

Tips & Tricks #1

Fin Box (Keel Box)

Many sailors are worried about water seeping in through the fin box. Water that seeps in between the fin box and the hull does not go inside the hull it goes to a sealed area inside the fin box. If you are getting water in here, you may notice some drops of water leaking back out when your boat is sitting on its cradle. Is this critical? Maybe if you are getting more than a thimble full. I have never had a problem with water in my fin box. What I do when first assembling my boats (and anyone that I have built a boat for) is to check to be sure the screws for the fin box are snug, not excessively tight just snug. **Over tightening is not good as it will compress this area of the hull that could easily lead to hull cracks extending from the fin box area.**

If you feel you are getting water in your **DF95 fin box** and you would like to do something about it here is a good YouTube that I recommend watching. Please notice the **100% waterproof silicone sealant** that is being used, this is a must. You must screw the fin box back in place before the silicone sealer dries. Allow a minimum of 24 hours for drying (48 hours better) before sailing.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWEEJF7mDzw&fbclid=IwAR3SMfbzGRGcWb2cUeFRB3NPXfq2dOdGa7Oz4aGp_woGO4Nd0o5vae45dis&app=desktop

NOTE:

The DF65's have an O-Ring on the top and bottom of the fin box and should not require any sealant. For the 65's when I need to remove a fin box, I use an Aqua O-Ring Silicone **Lubricant** available from a pool supply store when I reinstall. This will keep the O-Ring from drying out and breaking the seal.

95 Fin Box (No O-Ring)



65 Fin Box (With O-Ring)



Inside 95 Fin Box

