



User Guide: Sabre Daggerboard for Sunfish

Purpose: Replacement for older Sunfish daggerboards for improved speed and handling.

Material: Laminate of sapele, protected with epoxy coating. When not in use, best is to store parts in a dark, dry location. Comes with a pair of robust rubber bumpers/stop attached with $\frac{1}{4}$ " - 20 x 2" stainless steel bolt and $\frac{1}{4}$ " - 20 stainless nylon lock nut.

Installation:

1. Remove existing lines from old daggerboard.
2. Re-attach lines to new daggerboard according to your preferences.
3. Check for free movement of daggerboard into and out of trunk. It should slide easily all the way to the lower edge of the rubber stops and be easy to pull back up. Should it fit too tightly, it may be necessary to remove small amounts of wood from the leading and trailing edges of the flat "head", top part of the daggerboard and then reseal the wood with a quality coating such as epoxy or spar varnish. Feel free to contact us for advice if this occurs. Dimensions of the trunk can vary depending on age of the hull.

Note: The AeroSouth Sabre Daggerboard was designed to be 100% compatible with standard Sunfish trunk and hull geometry. Unlike earlier boards, the curved edge of the Sabre daggerboard (top edge in image below) faces forward, in the direction of the boat's motion.



How to Refinish Wooden Parts

Over time, any part of a sailboat will experience wear and tear. Fortunately, most minor damage to composite or wooden parts can be easily repaired with minimal effort and cost. Wooden parts from AeroSouth (rudder blades and daggerboards) will get scuffed and perhaps even broken, but you can restore these to near-new condition. Should cracks appear, which is part of the aging process for wood, fill these with a marine wood filler or epoxy such as West Systems, thickened with chopped cotton fibers. Allow the filler to fully cure and then sand to shape. Fill in dents and other surface damage with the same filler material. Remove scuffs and scratches by sanding the surface, starting with 120 grit and working down to 320. An electric random orbit sander will produce the best results. Seal the surface with a good quality marine spar varnish, such as spray Minwax Spar Urethane. West System epoxy will also provide an excellent, hard surface but requires a bit more effort. Pay attention to product instructions as the best coating systems do require proper surface preparation and must cure for some hours (or days) at the proper temperature and humidity before being immersed in water. One can also opt to paint the clear surfaces. Here though it is important to again prepare the surface properly. Good quality paints such as Interlux Brightsides will last as long as spar varnish or epoxy, but it must be applied correctly for best results. All high-performance coatings have volatile components that can cause health hazards, so please take the precautions seriously, especially concerning their use in well-ventilated areas and the need for masks, eye and skin protection.

Have Questions or Comments?

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