**3Di NORDAC FAQ’s**

**Q: How is 3Di NORDAC different than my old cross-cut Dacron sails?**

*A: 3Di NORDAC uses the same trusted materials combined with advanced and fully proven manufacturing. 3Di NORDAC is durable like woven Dacron, but has far better shape and shape longevity. The basic differences are spread filaments instead of woven fibers and a seamless molded sail instead of sewn together panels. If you like your boat to sail well, you will love 3Di NORDAC.*

**Q: I have heard Cruising Laminates don’t last long. Will 3Di NORDAC delaminate?**

*A: No. One of the amazing breakthroughs of 3Di construction is that it is not a laminate at all and there is no Mylar film. 3Di NORDAC is made much like your fiberglass boat, with a solid core of fused polyester. 3Di is uniquely engineered of environmentally stable materials.* [*3D Technology*](https://northsails.com/sailing/innovation/3d-technology)

**Q: What is the square pattern on 3Di NORDAC sails? Are these seams?**

*A: No these are not seams. The outer layer of 3Di NORDAC are the first and last layers of the composite as we build a sail from port side to starboard side on the sail mold. For 3Di NORDAC, these outer layers are a special form of polyester that we use as a protective layer that resists damage from UV, chafe, abrasion and flex.*

**Q: I don't understand how you “mold” a sail?**

*A: Everything about your sail is made in its three dimensional flying shape. All of the component materials are laid up and fused on a very large “mold” that is custom shaped to your sails design. This process is different than cutting panels of sailcloth with curved edges and sewing them together, which is how traditional sails are made.*

*Sailmaking in Three DImensions - Blue Paper*

**Q: Why is a Molded sail better than a panel sail?**

*A: Because all of the component part of the sails are made in 3D space, a 3Di sail is better at accepting the loads of the sail. But more than that, all of the load bearing filaments are aligned with the many different strain and compression loads of a sail. All of these materials are laid up in a multi axis array. In panel sails, you only have two axis that the fiber can be aligned. With 3D molded sails, there are an infinite number of alignments we can use depending upon the size, shape and intended use of a given sail.*

*Sailmaking in Three DImensions - Blue Paper*

**Q: How do you know 3Di will be right for cruising sails?**

*A: 3Di technology is not new, it is well proven. Over the past 8 years we have made thousands of sails that have sailed millions of miles. We have spent over two years developing 3Di NORDAC and we have put many 3Di NORDAC sails into use in the harshest sailing environments around the world. We stand behind our products and guarantee you will have great durability and great performance.*

**Q: How can I trust North Sails to build a great cruising sail? Aren't you guys are all about racing?**

*A: We like to cruise and we know how to make great cruising sails - in fact, North Sails has been the world's largest cruising sailmaker for many decades. One of the benefits of building sails for round the world racers and modern superyachts is that lessons we learn about durability are directly transferred to all of our cruising sails.*

*Cruising Sails Performance Blue Paper*

**Q: Why does North Sails have to measure my boat? I have a Catalina 30 and there were thousands of this boat model made.**

*A: We are very particular about your sails fitting well and every sail we make is customized to your boat. Small details like attachment fitting, luff slides etc make a big difference if the sails will fit and function properly. If we have made sails for your boat before, we can usually make a new sail from records on file. If you are far away from a North Sails office, we will provide you with a measurement form allowing you to take your own measurements.*

**Q: How should I look after my sails at the end of the season?**

*A: 3Di NORDAC sails require very little maintenance, but it is always a good idea to take them into our service sites for an annual checkup. We will make sure there are no wear points, and repair any minor damage that may occur. Every 3Di NORDAC sail comes with 1 year free sail care, so bring it in at the end of the season. Free Sail Care*