



SONATA YACHT ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

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STENCIL SET

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE





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1. Background

The SYAV has responded to a suggestion that members to place identifying marks on their boat trailers. For example:

- Emergency personnel examining cars with trailers in ramp car parks, have no idea what boat belongs to the car and trailer combinations. This becomes an issue, when the boat owner because of mishap, does not return to retrieve his boat after being on the water. Police who may be wanting to institute a search, have a lead as to what the name and registration is of the boat which has not returned.
- Also police upon observing foul play to your parked combination may need to give you a call out on the water via marine radio. These markings give them the necessary lead.
- Members may want favours in regard to their combinations parked back at the ramp, when they are in a distant location (e.g. “ ...Please check my rig before you leave the park ! “)
- It is also a security issue, as your boat’s name so clearly marked is somewhat of a deterrent for would be thieves.

2. The Stencil Kit



We have packaged the kit, so as to make it so easy for members to use.

The kit comprises of :

- a. Set of A – Z stencil letters of 50mm height , cut from zinc plated steel, and includes the “&” letter.
- b. Set of 0 – 9 numerals of same size,
- c. Set of aluminium blanks for masking purposes,
- d. Two C Clamps for securing the slider to the trailer chassis.
- e. One wooden ‘slider’, which is to hold the stencils in a horizontal row.
- f. One can of Black Spray Enamel (gloss)
- g. One bottle of mineral turpentine, and cleaning rag.

- h. One pair of gloves
- i. One cleaning rag
- j. One cleaning bowl
- k. One steel fold out Tool Box – Red Enamel finish.

3. Preparation



The chassis on your trailer typically has 100mm box section chassis under the bow of the boat and hence to the front of the trailer. The side of this box section represents ideal space for stenciling of your boats name and registration number. Select a section which can accommodate the boats name and reg. For each letter of your boats name allocate 60mm plus same for any space (e.g. LOVE BOAT would span 9 x 60mm=540mm). Your boat reg. would span about 360mm. Not essential . but as a standard for Sonata trailers, we suggest the boat's name be at the left hand end, and the reg at the right hand end.

Once you have selected the span, then clean the chassis with turpentine on a rag (both provided in the kit !)

4. Alignment of the characters

It is possible to just hold the stencil in a chosen place and the spray the paint on. However the chances are that the characters will not be square and in line. Therefore we have provided you with a 'rack' in the kit. This is designed to support the stencil whilst you apply the paint. It also keep the stencils in line horizontally. However the spacing of stencils must be by trial and error.

So it is best to experiment on a vertical wall, such as a cardboard box in applying a stencilled message.

Take the rack and line up its lower edge with the bottom edge of the box section of the chassis. Then take the two C – Clamps and secure the rack to the chassis.

5. Applying the paint



Select the letters required for the boats name, and place them on the rack. Carefully visualise the ideal spacing of the characters. Note that letters such as "G" and letters such as "I" will require different spacing. Take the first letter and put on the rack. Take the aluminium blanks and place each side , so as to prevent stray paint spray getting on the chassis surface where you do not want it.

Get the spray can, and shake well as per the instructions. Then do a test spray for half a second into the atmosphere to ensure the sprayer is working. Next, using a stick in the left hand , press the stencil against the chassis such that there is no gap between the stencil and the chassis. With the spray can in the right hand, squirt the paint in short half second bursts on to the stencil image till the image holes are only just black. If you over do the application, paint will run down between the stencil and the chassis, and ruin the job. After the first character, repeat the operation with the second character, taking care to space the letters correctly. And so on till the end of the boat's name. Once complete, then re-position the rack to the right and apply the registration number.



6. Clean up

If the paint job is unsatisfactory, then it can be removed with a rag wetted with mineral turpentine.

Clean out the spray nozzle by inverting the can and spraying until paint stops and propellant starts.

Clean the stencils of the spray paint by using the bowl and some turpentine, cleaning up with rag. Put the stencils back in the slots in the top tray of the tool box.

7. Frequently Asked Questions !

- a. Q. Is it law that boats name be put on trailers ?
A. No !
- b. Q. What if I want another colour other than black ?
A. Its your choice, but you will have to supply your own spray can !
- c. Q. Can paint be applied to the stencils with a brush rather than the spray technique ?
A. Using a paint brush results in much smudging , so not recommended !
- d. Q. Does the SYAV have a position on such marks to trailers ?
A. No position is taken. It is entirely up to the member whether or not he/she wishes to stencil such information on to his/her trailer !

- e. Q. What if I wish to re-galvanize the trailer at a later date ?
A. Usually the chassis is sand blasted to clean it up before applying the zinc. That process would remove the paint.
- f. Q. What if I wish to apply the name in extra locations on the trailer ?
A. No reason why you should not !
- g. Q. Do we have a stencil with the Sonata logo ?
A. No, but if someone wants to volunteer , Tony Tossel will supply the artwork !
- h. Q. I have notice that the rack when positioned horizontally as you have described does not get the characters lined up in the middle of the chassis section. How do I fix that ?
A. If you care to draw a centre line in pencil along the chassis, you can then move the rack up a bit so that the centre line of the characters match the centre line drawn on the chassis. Then clamp the rack in that position. !