



Melges 24 Tuning Guide

Boat Setup -

With the mast stepped, attach a 50' metal tape measure to the main halyard in a way that allows the top of the tape measure to be hoisted to the top of the mast. Ensure the jib halyard halyard lever is on before taking measurements.

Add turns to upper shrouds until the model B Loos tension gauge reads 15. Now with the tape measure hoisted to the top of the mast measure the same spot on both port and starboard shroud bases to ensure the mast is centered. If these measurements are different adjust upper shrouds accordingly. For example, if mast tip is to port add turns to starboard upper turnbuckle while subtracting an equal amount of turns from port upper turnbuckle until mast is centered.

Once the mast is centered in the boat take the tape measure, and measure from the top of the mast to intersection of the transom and bottom of the hull, as close to the center of the boat as possible. This measurement should be 36' 6.5" (11,140 mm). If rake is too far aft tighten turnbuckle above halyard lever while loosening equal amounts on both port and starboard upper shrouds, or vice versa if rake is too far forward. The goal is to have the rake measure 36' 6 1/2" while the upper shrouds read 15 on model B Loos gauge.

Now add equal turns to port and starboard lower shrouds until the model B Loos gauge reads 10. Final adjustments to lower shrouds will be finished on the water while sailing upwind in 4-6 knots of breeze.

Have someone sight up the front of the mast and adjust lower shrouds on both port and starboard tacks until the mast sags 3/4 of a column width (mast width) at the spreaders.

Once proper rig tune is achieved it is beneficial to measure distance between turnbuckle studs with a caliper if using open turnbuckles, or note the number printed on Ronstan turnbuckles. Write down numbers for all turnbuckles. These numbers allow you to easily replicate base rig tune while setting up rig, or checking base tune in the future.

Tuning Matrix -

Wind Speed	Upper Shrouds	Lower Shrouds
0-6	Loos Gauge 15 – Base Setting	3/4 Leeward Sag – Base Setting
7-10	+1.5	+ 1
10-11	+3	+2
11-12	+4.5	+3
12-13	+6	+4.5
13-15	+7.5	+6
15-17	+9	+7.5
17-19	+10.5	+9.5
19-21	+12	+11
21-23	+13	+12.5
23+	+14.5	+14.5

Numbers in this guide correspond to new style open turnbuckles. If using older style Ronstan turnbuckles double all turns. For example, with open turnbuckles in 7-10

knots, add 1.5 full turns to uppers and 1 full turn to lowers from the base setting. With Ronstan turnbuckles add 3 full turns to uppers and 2 full turns to lowers.



These numbers serve only as a guide. You might find that slightly different settings work well for you. When sailing in flat water adding turns earlier, and applying soft to medium backstay often translates to better boat speed. Likewise, when sailing in rough water, apply max backstay to de-power before adding turns. The goal in both cases is to keep the boom on centerline, and prevent the mainsail from ever flogging.

Questions? Contact:

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