

Rainspout Sailboat

CONTENTS OF KIT

Each kit should contain one 6 ½" by 2 ½" block of Styrofoam in the approximate shape of a boat, one 5 ½" by 2 ½" sail with holes on top and bottom, one 6" mast, and one 2 ¼" rudder

SHAPING THE BOAT

You start with the Styrofoam block 6 ½" by 2 ½". Decide how you want your boat designed. Many Dads and Daughters round off the bottom using sanding block using Medium or Fine grade sandpaper, and attempt to present the facsimile of a classic boat bottom. But you can have any shape bottom you wish as long as it floats. The key is to sand smoothly and gently, or you may gouge the hull. If that happens, you can use spackle to repair the gouges. Your daughters can express their creativity here, as long as you maintain the seaworthiness of the boat. (it floats and does not tip over). You can be creative on the top (in ship terms we call it the superstructure). Please review the pictures at the end of this document to see how past boats have been sculptured and decorated.

A few rules and tips on making the boats:

1. If you choose to paint the boat, which most do, the **FIRST** coat of paint **MUST** be latex type paint. If you also use spray paint, use it **AFTER** you have **COMPLETELY** sealed the boat with the latex paint. If you do not seal the boat first, and you use any type of acrylic paint, **THE BOAT WILL MELT**. Melted boats are ineligible to race. 😊
2. Boats can be configured in any manner so as long they are made from the materials provided in the kit by the program. If desired, boats may be cut apart to make them smaller, thinner, lighter, or to make a different hull configuration (i.e. catamaran type) but they may not be made longer than the original dimensions of the styrofoam block with rudder.
3. **You must use the sail that was supplied.** The use of glue and tape on the sail are permissible as long as they do not increase the size of the sail area. (adding tape and or glue to the sail to make it an inch taller, or wider than the original sail for example, would be illegal). Please note: Gluing or taping boat pieces together cut apart as referenced in #2 above is permissible.

4. Decorative material, such as stickers, clay, beads, pins, Popsicle sticks, etc. may be added ONLY if they are for decorative purposes. These may not be used in a manner that gives the boat a speed or directional advantage (such as a pin or bead placed on the side of the boat making it bounce off gutter in such a way it doesn't drag). This does not mean that clever designs are discouraged, as long as they do not represent an unfair advantage over the other boats, and the boats are built according to the rules. Judges have final decision authority if they believe the intent of adding a decoration is to have an unfair advantage over the other boats, and seems to violate our general rules of good sportsmanship. In this case, they will ask for the decoration's removal.
5. No power other than sail power is permissible. This includes electric, gas, solar, paddle wheel, chemical reaction, etc.
6. Using boats other than the ones distributed by the program are not eligible. This includes boats purchased complete or partially complete on-line or at a retail store.
7. **DON'T** extend the front of the boat. If removal of extension is not possible, the princess boat will be considered ineligible. The leading edge of the boat must be part of the styrofoam boat.

RUDDER

Using Medium Grade sandpaper, shape the wooden rudder so that the leading edge is rounded or tapered. Make sure rudder does not extend lower than 1 ½". Position the rudder in the slot provided on the boat. The rudder may extend past the end of the boat.

MAST

As you would sharpen a pencil, roll one end of the mast against the medium grade sandpaper, until it is pointed. Once you have decided by design where to install the mast, using a slow twisting motion, install mast, but do not pierce below the bottom of the boat. If you do, use spackle, or paint to plug hole.

SAIL

As stated in the rules above, you must use the sail provided in the kit. Sail already has holes set at the top and bottom. Slide the sail onto the mast using these holes

so that the sail is positioned in front of the mast. Once the mast is in place on the boat, you can use a small piece of tape or glue to secure the sail to the boat, which will also ensure that sail stays straight.

BOW of BOAT

No extension from the bow is allowed. The leading edge of the boat **MUST** be the bow of the Styrofoam boat itself.

General Rules

1. No Judge may officiate a heat in which his child or Princess is participating and must request a substitute judge to rule on that race.
2. Heats will be established by the sole discretion of the judges. This includes number of boats per heat and number of heats required to attain the various levels of awards.
3. Judges will attempt to ensure that sisters and tribe-mates do not race against each other for as long as practical/reasonable while keeping the integrity of the race intact.
4. Every Princess not progressing to the 2nd round of races will receive a participation trophy. Every Princess not progressing to the 3rd round of races will receive a Heat Winner trophy. If there is a 4th round prior to the finals, which will be dictated by the number of boats entered, then every princess not progressing to the finals will receive a Semi Finals trophy.
5. There are four or five Princess competitors in the finals, depending on number of boats entered. There are normally four. The Trophy awards are Champion, Second, Third, Fourth, and if applicable, a Fifth place. These awards and the ones above will be confirmed at the Penny Fair.
6. The purpose of the races are primarily to give the Dad and Princesses an opportunity to work on the boat together, and to allow the Princesses the opportunity to participate in friendly competition with their fellow Princesses. Though there must be winners, and non-winners, we try not to make any Princess feel that they are losers. Any way that you can help us all to achieve that very important goal would mean a great deal to our little Princesses.

Examples of completed boats



