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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by craynerd - 2005/08/07 09:49

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Hi guys,

If any of you have read my intro post in the genral forum you will know i`ve been windsurfing for not too long, but long enough to know that i`m not getting enough power out of my cheapo tushingham begginers 5.7m concept sail! So after speaking to one of the guys at the club, he recommended me get like a 7.5m sail or similar. Well i`ve been looking around and i`ve found this Neil Pryde VX3 for sail in ok condition, few scuffs ect. but no actual damage. However there is no price, and it sais open to sensible offers, well i havent a clue!!!! So

- 1) Is it even worth me buying it, will it be suited to me?
- 2) How much should i offer first
- 3) What is the maximum i should offer?

Thanks for the hep in advance!

Chris

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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by AndyBoardman - 2005/08/07 14:02

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Hi Chris , if you are a just starting out it may not be the best sail as that was a top end tuned race sail and designed to be over powered ie if it is 6 mtr weather it would be very happy, but the sailor might not be.It is also a fully cambered sail so will need the correct mast to use it, even the Neil Pryde V8's like to have the right mast trust me I know !!All said though if it is the right price ie around the Â£80.00 to Â£100.00 mark it will be OK later on when you get better.

Hope this helps but wait for more info from other users on here first.

Cheers

Andy

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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by Slim - 2005/08/07 19:54

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It is a minefield starting off not knowing what to go for. I have made the mistake of buying fully cambered sails in the past when I did not know what I was looking for because they were the right price, unfortunately they are not the right sails. i fact I reckon they are tihs, as they may go a little faster but they are very tricky to use as a relative beginner. My advice, avoid camber inducers like the plague, you can get 7.5m sails with none or one if you look for bargains. Dont buy something that is cumbersome that you will hate and get rid of as soon as you can afford to!

Did that make any sense.....I am very hungover/ sleep deprived.

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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by craynerd - 2005/08/07 21:07

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gonna sound a right idiot, but what is cambered sail ????

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Like i say, i've been sailing for like 3-4months yet not taken any notice of sails!! Just looked at boards and styles, lol, now i realise the importance !! I'm listening to the advice, so please keep it coming!

Chris

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### Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by AndyBoardman - 2005/08/08 08:47

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Hi Chris, a cambered sail is of the type that has a plastic wedge shape in it which gives the sail that very smooth aircraft wing look. Next time you are on the water have a wander round and look at the difference in sails. A non cambered sail will have the luff tube where your mast goes on one side of the mast only till powered up where as a cambered sail will be in the middle. The battens go into the cambers to give the sail its shape. Have a look at the Neil Pryde website & all the info should be on there. Hope this helps.

Andy

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### Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by IainO - 2005/08/09 15:16

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In addition to what Andy says the problem with cambers is they require a wider luff tube to accommodate them. This fills with water if you drop the rig making it extremely heavy to uphaul or recover for a water start. They were designed for racers who want speed and don't fall in on their gybes.

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### Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by craynerd - 2005/08/09 15:37

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ok thanks guys! i'll leave it for now then. I'm still after a bigger sail but i'm a little skint at present with buying my kit and joining both clowbridge and hopefully watgate.

My appologies, but i have been lookingg for the last hour to find an explanation of "cambered / non cambered) i'm yet to find anything that is helping me understand. Are there any pictures anywhere showing a cambered and non-cambered sail ?

Chris

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### Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by Shawn - 2005/08/09 16:51

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Have a look on the gallery section - then public upload gallery, page 2 - the pic entitled 'shawns very dodgy cam pic'.

the badly drawn pic is as though u r looking down the sail from above the mast tip. U can see the cammed sail has a

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thick section just behind the mast & is a curved shape. The thick bit makes it much more aerodynamic and efficient - but also fills up with water when u fall in.

in contrast the raf (rotating aerofoil i think that stands for) is a 'normal' sail - the mast goes up a tube that is not much bigger than the mast itself - so there is no room to fill up with water. the sail only takes on a nice shape when the wind fills it and blows it into a nice wing shape.

cam sails are thought to be faster and more stable, but raf sails are easier to use, more forgiving, and to be honest, not that far behind cammed sails for most of us recreational types.

I used to swear by cammed sails (my very last one is on the classifieds section now!) but having converted back to rafs i am having much more fun - theres also a lot less to go wrong with the sail.

to see how the cam sail is forced into shape - type 'camber inducers' into google & wade yer way through it all. the boardseeker article on them is ok but not enuff pix. Theres some little plastic wedge shaped jobbies that fit on the mast and force the sail into a nice shape.

Clear as mud - yes - i thought so - glad 2 b of service....?

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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by craynerd - 2005/08/10 07:20

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Nice one!! i understand!, i will keep a look out while i`m sailing but yes ur diagram makes sense!

Chris

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## Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?

Posted by johnny - 2005/08/10 17:24

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I have the 7mtr version, really fast, really stable, goes up wind like a train. It will NOT be suitable as a light wind sail for a potter round the lake. (think F1 racing car in a car park!) Where do you sail?

It will still be out on the water when others are on 5.5s but will you? this could be used with a 130ltr board for well powered up blasting or a 100ltr board for maxed out speed sailing. I have to say although heavy in light winds the sail becomes light in the hands and predictable once the wind picks up.

If you fancy flying past everyone on the water and dont mind the extra time rigging on the beach then go for it!

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I paid Â£80 2nd hand for mine 3yrs ago and have had great value but i am looking for a cam free lighter 8mtr ish sail for the lighter winds on a bigger board.

whats the latest bid for it??

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**Neil Pryde 7.4 m VX3 Sail...any good and how much?**

Posted by craynerd - 2005/08/10 18:31

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lol, Â£40, but i`m gonna leave it!

Chris

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