

# Topper Dinghy

[www.toppersailboats.com](http://www.toppersailboats.com)



# Design & Innovation



## Changing From Polypropylene to Polyethylene.

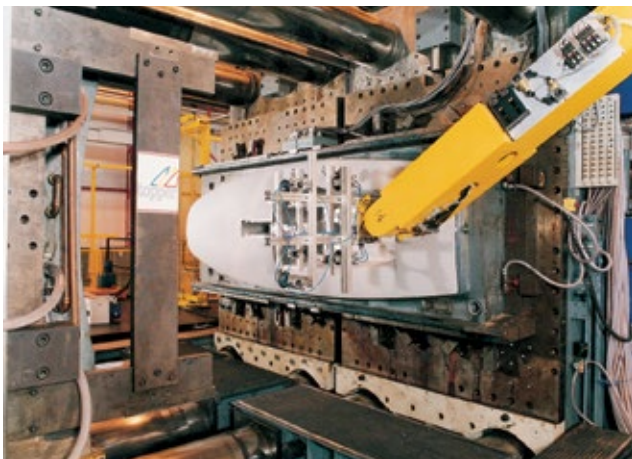
Throughout the years we have continually kept up to date with advancements and innovative technology to ensure the charm of the much-loved Topper isn't lost, only suitably adapted for modern sailing requirements. In 2023, our original production method of injection moulding was updated to our signature rota-moulding technique used on Topper International's Topaz range.

### Manufacture.

One of the key factors in the success and longevity of the Topper lay in the remarkable sophistication of the manufacturing process.

Until now it has been moulded in polypropylene, an advanced polymer which combines strength and resistance to cracking. Lightweight too, the production process was pioneering for the time and claimed virtually everlasting life! And with some 1970s and 80s boats still being sailed and raced today, we were not wrong!

So how could we make the iconic Topper even better? Well, we just have!



**Pictured Above** is a photograph of the Topper in production using the previous injection moulding technique.

And at the same time we have taken the chance to make a few improvements to the sailing experience. This change will safeguard the future of this iconic design, and bring it bang up to date.

## What's Changing?

### On the Hull.

Rather than a separate hull and deck assembled together, the hull will now be made in one piece. This means no more leaks or joins to maintain!

The self bailer position has now been relocated to the centre of the cockpit to ensure an even drain. Also, the bailer on the underside now sits flush - so no more protruding screws! We have added three storage hatches to the deck, so sailors can take much needed sustenance out on the water, and introduced adjustable toe straps to suit all ages.

A Mast step liner has also been added, to protect the integrity of the hull and a protective Daggerboard rubber and plate stop too!

If all of that wasn't enough, the race kits will now also come equipped with the new stealth carbon tiller as standard!

### Parts Compatibility.

The rig and foils will stay exactly the same and are interchangeable. As before, there are 3 rigs; The 4.2 for lighter sailors, the ever popular 5.3, and the new 6.4 for continuation & development.



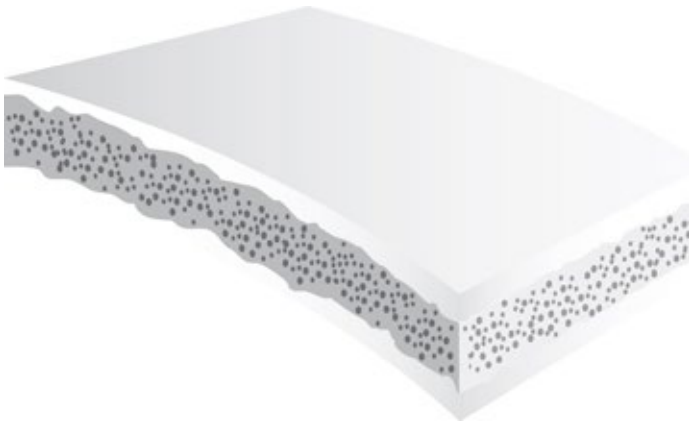
Scan the QR Code

Watch Russ, our Sales and Racing Manager explain the all new features.

**Over 40 years in continuous production, it is the outstanding build quality and unique features that keep Topper one of the most popular boats in the world.**

### **The New Process.**

The three layer TRILAM sandwich guarantees that no other rota-moulded sailboat can compare in terms of strength, rigidity and durability. With a lightweight, extra-strength honeycomb core and exceptional Metalicence outer and inner skin, it ensures toughness without increasing hull weight.



**Pictured Right** is a photograph of the new improved rota-moulded Topper going into full production this year.



**Pictured Left** is one of the new features we've included - built in storage hatches!

Every Detail, Every Fitting,

# Only One Standard



WORLD  
SAILING



## The Price of Excellence.

Welcome to the future. To continue the legacy of the Topper we invested in new tooling for the Topper sailboat, and it is this investment in quality that has underwritten the ongoing success.

The new Rota-mouldings of the Topper are produced in one piece which enable us to produce a robust single unit. Specially three-layer Tri-Lam construction to provide extra stiffness and provide positive buoyancy in the unlikely event of Topper's tough skin being holed.

The hull has integral buoyancy ensuring positive buoyancy even when flooded. When the Topper is inverted it has an air-pocket ensuring that it is an incredibly safe boat.



## Designed Without Compromise.

The fittings and equipment have all been designed to match the high moulding standards. Innovative solutions were developed to achieve a boat that was exceptionally easy to rig and sail. Clever design features include a swivelling mastgate that enables you to erect the mast single-handed.

The daggerboard and rudder blade are moulded in polyethylene which is extremely tough and hard wearing. The brilliant rudder system allows the blade to be set and locked in any position at the flick of a wrist. The vertical nature of the rudder ensures a positive but light control. And the hull plate can survive the boat coming ashore at high speed with the daggerboard still down!

The rig is an un-stayed Bermudan rig. The aluminium mast is in two sections allowing the spars to be stored within the length of the boat. The sail has a luff tube which makes rigging really easy.

The sail can be reefed around the mast when the wind increases - or to reduce the sail area for teaching young children to sail in confidence.

The 4.2 m<sup>2</sup> sail option allows eight and nine year old Topper sailors and the smaller older ones to compete alongside the bigger sailors. The small sail is really affordable and it's pretty quick in the hands of a 30-40kg sailor. It also doesn't require a new mast or a change of controls. A single sail manufacturer makes sail measurement unnecessary.

A single sail manufacturer makes sail measurement unnecessary. Sail controls are through a single mainsheet ending in the centre of the cockpit. The Race Topper rig comprises a 6:1 downhaul, 4:1 outhaul and 6:1 kicker or vang.



# The Charm of Topper Sailing

The Topper is lighter and stronger than any other comparable sailboat because of its unique construction. It is also famous for its sensational design and features aboard.



## HULL SPECIFICATION

Hull weight: 45kg  
Length: 3.40m  
Beam: 1.20m



## CREW

One child  
Two children  
Child & adult



## CAR TOPPABLE

Portable  
Lightweight  
45kg hull



## TWO PIECE MAST



## REEFING MAINSAIL



## LIFTING RUDDER

Safe and simple  
System



**“The Topper is a  
WORLD SAILING Full  
International Racing Class  
with approximately 50,000  
boats sold and sailing in over  
50 countries worldwide.”**

### **Simple and Sensational Topper**

The Topper is legendary for its incredible versatility. It is the perfect design for safe and simple sailing, and it is an incredible one design racing class.

The Topper is perhaps the original multi-purpose sailing dinghy; a rugged, beginner-friendly simple training boat and an exciting racing sailboat as ability and confidence levels increase.

A child can learn to safely sail in a Topper boat. If the Topper capsizes, its beam is narrow enough for a child or small adult to climb onto the daggerboard and flip the lightweight dinghy upright. Plus, the clever cockpit design will allow the boat to come up dry! As skills and confidence grow, the Topper will provide all the thrills of singlehanded race sailing.

Complete novices will quickly learn the simple pleasures of being at one with a sailboat, a stretch of water and a gentle breeze.

The Topper is a WORLD SAILING Recognised Racing Class. The class is also acknowledged by many respected judges as the ideal pathway for elite youth sailors to follow.



**“Complete beginners will quickly  
learn the simple pleasures of being at  
one with a sailboat, a stretch of water  
and a gentle breeze.”**

# The International Topper is 'The Circuit Racer'

## Circuit Racer.

Because of the exceptional quality of the rota-moulding process and the builder's policy of total uniformity in the specification of fittings and equipment, Toppers are completely identical in every way. Small variations to improve the efficiency of the rig controls are permitted, but nothing whatsoever that could affect actual boat speed is allowed.

## The Most One Design Class In The World.

This makes Topper the most 'one design' class in the world and a pure test of sailing skill. No advantage can be achieved by buying 'go faster' extras. In a Topper, it's all down to you. Which is why Toppers have bred some of the most distinguished National and International Champions in world sailing.

The Topper 'circuit' is one of the toughest in the country. It's where the real action is with big fleets, cut and thrust sailing, red-hot action. To get to the top you've got to be unique - just like the boat. Perfectly matched racing sails from the biggest one-design loft in the world and precision hydrodynamic section foils.

## Never Far From The Action.

The competition is hot and there's plenty of it. Weekend after weekend throughout the season, up and down the country, you will never be far from where the action is. Plus there's a great social scene to enjoy when the racing is over. The National and Inland regattas attract an entry of around 350 Toppers, regional and area events are often over 100 strong.

If you're just beginning to race, the excellent Topper International Class Association holds regular training weekends. With over 650 RYA recognised sailing clubs with Toppers in the UK alone, there's never any shortage of other Topper sailors to learn from and sail against.

The Topper is a Fully Recognised International Racing class, so you can share the Topper sailing experience with fifty countries across the world and every year there is a spectacular World Championship to look forward to. When you buy a new Topper, you will automatically receive a free one year membership of ITCA who organise the full programme of national and international events.





# Over 100 Annual Events...

50+ Opens, Area, National And Inland Championships And Travellers...  
Plus A World Championship



The name Topper is synonymous with design innovation, superior quality, durability and exceptional value for money. The 'fun boat' has sparked the imagination and turned more newcomers into lifelong sailors than any other sailboat in history.

But Topper sailing is also about racing. A full World Sailing International Class with around 50,000 boats sold worldwide, the legendary Topper remains the UK's best selling dinghy. And Topper racing is getting bigger and better every year. Over 350 boats attended the most recent Nationals and Inland Championships.

The RYA and the Class Association provide excellent training, from open training at local level, through zone and area to national squad level.

The success of the Topper as a high-performance race-training dinghy has been proven by the results achieved by the GB model. The Topper is totally integrated into the RYA race training pathway and is a prolific feeder class into the national youth squads.

The Topper class has the highest percentage turnouts at the Zone championship and the highest percentage of RYA Transitional Youth Squad members. Most Young Sailor of the Year nominations in recent years have come from within the Topper Class. And the RYA recognise the Topper Class as the most successful pathway class.

**The Topper delivers a lot more than you might think!**

# Perfect for Learning to Sail and for Improving Technique

**Topper is light and responsive.  
You are quickly in total control.**

Topper's 'fun factor' grabbed the imagination of the sail training world and revolutionised the way to teach sailing. All alone in their own Topper, students are captain of their own sailboat right from day one.

**Learning is Fast and Fun.**

Self-confidence comes quickly. Topper is responsive and light for beginners who are quickly in total control by themselves. This is why the Topper is a World Sailing 'Learn to Sail' and 'Recognised Racing' Class.

Rota-moulded polyethylene really does have the edge for longevity and durability, qualities which sailing schools and families have been quick to appreciate and which allow the boat to hold its price so well on the secondhand market.

The hull of every Topper carries a three year warranty. If a builder guarantees their boat for three whole years of sailing school use, they must have confidence in it!

**“The Topper dinghy has a unique place in the world of sailing instruction. It has made a greater contribution to the development of teaching techniques than any other boat in the last ten years, and its role is never likely to be challenged by any other type of dinghy.”**





**Adopted by the RYA and much loved  
by fleet buyers around the world.**

The Topper is a sensational racing sailboat. Topper sailing is all about having fun, as well as learning to sail. Which is why sailing schools and centres all over the world choose the Topper to inject the 'happy factor' into their courses.

Topper introduces the fun into learning to sail, and gives people the chance to be in charge from their first faltering steps, without the worry of breaking something when they get it wrong.

For longevity and robustness, Topper has all the advantages - whether it's for private or sailing school use. Polyethylene has proved to be the ultimate construction material; light, buoyant and resilient, it soaks up everyday bumps and scrapes that other boats could not handle.

Today's Rota-moulded Topper is the result of over quarter of a million pounds investment. And for that sort of money, you get scrupulous attention to detail. It is no surprise, then, that the resale value is high. These boats just last and last.

**"It's hard to find a sailing school or holiday centre without a fleet of Toppers and here's why: Topper's cutting edge comes from her robustness, her simplicity, versatility and her ease of handling ashore and afloat. She'll take all the knocks of a sailing day and bounce back smiling. Just like the students. She's taken the fear factor out of capsizing drill. She's made it easy to learn and fun to be with."**

# Specifications

## Topper 4.2



Length: 3.40m  
Beam: 1.20m  
Hull Weight: 45kg



Crew: 1-2



Sail Area: 4.2m<sup>2</sup>



Construction: Rota-Moulded Polyethylene



Mast & Boom: Coated Aluminium  
Blocks: Ball Bearing Blocks



3. Level: Beginner - Intermediate



PY: 1400

## Topper 5.3



Length: 3.40m  
Beam: 1.20m  
Hull Weight: 45kg



Crew: 1-2



Sail Area: 5.3m<sup>2</sup>



Construction: Rota-Moulded Polyethylene



Mast & Boom: Coated Aluminium  
Blocks: Ball Bearing Blocks



4. Level: Intermediate - Expert



PY: 1347

# Topper 6.4



Length: 3.40m  
Beam: 1.20m  
Hull Weight: 45kg



Crew: 1-2



Sail Area: 6.4m<sup>2</sup>



Construction: Rota-Moulded Polyethylene



Mast & Boom: Coated Aluminium  
Blocks: Ball Bearing Blocks



Level: Intermediate - Expert



PY: 1294





When you buy a Topper, you are not just treating yourself to probably the best small boat in the world - you are also becoming part of the exclusive Topper family.

**International Topper Class Association ITCA (GBR)**

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