



EXCELLENCE IN DODGER DESIGNS

CARE AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL



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Thank you for choosing IVERSON'S

Your new dodger has been carefully handcrafted using durable materials to ensure structural integrity and years of performance. Iverson's focus on harmonizing aesthetic detail with functional requirements assures that your dodger has a balanced design that adds style, comfort, and safety to your sailboat. We hope that your sailing experience is enhanced with the addition of an Iverson's dodger.

Please be advised - all stitching and seaming on dodger/enclosure can leak for several months, until the canvas swells back around the thread. This is a normal occurrence that happens with newly perforated materials.

!!! IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS !!!

This information will help maintain the quality of your dodger.

1. Your dodger is constructed with Sunbrella water-resistant canvas. This canvas is made from acrylic and is extremely tight on the dodger frame after installation. Over a period of approximately 90 days the acrylic canvas will relax making it not as tight on the frame. We highly recommend that you:

- Do not open center window panel for at least 90 days.
- Do not remove dodger from the frame for at least 90 days.

2. When opening window hatches under dodger be careful not to scuff the dodger windows or canvas by opening it too far.

3. To help maintain the correct tension on canvas and ensure proper fit of your dodger it is important that you:

- Make sure all fasteners around perimeter of dodger are fastened at all times.
- Keep zippers on center windshield panel zipped shut when the panel is not opened.
- Make sure center windshield panel is fastened to the deck when not opened.
- Never set anything on top of the dodger. This will stretch the canvas and cause it to fit loose.
- **IMPORTANT!!!** *If it snows, we highly recommend that you install a boom tent / tarp or some way of keeping snow load off of dodger. The weight of snow will cause the canvas to stretch.*
- Periodically check the set screws in the dodger frame to ensure that they are tight.

4. To keep dodger fitting optimally and reduce any damage to the windows, canvas, etc., it is best if the dodger is left fastened on the boat at all times.

5. Clean bird droppings from windows and canvas as quickly as possible. The acid content from these droppings can permanently etch the windows. *Please read the window "care and maintenance" information provided in this booklet.*





6. We recommend not setting companion way drop boards on cabin top under dodger. They may slide and chafe on windows or canvas causing permanent damage.

7. Occasionally, a rust-like film may develop on the dodger frame. If this happens use a stainless steel cleaner/ polish to remove this film.

8. **IMPORTANT!!!** Never use Windex, Rainex or any product containing ammonia to clean windows. If possible only use manufacturers recommended product. *Refer to window care and maintenance.*

9. **IMPORTANT!!!** If using a bleach solution to clean stains on canvas it is important to not let the bleach come in contact with any stitching. This will rapidly deteriorate the stitching. If possible try not to use any bleach based product to clean canvas. See manufacturers recommendations.

10. When cleaning canvas, if a brush is used, be careful it is not too abrasive as this can damage the stitching.

11. If using a boom tent or tarp to protect your boat and dodger, make sure that the cover is not chafing on the dodger. Over time this will cause damage to the dodger.

12. If a zipper has been installed to the aft edge of dodger make sure that the protective flap is covering it. UV will deteriorate this zipper if exposed.

13. If removal of dodger is necessary please follow these steps and precautions:

- **Step 1.** Remove side grab rails by removing nylock bolts. **Note:** *When reinstalling these grab rails it is important to replace the nylock nuts with new ones to ensure they will work properly.*

- **Step 2.** After nuts have been removed, pull on the side grab rails to remove them from the frame.

- **Step 3.** Unzip the upper pocket on the back edge of dodger. This will release the tension of the dodger. Do not try and unhook this zipper until after Step 4 has been done.

- **Step 4.** Release all fasteners around perimeter of dodger.

- **Step 5.** Now the canvas shell can be removed from the frame.

IMPORTANT!!! *When removing the canvas shell from the frame be careful to not let the canvas or window material rub across the drilled holes for the grab rails. Doing this will scratch windows or damage the canvas. We recommend putting a piece of tape over the drilled holes.*

14. To reinstall dodger follow the steps for #13 in reverse. Make sure the drilled holes for the grab rails are taped before putting canvas shell back on.

IMPORTANT!!! *When zipping shut the upper pocket on the back edge of dodger, it is important that you grip the canvas around the back bar and roll the canvas around the frame while zipping the pocket shut. This will keep the zipper from breaking because of too much tension on it.*

15. Do not roll-up center windshield panel. Use D-rings sewn to bottom edge of panel and fold inwards to D-rings sewn on ceiling of dodger. Use small bungi, string, hooks, etc. to attach.





SUNBRELLA® FABRIC CARE AND CLEANING

1. SUNBRELLA® fabric should be cleaned regularly before substances such as dirt, roof particles, etc., are allowed to accumulate on and become embedded in the fabric. The fabric can be cleaned without being removed from the frame. Simply brush off any loose dirt, roof particles, etc.; hose down and clean with a mild natural soap in lukewarm water (no more than 100° F.) Rinse thoroughly to remove soap. **DO NOT USE DETERGENTS!**
2. For stubborn stains soak the fabric for approximately twenty minutes in a solution of no more than 1/2 cup (4 oz.) of bleach and 1/4 cup (2 oz.) natural soap per gallon of water at approximately 100° E A non-chlorine bleach is recommended for SUNBRELLA® “Plus” because of the urethane coating. Rinse thoroughly in cold water to remove all of the soap. Note: Excessive soaking in bleach can deteriorate sewing threads. This method of cleaning may remove part of the water repellency. Following a thorough cleaning, and when water repellency is a factor, the fabric should receive an application of an air-curing retreatment, such as 303 Hi Tech Fabric Guard or similar product.
3. SUNBRELLA® may be dry cleaned but a water repellent treatment must be applied to the fabric after dry cleaning to reestablish water repellency. SUNBRELLA® is made from 100% acrylic fiber and is thermoplastic or heat sensitive. When washing or cleaning, **DO NOT SUBJECT TO EXCESSIVE HEAT** as the fabric will shrink. **DO NOT STEAM PRESS OR DRY IN ELECTRIC OR GAS DRYERS.** Allow fabric to air dry.
4. In cases where a SUNBRELLA® awning is taken down and stored during the winter season, it should be cleaned, allowed to air dry, and stored in a dry, well ventilated area. Many fabricators offer a reasonably priced removal, cleaning, storage, and rehanging service on a yearly basis

SUNBRELLA® is made from 100% solution dyed acrylic fiber which gives it color brightness which is unsurpassed. Being a woven fabric it breathes, and is translucent. It is guaranteed for a period of five years against loss of color or strength from normal exposure conditions including sunlight, mildew, rot, and atmospheric chemicals. SUNBRELLA® has a fluorocarbon finish which provides excellent water repellency and stain release.

Cleaning Update

For many years, we have recommended Ivory Flakes as a natural soap well suited for cleaning Sunbrella® fabrics. Because Ivory Flakes is not readily available, we would like to suggest the following products as substitutes:

Dreft, Ivory Snow, Woolite. These products provide excellent cleaning results and will not adversely impact surface chemicals added to Sunbrella® fabrics.





MAKROLON® CARE AND CLEANING

With a few care and cleaning steps your Makrolon windows will provide lasting enjoyment on your yacht or boat. Regular cleaning utilizing compatible cleaners, coupled with proper maintenance techniques will significantly improve the material's service life. The following techniques for cleaning are based on standard industry practice:

Guidelines:

Rinse thoroughly with water to remove excess dust, dirt and salt before applying cleaning products. Use clean soft cloths or sponges for application of cleaners. If using Mermaid's Plastic Cleaner and Polish, follow the directions on the bottle. (Don't use too much cleaner, use smaller amounts or may get streaking)

If you get streaking or a left over film, follow up the application with water rinse.

Dry with a soft cloth or chamois to prevent water spots. Polish with a separate cloth.

Don't use abrasives or high alkaline cleaners.

Don't leave cleaners on for long periods; wash immediately.

Don't apply cleaners in direct sunlight or at elevated temperatures.

Don't use scrapers, squeegees, razors, brushes, or paper towels.

Compatible Cleaners & Detergents:

Mermaids Plastic Cleaner & Polish

Plexus plastic cleaner

Most mild detergents (Woolite, Joy, Palmolive, Etc.)

To Minimize Fine or Hairline Scratches:

Mermaid's Plastic Cleaner & Polish

Mild automotive polish applied and removed with a soft, clean cloth will help fill scratches. Novus Plastic Polish #1 or Johnson's Paste Wax

Do not use abrasive plastic polishes.





Strataglass® Window Care & Maintenance

Revised September 1, 2004

It is extremely important fabricators and vessel & car owners read & understand this information.

- We recommend using only IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish, IMAR Strataglass Protective Cleaner, and mild soap (preferably IMAR Yacht Soap Concentrate) on Strataglass. (We no longer recommend the use of any other products, regardless of the manufacturer's claims.)

- **After September 30, 2004, using any other product(s) voids the factory warranty.**

- **WARNING:** Use of **RAINEX** on STRATAGLASS appears to work for a short time but then dulls the surface and presents an "Orange Peel" effect. Do not use RAINEX.

- Use of cleaners, polishes, scratch removers, or any other product made for regular, uncoated vinyl will damage STRATAGLASS. Do not use these products.

- **DO NOT HANDLE STRATAGLASS (OR ANY VINYL) WITH SUN-SCREEN ON YOUR HANDS!** This will permanently cloud the vinyl where handled.

General Maintenance:

When New: 3M Adhesive Remover may be used to remove glue left from fabrication. Final clean with IMAR Strataglass Protective Cleaner. We recommend using IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish as the final step in installation to provide a base of protection and a good watershed.

For the customer: We recommend using IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish every 2 to 3 months (every 4 to 6 weeks in areas of high fallout). In the interim, use IMAR Strataglass Protective Cleaner frequently.





Note: All new vinyl can easily get impressions in itself. We recommend new enclosures be left in place to the extent possible. If completely removed, enclosures must be interleaved with either acid-free paper (available from framing shops) or old sheets (the best choice) to prevent “pooling” in the glass. Vinyl “seasons” over time and becomes less impressionable. Roll all curtains down and fasten in place nightly to keep perfect appearance. (Review at www.strataglass.com)

Cleaning: Flush thoroughly to cool the surface and rinse away environmental abrasives. Wash with IMAR Yacht Soap Concentrate, or other equally gentle and high quality soap. Do not use Simple Green, Orpine or any other harsh cleaner - they will dull the surface. Apply the soapy water to the clear vinyl section of the curtain with special purpose washing mitts or soft cotton cloths. Thoroughly rinse the soapy solution with fresh water and completely dry the curtains with a high quality chamois. (Swobbit makes several tools to make these tasks easier.) Your clear vinyl curtains should be washed whenever your boat is washed. After washing the curtains, apply IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish sparingly with small, light circular motions using a soft cotton cloth. Allow the polish to dry and then remove with a clean soft cotton cloth. Finally, lightly buff to a sparkling shine. Done. For routine maintenance between polishing, use IMAR Strataglass Protective Cleaner. Insure the clear vinyl panels are free of abrasives. Very lightly mist a soft cotton cloth. Lightly and briskly rub a manageable sized area and then lightly buff dry with another clean cloth. Done. We recommend using IMAR Strataglass Cleaner at least weekly, but it's so fast and easy you may want to do it daily. You'll love the shine.

Restoring: We once recommended a restoration process but extensive experience shows actual damage cannot truly be repaired. If IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish cannot restore the clarity and shine it may be time to consider replacing the enclosures. Please ...Please ...use our recommended procedures and products from the beginning.

Trouble Shooting: Please see our “tips for the fabricator” and our “trouble shooting” sections on our web site for a complete discussion.



**For questions, or to order more
cleaning / polish products,
please contact:**



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