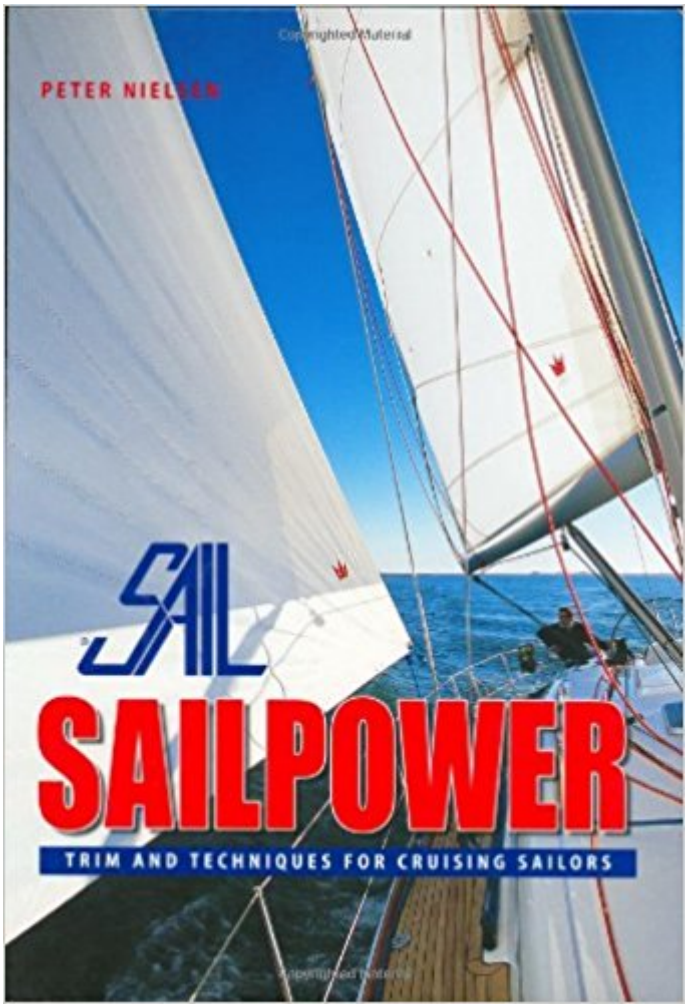
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Sailpower: Trim And Techniques For Cruising Sailors



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Synopsis

Unlike most books on sail trim, which seem to be written exclusively for racing sailors, Peter Nielsen’s Sailpower is intended for the sailing community at large. Any and all seafarers, whether racer or cruiser, amateur or expert, will benefit from Nielsen’s down-to-earth practical advice and superb illustrations that demonstrate exactly how to achieve a perfect set-up to get the most out of your sails. This is one book no sailor can afford to be without. Contents include: how sails work, essential sail trim tips, how to balance your boat, how to keep moving in light airs, heavy weather trim and techniques, spinnakers for cruising, how to tune your rig, reefing system improvements, running rigging, troubleshooting and care, and much more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Written by the editor of SAIL magazine, whose extensive experience includes competition in long-distance ocean races, Sailpower: Theory and Techniques for Cruising Sailors is a thoroughly detailed instructional to effectively operating a sailboat. Color photographs illustrate the how-to, step-by-step advice for setting up the rig, controlling the mainsail, trimming the mainsail and headsail, handling reefing systems, coping with strong winds, troubleshooting, and much more. Presented in a friendly, accessible tone as accessible to lay readers as to seasoned sailors, Sailpower is a superb guide to honing one's sailing skills and highly recommended for anyone considering the hobby or simply wanting to know more about what it is like. (Midwest Book Review)

Peter Nielsen was assistant editor of Yachting Monthly for 10 years and is now the editor of SAIL, America’s leading magazine for cruising and racing sailors. He has sailed and raced yachts of all sizes and types all over the world.

If you’re interested in getting more out of your cruising sailboat, but aren’t interested in a lot of theory and jargon, this book is for you.It’s particularly valuable if you haul out and unstep your mast each season.When you launch, most boatyards just get the mast up and relatively plumb, but don’t tune the rig.This book shows you how to tune the rig and get more out of your sails WITHOUT expensive tension gauges:Believe it or not, some blue masking tape and a tape measure is pretty much all you need!On our Pearson 25, we had a lot of trouble pointing up - we couldn’t get the boat to sail unless we were at least 15 degrees off the wind. After tuning the rig, and learning better how to set the sails (also covered in this book) we can now make decent headway just about 5 points off the wind.This isn’t a book for serious racers, it’s not detailed enough. It was also written using non-American English, so some terms are a little alien and most measurements are metric, but neither of these detracts from the useful information to be found here.

Exactly as you would expect from Sail. Still looking for more on trimming a ketch.

This is the third book on sail trim that I have read (some of us catch on slowly). I am a cruising sailor that races once a year and am interested in maximizing sail performance any time. I often sail with a buddy that really knows sail trim and can often get an extra knot with a tweak of the halyard, outhaul and genoa lead, so I’ve seen the difference small changes can make. This is an easily understood book, not overly technical. Dedicated racers would want one of the other more technical books.

Finally, a sail trim guide for non-racers which gets right down to it with clear explanations, photos, simple presentations. Exactly what I’ve been looking for!

Excellent book! Lots of useful info!

Well-written, comprehensive, understandable, technically detailed, extremely well illustrated. A good combination of theory and practical examples. Valuable to beginner and experienced sailors alike.

I first looked at this book while at B&N. At first glance I liked the book but postponed the purchase

for some weeks. I was looking at book on and just had to have it. I have never regreted the decision and expect this book to become a classic over time.For those sailors intent on mastering the art portion of sailing this is the best book I have seen in years and perhaps ever. All I have to say is thanks for the words and better yet the pictures in this book.

This is a concise, well structured overview that is pitched at people like me - a cruising sailor with more than half a brain, but without the obsessive compulsive racing personality. I was disinclined to read the rigging sections, but after learning about the sails I went back and enjoyed these chapters. Written in a style that maintains the readers attention, it is neither patronising nor dumbed-down. Excellent photos and diagrams support the text comprehensively. After reading the book I feel I understand enough about the common pitfalls in sail setting and rigging set ups to make my own decisions, (ever asked 3 yachties to agree on anything?) and can place my sails in a respectable way that gets the most out of my boat. Our cruising is certainly more comfortable. Being relatively new to sailing we have been delighted with the results - picking up speed and saving time on regular weekend journeys, and gaining the enjoyment of knowing more about what we are doing without having had to find an old sea-dog to show us the way.

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