

Tuning Guide for Capri 26

Your mast is held aloft by the Standing Rigging (forestay, backstay, upper shrouds and lower shrouds). See Figure (A). The term "tuning" refers to adjustment of the standing rigging so that the mast remains in column when under load. This is accomplished by the procedure outlined below:

At the dock: (First part of tuning)

1. Adjust forestay and backstay so that the rake (fore and aft angle of the mast) is approximately three (3) inches. In order to measure the rake, tie a weight from the main halyard, to act as a plumb bob, and measure the horizontal distance between the halyard and the aft face of the mast. Set backstay tension @ 500-600 pounds. See Figure (B).
2. Adjust upper shrouds so that the mast is vertical from side to side. To verify this measure, using the main halyard, the distance from the mast head to the center of the pin at the chainplates; repeat for opposite side and adjust upper shrouds as necessary. See Figure (C).
3. Once the mast is straight side to side, increase tension of upper shrouds taking an equal number of turns per side, until the fore and aft prebend induced reaches approximately 1-1/2 inches. Set upper shrouds' tension @ approximately 800-900 pounds. See Figure (D).
4. The lower shrouds (2 of them) should be adjusted slightly looser than the uppers. Set lower shrouds tension @ approximately 550 pounds. See Figure (E).

NOTE: Indicated tensions are approximate and were measured with a LOOS & Co. Model B tension gauge.

Tuning under load: (Part 2 of tuning)

The tuning at the dock gives an initial positioning of the mast, but it is essential to tune the rig under load in order to compensate for dynamic forces that occur while sailing.

1. While sailing normally to windward, at approximately 15 to 20 degrees to heel; sight up the mast, along the aft face, from the deck. If the middle of the mast (where the spreaders are) sags to leeward in relation with the top of the mast, take up on the weather side lower shrouds until the mast is straight. If the top of the mast sags to leeward in relation with its center, then take up on the weather side upper shrouds. Repeat this procedure on both tacks.
2. Observe carefully the behavior of the leeward shrouds. They should never be loose.