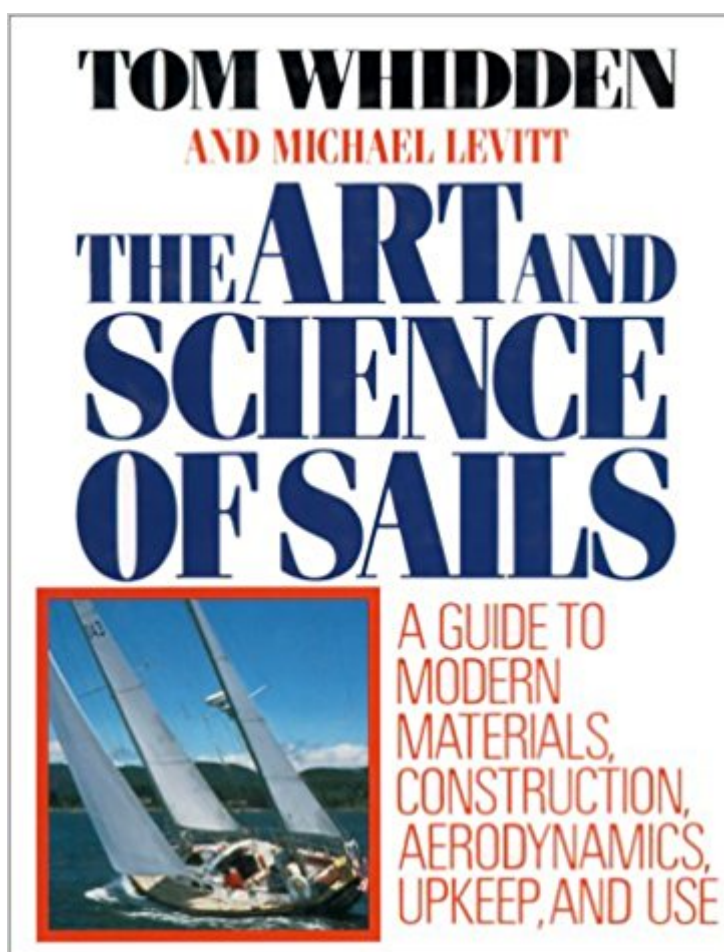


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# The Art And Science Of Sails: A Guide To Modern Materials, Construction, Aerodynamics, Upkeep, And Use



## Synopsis

A fresh, readable guide for sail cruisers and racers! Tom Whidden discusses the latest materials and rigging methods for sailboats and shows the consumer how to choose between different cloths and designs, plus the construction and trim of sails, as well as the upkeep of a proper sail inventory.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

For anyone in the process of ordering a new genoa jib, this book is both timely and informative. Whidden, president of North Sails, has provided a readable volume which starts with sail material and concludes with the care thereof. In between, there is much valuable information regarding such matters as design and development, sail and rigging trim, and choice of inventory for various sailing interests. While the book is aimed at the specialist, the style is clear enough for most sailors. Highly recommended for all libraries with a literate sailing clientele. Dolphin Book Club Selection; first serial, Sailing . -- Robert E. Greenfield, formerly with Baltimore Cty. P.L. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"The book is gracefully written and deserves to be a classic..."--Sailing World magazine."I've known Tom Whidden for quite a while since he crewed for me on the 12-Metre Nefertiti. He has always been a student of the technical and business aspects of sailmaking. Whidden has a common-sense approach gained from hands-on ocean racing experience."--Ted Hood, the late sailmaker, yacht designer, boat-builder, marina developer, winning America's Cup skipper,

Yachtsman of the Year, author and industry leader. Whidden and Levitt know as much about sails as anybody alive, and they show it in this book. I wish I'd had it to read during my 150-days around alone in American Promise." --The late Dodge Morgan, who in 1986 was the first American to sail solo around the world nonstop--in 150 days, cutting the prior world record of 292 days nearly in half."I'm sure the book will become must reading for anyone who is genuinely interested in knowing why sails work the way they do."--Charles Mason, former executive editor of Sail magazine.

A lot of us sailors will read this and believe all or most of it, or not, and not be able to repeat it, much less explain it, a month later. For example, why exactly is an alleged sticky layer of air against a sail, a tiny tiny layer, essential for making a sailboat go? And what about the nearly theological argument around whether a sail pushes or pulls a boat? True believers have had fist fights over that one (really), and experienced sailmakers may not take sides. The short review? Read this book and keep it in your cabin. It will entertain the esoteric part of your mind and make your guests feel safe with you.

If you are searching for a book that explains almost all aspects of sail shape and performance to date, in an ever-changing and developing science of design, then this may be about the best available. If you are not inclined to get too technical, you can still get a lot of information from this publication via its drawings, graphs and photographs. An excellent book.

Can't stop Reading. Great explanation of how sails and foils work together with some highlights on the story of the two most important men in sailmaking.

I purchased this book as a text book for ideas on improving sailing speed. Found to be very informative. Whether it works I'll need some time out on the race course. Encouraging start though.

A great book - Stick with it through the more technical and deep sections. Well worth a second reading to absorb all it has to offer.

Great advanced book on all aspects of sail trim. Pity it's now out of print. It's largely based, I believe, on Arvel Gentry's novel aerodynamic theories about sails, see [...]

An excellent and informative book, compulsory reading and essential acquisition to a yachtsmans library.RBF

Some good information but the authors also pass on some very bad information, and are way off base when talking about spinnaker trim. Sailmakers are always trying to be the main source of information about sails and sailing. Historically, they have passed on a lot of bad information, some of which is in this book..

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