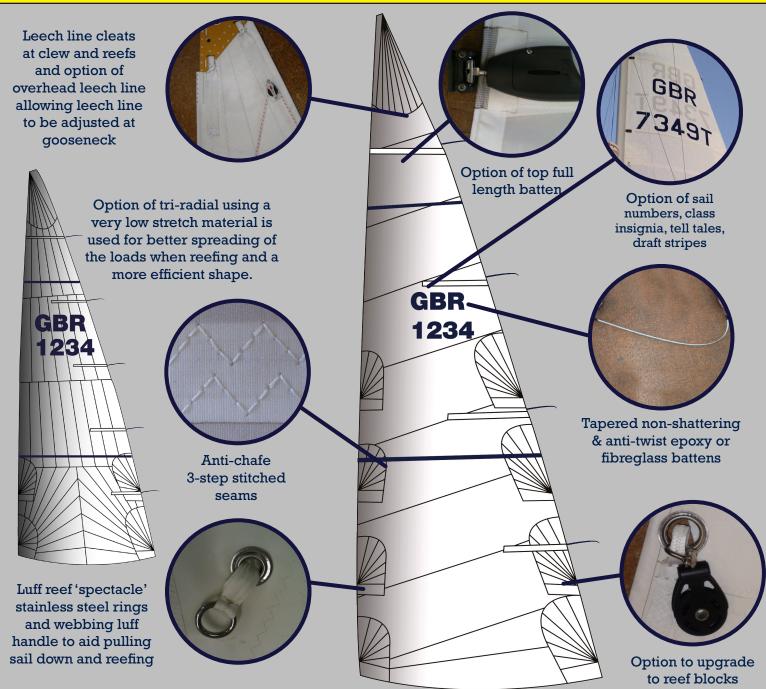
Dart Sails & Covers

Short Battened Mainsail



Dart Sails Mainsails and Mizzens sails are available in a wide range of materials to cater for every application and budget. Sails come with options of loose foot, full length or regular batten configurations. See separate specification sheet for information on full length battens. Sails are designed to suit the mast and are custom manufactured to suit your boat including mast bend, reefing arrangements, roach profiles etc Still the most common and suitable option for the majority of cruising boats. A cross cut sail is simple, durable and economic yet with the correctly specified material with the correct weave construction a cross cut sail often offers a high quality sail. Mainsails can come in high aspect (long luff / short foot), Low Aspect (shorter luff / long foot) or fairly Medium Aspect . The high aspect sails (luff length / foot length = around 3:1 ratio or higher) tend to have very high leech loads and these require low crimped (almost straight) fill

yarn (down the leech), Low Aspect sails (luff / foot ratio of less than 2.6:1) required a balanced fabric where the weave crimp is roughly equal between warp and fill while more medium aspect sails require a more All Purpose weave where the fill has some crimp but less than the warp. Laminate Sails or a warp orientated woven fabric with a Radial panel construction offer superior shape retention compared to any woven product. The panels are aligned radiating from the corners in the anticipated load angles, with careful fabric selection and weight sail distortion can be minimised. Warp Orientated Dacron and Spectra or Laminates are available for Cruising boats with highly durable double sided woven taffetas in Polyester, lower stretch Pentex and Ultra low stretch Carbon or Spectra/ Dyneema, these offer better shape retention but they are usually a bit heavier and stiffer than a cross cut Dacron sail.