

# How little things can make windsurfing life easier

Windsurfing cannot happen without a lot of equipment. Some people hate it, and some love it. In any case you need to go along with it, if you want to windsurf, whether it be tuning rental equipment, making emergency repairs on the water or modifying the kit as DIY projects.

Sometimes these projects can be bigger, involving special tools and skills, and sometimes really small, like the ones in this last part of the DIY series.

## Fixing a quiver bag on a car painlessly

One of the most common ways to transport the equipment from home to the water is by stacking loads of bags on a roof of a car. And the quiver bag, usually sitting on top of the boards, is probably the most commonly used bag for sails.

pull the straps through no more! When mounting or un-mounting the bag, just hook or unhook them. There are no downsides. And it can be used to fix only the boards as well.

I have used such a bag happily for years. It has a big compartment for a stack of sails on the top and a second one with sleeves on the bottom for masts. And here's the trick - there is usually an opening in-between these two compartments for a pair of straps to go through to fix the bag on a roof rack. In this way the bag is securely fixed without crashing the sails.

Now, the problem is if you mount and un-mount the bag from the car fully loaded. The opening is tight and so it is very difficult to get those straps through. It really is a pain.



*Make sure to get big enough carabiners to fit your roof rack, which is more difficult than it may seem.*

*Add a pair of carabiners (e.g. climbing, non-locking) to your straps. So you don't have to pull the straps through every time you mount the bag on the car, but just hook and unhook the carabiners. It's as simple as that.*

The solution is again pretty straight forward - just add a pair of carabiners to the straps and you don't need to

# Extending a mast

When I replaced my 460 mast a few years ago, something wasn't right. The sail didn't have the right shape - the leech was not loose enough. I had to add a few cm on the extension to be able to increase downhaul enough. I attributed this to different mast, which was not from the same manufacturer as the sail, as it was the case with the old mast. And I forgot about it.

A couple of seasons went by and at some point when I was buying new sails, I measured lengths of my masts. And to my big surprise the 460 was 3 cm short - it was 457 cm long! Then I knew why it didn't fit the sail in the first place. I would have never doubt the numbers printed on the mast!

But this time my new sail had a longer luff and I was not able to add 3 cm on the extension. Since I was not planning on buying new mast or extensions as well, I had to find another solution.



I figured that one can extend a mast on both ends, and I was right. I took an old mast cap and put it on top of the existing one to gain a little less than the missing 3 centimeters at the end.

You don't need an old broken mast to get a mast cap. They can be bought in specialized windsurfing shops as well. You have to find the right combination of the caps, so that you have a pair, where one fits into another.

I have used this mast with top extension for a few seasons without any problems. There are no downsides. ©



*If you're missing a few centimeters on your mast, just add another mast cap. Narrow it by filing to fit tightly. Be careful not to make it too narrow, tight fit is paramount.*