom.

Forward: Toward the bow.

Leeward: Downwind side of boat.

Port: Left side boat when facing forward.

Starboard: Right side boat facing forward.

Stern: Backend of boat.

Windward: Upwind side of boat. Direction from which the wind is blowing.

Sail Controls

Blocks: Pully, either line or wire.

Boom Vang: Rigging from boom to mast bottom, stops boom from lifting.

Car: Device Jib Sheet passes through on way to cockpit. Moved forward/aft to adjust angle that jibsheet pulls on jib sail.

Cleats: Fittings used to secure lines.

Halyards: Line or wire used to hoist sails.

Outhaul: At backend of boom securing mainsail clew. Adjusts tension on the foot of the sail.

Shackle: U-shaped metal fastner.

Traveler: Adjustable system upon which the mainsheet blocks can slide.

Sailing Terms:

About: Change from one tack to the other.

Bring To: Stopping boat by bringing her up into the wind.

Furl: Roll up and secure a sail

In Irons: Stalled head to wind, cannot turn.

Jibe: Change direction when wind aft, boom swings to opposite side; accidental jibe could be dangerous.

Ease Off: To slack away a line or head off from the wind.

Fall Off: To ease off from the wind.

Luffing: Airflow over sail surface disrupted, sail begins to flap.

Reach: Course made good sailing off wind.

Reef: To reduce the area of a sail when wind is too strong. Avoids sail/mast damage.

Slack: Lessen tension on a line, letting out.

Sail Parts

Battens: Slats in sail pockets on leech side of sail, helps maintain sail shape.

Clew: Back lower corner of a sail.

Foot: Bottom edge of a sail.

Head: Top of a sail.

Jib: Foretriangular headsail.

Leech: Back edge **Luff:** front edge of sail.

Mainsail: Sail hoisted on after side of mast.

Tack(n): Front lower corner of a sail.