

Spring 2016

Sail Markings, numbers and class insignia...General information

T37 Class Rules now require that the mainsails of competing boats display the Class Insignia and the boat's hull number.

Markings should be placed on both sides of the mainsail with starboard above port. Class insignia should be 2 ¼" tall with starboard side ½" above port side. Sail numbers (all digits of hull number) are 3" tall in a "condensed" (i.e., narrow) bold block font, such as Impact. Place starboard numbers 1" above port numbers. By class rules, country of origin not necessary, and no markings required on the jib.

Find the insignia and numerals 0-9 in Impact font link on PNMYS.org or directly from:

[www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailFontandInsignia.pdf](http://www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailFontandInsignia.pdf)

[www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailNumbersFont.pdf](http://www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailNumbersFont.pdf)

There are several techniques for placement of sail markings:

Insignia Cloth stick-on numbers,

Sharpie Tracing, and

Sharpie Stencils.

Other techniques have been tried with mixed results.

Insignia Cloth is the same adhesive-backed cloth that sailmakers cut for big boat sail numbers and class insignia. Although the Insignia Cloth technique yields nice numbers, in cold air the numbers contract more than the T37's thin cloth sail fabric and the sail will wrinkle around the markings. PNMYS no longer supplies cloth stick-on numbers for members. However, your favorite sailmaker probably has a bin of scraps you can pick from.

Sharpie permanent markers do not affect sail contours, but do fade over time and have to be touched up periodically for best appearance. Two Sharpie techniques have been used, Tracing and Stencils.

With either tracing or stencils, bleeding of the Sharpie ink into the porous fabric fibers can be a problem on close inspection. Diluted latex Tape Seal brand liquid sealant prevents the bleeding through the fabric and under the stencils.

Sharpie Tracing technique takes a steady hand, but can result in nice numbers. For sharpest results with the tracing technique, first trace the border with a fine point Sharpie Oil Based Paint Pen. This seals the periphery of the marking against ink bleeding outside the lines. Use Paint pens only for the border, as large areas of paint affect sail contours in cold weather, similar to the cloth markings. Fill in each number with a permanent ink or laundry marking (Rub-A-Dub) Sharpie.

PNMYS can supply a tracing pattern: Just send us your hull number. or cut and paste your own from: [www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailNumbersFont.pdf](http://www.sailset.com/PNMYS/SailNumbersFont.pdf)

Sharpie Stencil technique uses a cut-out vinyl stencil that adheres temporarily to the sail cloth and its edges are further sealed with diluted latex Tape Seal liquid sealant. The numbers are then inked in with Sharpie pen. For best results, follow all provided instructions and take no short cuts.

Stencil kits (stencil, sealant, placement pattern, and photo and text instructions) are available from Tippecanoe Boats: 800-206-0006.