

Running Rigging for the Mutineer

The table below contains recommended running rigging sizes and lengths. Please be aware that the lengths of all control lines are dependent on the actual layout of the control system on a specific boat. Check this on each boat for each control system before buying any line. You can use an old line or twine to measure for the control line.

Line	Size	Length	Notes
Boom Vang	5/32" or 3/16"	12-15'	The length is for a 4:1 Vang.
Bow line / painter	3/8"	30'	Sampson LS with a snap hook secured to one end – not running rigging, but you need a bow line (towing, docking)
Centerboard Pennant	3/16"	8'	
Cunningham	3/16"	Variable	Length depends upon how rigged -measure
Jib furling line	1/8"	13'	
Jib halyard	3/16"	29'	Dyneema, Spectra or Vectran core
Jib sheets	5/16-3/8'	30'	May use two lines of 15', Red and Green to help the crew find the new sheet when tacking
Main halyard	3/16"	41'	Dyneema, Spectra or Vectran core. Note: high tech line is not necessary if you have a halyard hook at the top of you mast, Sampson LS is fine
Main sheet	3/8"	25'	Polypropylene (will not soak up water)
Outhaul	3/16"	Variable	Length depends upon how rigged - measure
Rudder uphaul/downhaul	5/32" or 3/16"	6' each	Different colors such as green for the downhaul and red for the uphaul help the skipper
Spinnaker halyard retrieval, continuous	3/16"	54'	
Spinnaker sheet, continuous	3/16" or 1/4"	50'	Two lines spliced that are different colors – red for port and green for starboard help the crew
Topping lift	3/16	27'	

Rig the control and carefully remove any excess line. For example, for the mainsheet push the boom all the way out to the shroud. Remove any excess line making sure to leave enough line to tie a stopper knot (figure 8) on the working end. Excess line floating around the cockpit is not good.

Double braid line recommendations:

Lower budget

- Sampson LS double braid dacron
- Sampson LST double braid dacron

Medium budget

- Excel Pro by Marlow, polyester cover and core
- Finish Line by New England Ropes, polyester cover and prestreched polyester core

Higher budget

Endura Braid by New England Ropes, polyester cover and Dyneema/Spectra core
Excel Racing by Marlow, polyester cover and Dyneema core

Polypropylene single braid line recommendations (medium to higher budget):

Bzzz Line by New England Ropes for the mainsheet and jib sheets
Marston by Marlow for the mainsheet and jib sheets

You will find that some lines are only available in metric sizes. The following table will help:

US/Metric Conversion Table

US size	Exact metric conversion	Nearest metric available
1/16"	1.58 mm	2 mm
1/8"	3.17	3 mm
3/16"	4.76	5 mm
1/4"	6.35	6 mm
5/16"	7.93	8 mm
3/8"	9.52	10 mm
7/16"	11.11	11 mm
1/2"	12.7	13mm

Sources for lines:

Annapolis Performance Sailing - <http://www.apsltd.com/>

Defender Marine Outfitter - <http://www.defender.com/>

Jim Young Sailing - http://www.jimyoungsailing.com/g_rnl.htm

West Marine - <http://www.westmarine.com/>

The Jim Young Sailing site offers a super tutorial on the characteristics of lines.