

SURESHADE TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION

# RTX Pull-Out Boat Shade

## Installation Instructions & Owner's Manual



**SURESHADE**  
EXTENDING THE EXPERIENCE

A Lippert Components Company 

### **SURESHADE**

A Lippert Components Company  
1900 47th Terrace East  
Brandenton, FL 34203  
Tel: 1-877-333-8323  
International: 215-673-2307  
[www.sureshade.com](http://www.sureshade.com)

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## CONTENTS

- Introduction .....3
- Customer Support.....3
- Warranty Information.....3-4
- Important Instructions.....5
- Safety Warnings.....5
- Tools Required.....5
- Installation - Mounting Clamps.....6
- Installation – Measuring for Placement.....7
- Installation - Mounting the Actuators.....8
- Installation - Attach Roller and Crossbars.....9
- Installation – Tension the Roller.....10
- Shade Operation.....11
- Care and Maintenance.....12



## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing a SureShade retractable shade for your boat. Invented by boaters for boaters, SureShade is the new standard for shade on boats. Our automated or manual retractable shade systems are featured on over 50 boat brands as factory or aftermarket installations. SureShade is the only U.S.-made telescoping marine sunshade on the market, with patents in the U.S., Canada, Europe and China. SureShade is committed to improving sun safety on boats with shade systems that give boaters more sun protection... where and when they need it.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### CUSTOMER SUPPORT

We take pride in offering an unprecedented level of customer service to our boat builders, dealers and — most importantly — the boaters who use our sunshade systems. Whether you purchased your sunshade system as a factory-install option, an aftermarket installation through your local boat dealer or directly from us, you can have confidence in continued customer service resources from SureShade. Should you require assistance with your SureShade installation, our technical experts are available from 9am - 5pm EST Monday through Friday via email at **service@sureshade.com** or call us at 877-333-8323. Further customer resources and information can be found on our website at:

<https://www.sureshade.com/customer-resources/>

### MODEL AND SERIAL NUMBER TAG LOCATION

The canvas is identified by the white tag sewn into the canvas. Please do not remove this label.

### SURESHADE LIMITED PRODUCT WARRANTY STATEMENT

SureShade provides the following Limited Warranty of its electric and manual sunshade awning systems. SureShade warrants that the shade framework — which consists of the actuator drive assemblies, crossbars, roller assembly, mounts and in the case of an electric shade, the motors, controller and wire that connects the actuators to the controller — will be free from material defects and workmanship and will repair or replace, at its sole discretion, any inoperable components that are reported within 3 years from the date of shade sale to original purchaser — boat builder, dealer or private boat owner. SureShade will also replace, at its sole discretion, the **canvas component** of the shade system (electric or manual) when reported defective within one year from the date of canvas manufacture as indicated on the white manufacturer tag attached to the canvas (tag must remain attached for warranty purposes).

Exclusions to this limited warranty are as follows:

- Damage resulting from abuse, misuse, neglect, improper installation, improper operation, improper maintenance, attempted repair efforts resulting in further damage, power surges, underpowering or forcing operation in low voltage situations, improper stowage for ground transportation, inclement weather or other act of nature.



- Damage resulting from leaving the shade extended unattended during inclement weather.
- Damage resulting from leaving shade extended in conditions that exceed the shade framework's wind rating of 50 mph (Applies to aft facing shade only. Forward shade must be stowed at all times while boat is underway).
- Damage resulting from corrosion.
- Any shade product that has been altered or modified from SureShade factory specifications.
- Any shade that's installed without SureShade-supplied or approved mounting components.
- Removal and/or dismantling of the shade and its components (including actuator drive system) without proper notification to SureShade.
- Attempted controller reset that results in loss of controller memory, specifically the manipulation of dip switches 1-4.
- Deterioration of the canvas thread and stitching.
- Travel time to/from boat to troubleshoot, repair and/or replace components.
- Labor cost and expenses associated with removal or reinstallation of other components in order to access the shade product components.
- Any cost associated with production downtime or time spent troubleshooting or reviewing troubleshooting documentation/videos.
- Excessive labor cost beyond recommended standard labor repair rates.

SureShade reserves the right to utilize reconditioned, refurbished, repaired or remanufactured products or parts in the warranty repair or replacement process. Such products and parts will be comparable in function and performance to an original product or part and warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period. In no event shall any repair or replacement under this Limited Warranty exceed the fair market value of the product as of the date of the owner's claim. Acceptance of any product returned for any refund provided by SureShade shall not be deemed an admission that the product is defective. In order for a warranty claim to be deemed valid, the following information must be provided to SureShade immediately after discovery of any defect:

- Description of the nature of the problem
- Details of the boat that the shade is installed on — year, make, model and hull identification number.
- Date of shade purchase, or in the case of factory install, date of boat purchase.
- Details of the installation — Factory install? Dealer install? Private install?

SureShade will make every effort to troubleshoot, determine root cause and fully resolve the issue, either directly or with an experienced marine technician. SureShade is solely responsible for determining and authorizing the remedial actions to be performed either by a SureShade technician or an experienced marine technician approved by SureShade. The remedy of repair or replacement of parts or materials that are found to be defective in factory materials or workmanship covered by this limited warranty shall constitute the owner's sole and exclusive remedy against SureShade for any claims whatsoever of economic loss resulting from product failure. Please contact us or call 877-333-8323 with any questions or concerns, or if replacement canvas or parts for SureShade sunshade systems are needed.



## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- In the event of malfunction please visit <https://www.sureshade.com/service/> and review applicable videos and documentation before continuing to operate the system or making any repairs. You may also submit a service request via email at [service@sureshade.com](mailto:service@sureshade.com). Do **NOT** attempt to repair shade on your own or you could risk voiding the warranty.
- Never disassemble actuators without permission from SureShade factory or you will void warranty.
- Do **NOT** install the shade anywhere it will obstruct or interfere with the navigation lights or any other boat accessories.
- When tensioning the canvas, refer to <https://www.sureshade.com/service-and-technical-documentation/> for proper roller pre-load instructions. Improper tensioning can cause spring malfunction, which will prevent the roller assembly from operating normally.
- Your SureShade product has been designed and tested to withstand wind speeds of up to 50 mph. However, it is recommended to retract the shade while underway.
- To protect the shade and components, always retract shade during inclement weather. Retracting the shade when **NOT** in use will prolong the life of the canvas and components.
- Refer to the SureShade website for maintenance and winterization procedures. <https://www.sureshade.com/customer-resources>
- Do **NOT** operate the shade without the crossbars attached.
- It is important to understand the Warnings, Cautions and Notices **BEFORE** starting the installation.

### SAFETY WARNINGS

- Keep hands away from moving shade parts.
- Keep clear of shade while extending and retracting.
- Keep shade clear of obstructions.

### SAFETY LABEL LOCATIONS

Safety labels must be legible to alert personnel of safety hazards. Replace any illegible or missing labels immediately. Safety labels removed during any repair work must be replaced in their original position before operating the shade.

### TOOLS & SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR INSTALLATION:

- SureShade RTX
- Tape measure
- Drill motor and 3/8-inch bit
- Adjustable wrench
- Allen wrenches (1/8 and 3/16 inches)
- Phillips screwdriver
- Marine sealant

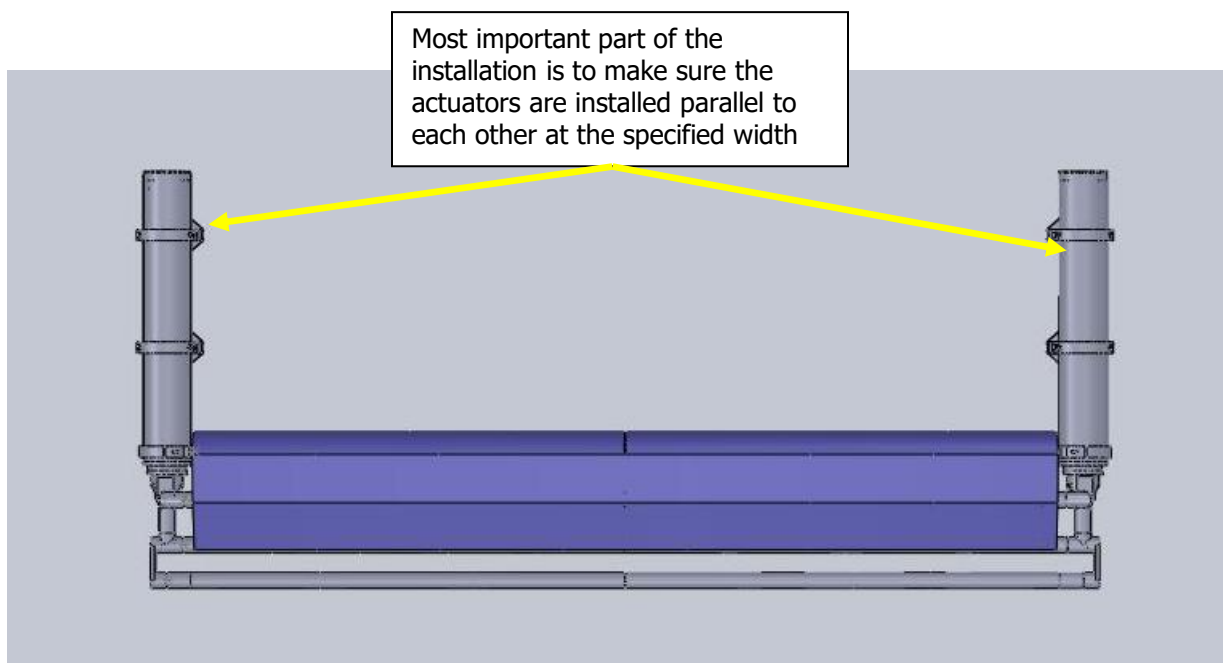
**Approximate Time:** 3 hours





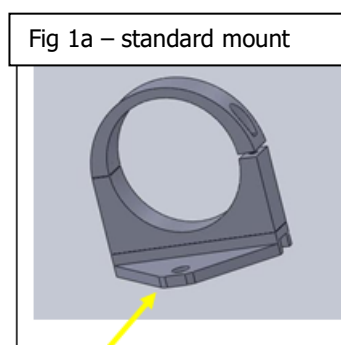
## Installing RTX Pull-Out Boat Shade

The following instructions detail how to properly install SureShade RTX Pull-Out Boat Shade system for DIY or aftermarket installations. SureShade RTX can be installed aftermarket on a hardtop, arch, tower or T-Top. Installation instructions will vary per application.

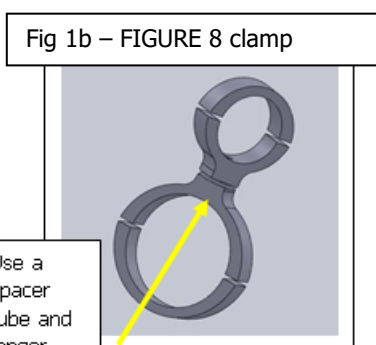


### Mounting Brackets

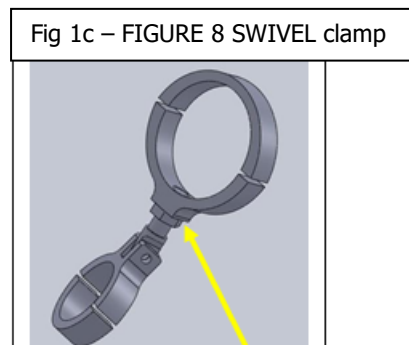
There are 3 types of mounting clamp configurations included with your shade system depending on your install type (hardtop, T-top, tower or arch) as shown below here in figures 1a thru 1c.



Use starboard material to prop up underneath the clamp for a spacer to clear any obstruction on the hardtop with standard mounts



Use a spacer tube and longer connector screw to adjust spacing between clamps on FIGURE 8



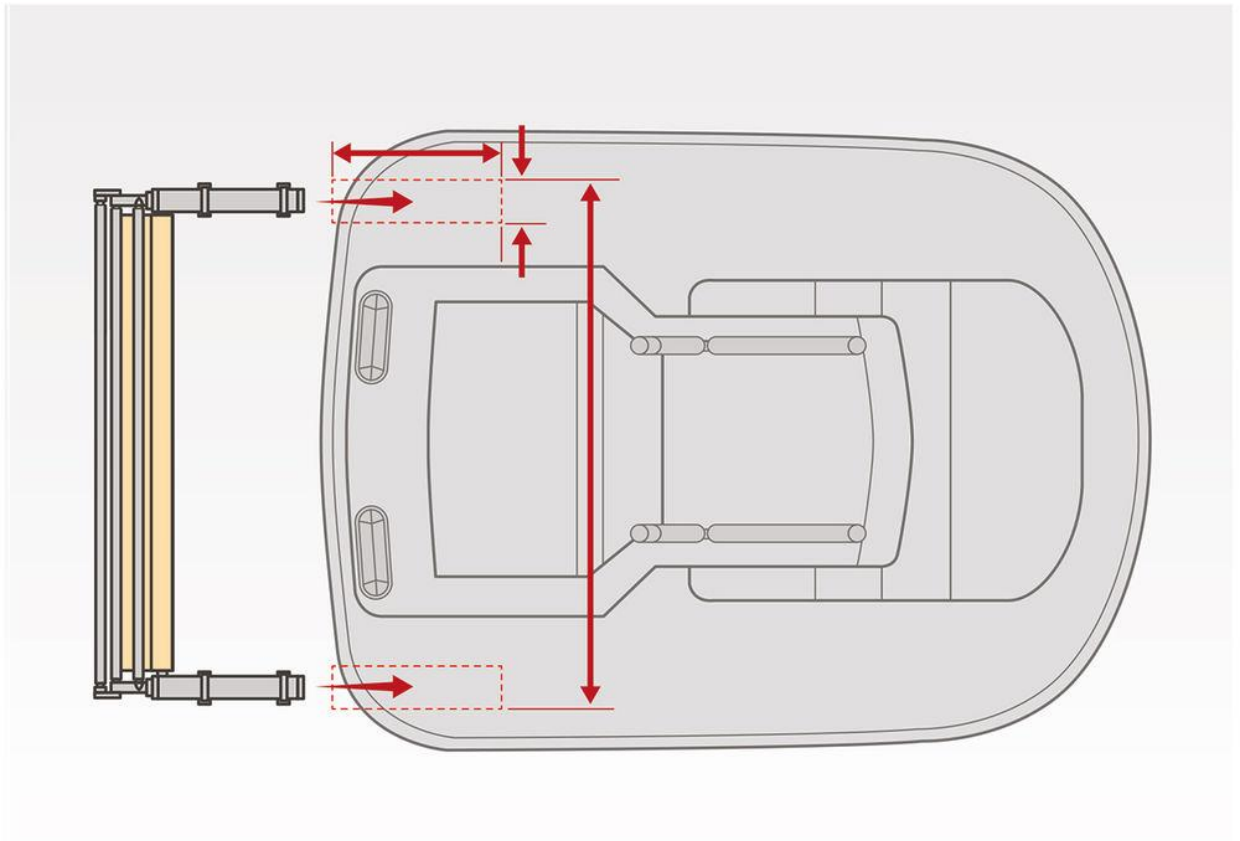
Use a longer swivel screw connector and nut to adjust spacing between clamps on FIGURE 8 SWIVEL clamps. Note you may have to trim the screw so that it doesn't protrude into the inside diameter of the clamp where the actuator is positioned in the clamp



## 1. Measure Width for Placement

Each RTX is custom-built to match the width and curvature (if any) of your top. Be aware that the outside width includes two stationary actuators with a pair of mounting clamps. These actuators require an area 4 inches wide by 18 inches long to mount properly on each side. The roller and crossbars require another 7½ inches when retracted, but these elements need not be positioned completely under the top.

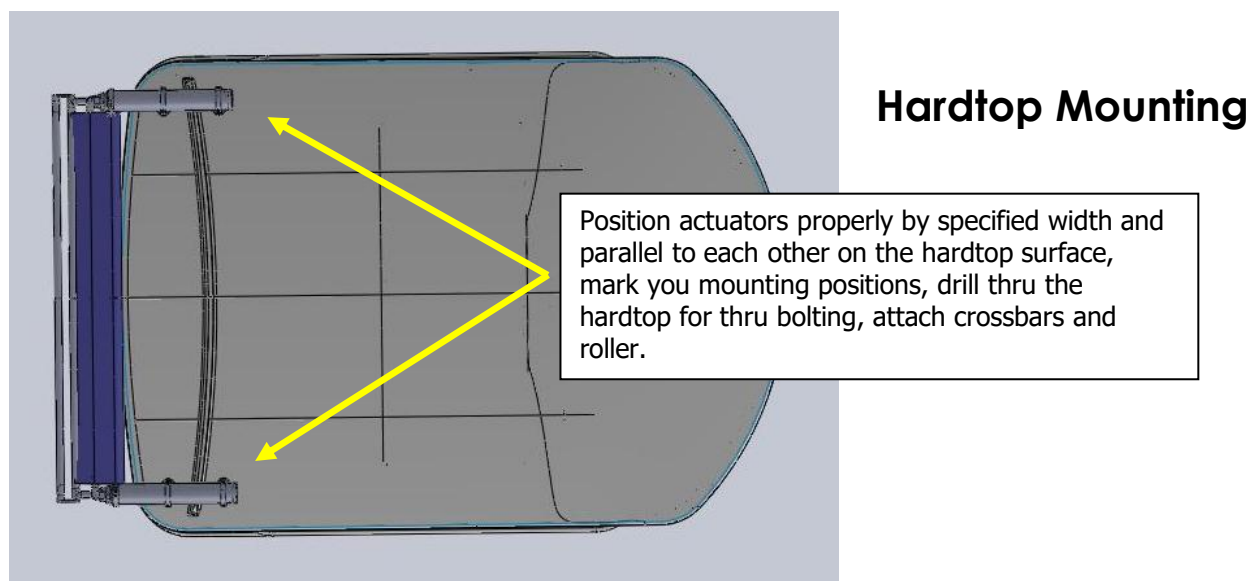
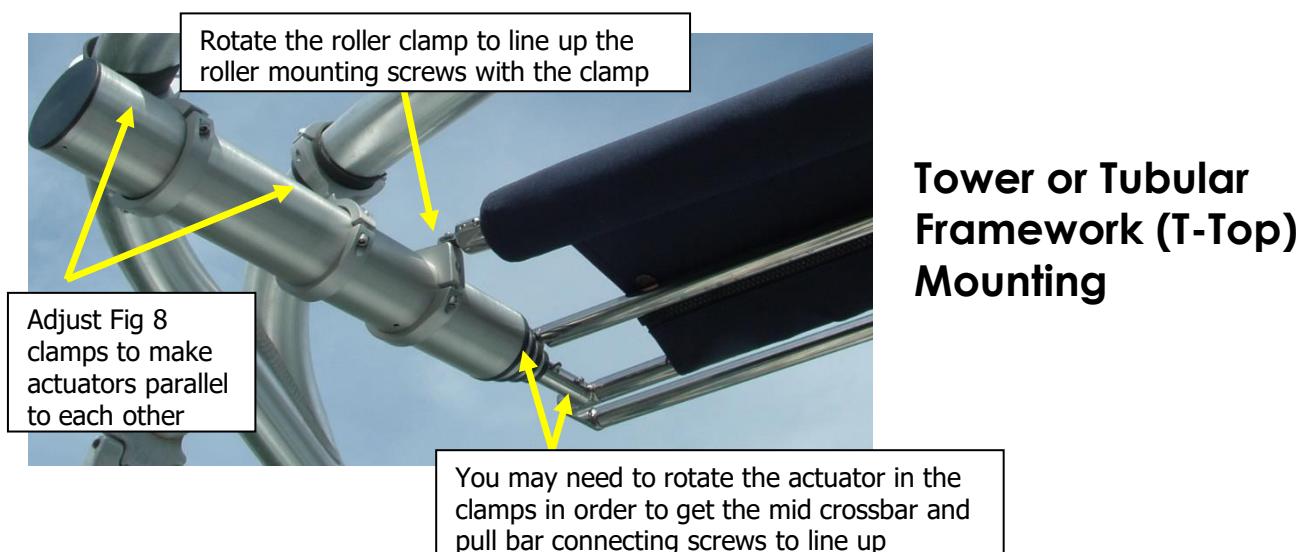
Make sure the area aft is clear of obstructions that might interfere with the 4½-foot-long shade.





## 2. Mounting the Actuators

- Position the actuators and mounting brackets on desired location (underside or topside), making sure these cylinders are parallel. Keeping the roller and crossbars attached at this point helps to ensure the mounting width ends up correct.
- Ask a friend to hold one side while you hold the other. Mark and drill the holes through the hardtop.
- Remove the roller and crossbars
- **Hardtop Install:** through-bolt each actuator (apply marine sealant to prevent leaks) using the supplied stainless-steel 5/16-inch bolts, nuts and backing plates.
- **Tower or T-Top Install** – secure figure eight clamps.



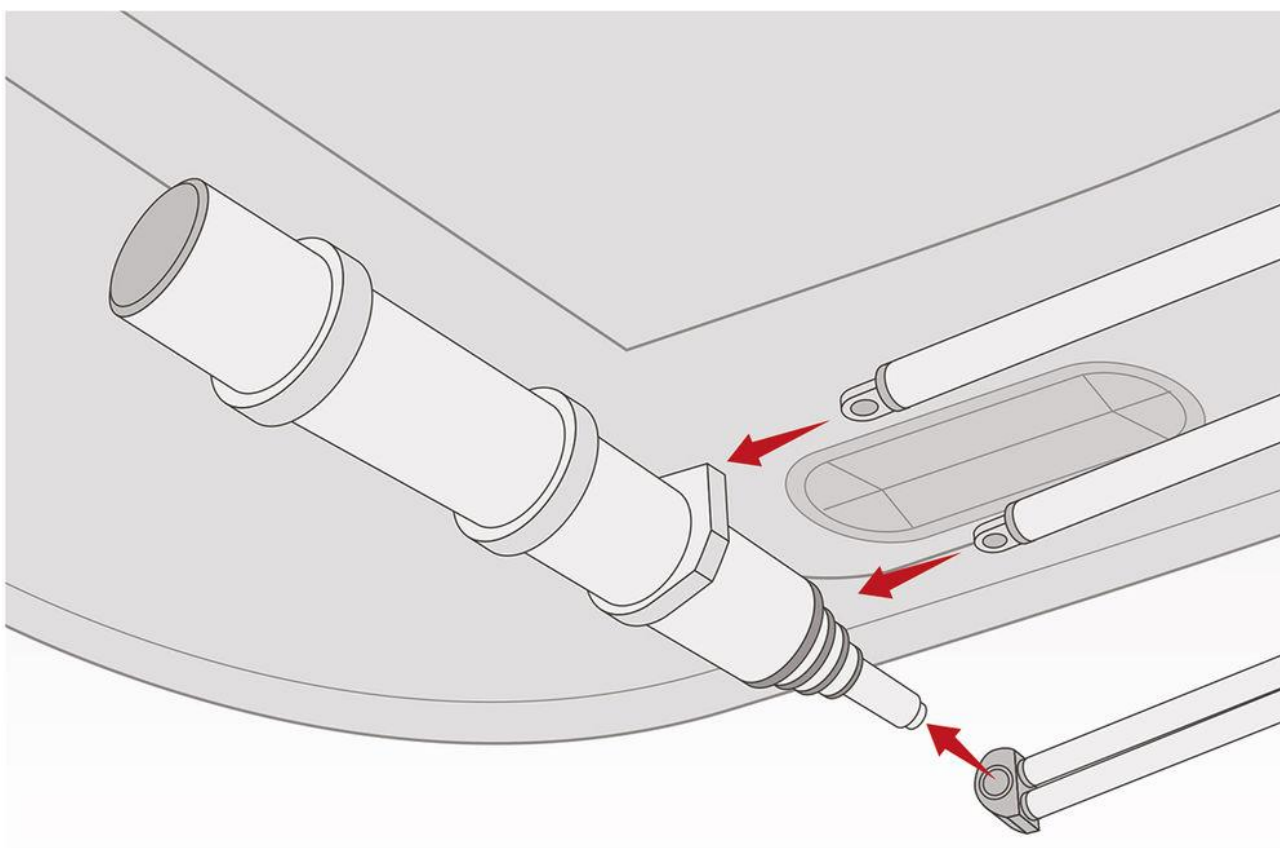




### 3. Attach Roller and Crossbars

With the actuators installed, you can reattach the roller and crossbars. Loosen and rotate the roller clamp on the actuator to line up with the roller mounting screws at each end of the roller. You might need to loosen the mounting clamps for the actuators to rotate each actuator to get the mid-crossbar and pull-bar connecting screws to line up properly.

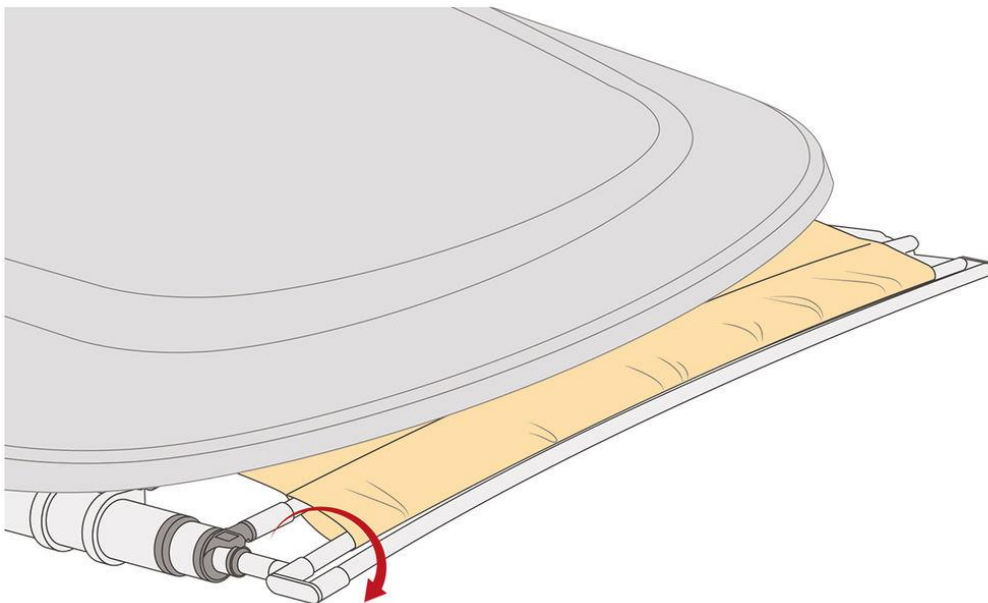
Once everything is lined up, re-tighten the mounting brackets and roller clamps and install the mounting screws for the roller and bars on each actuator.



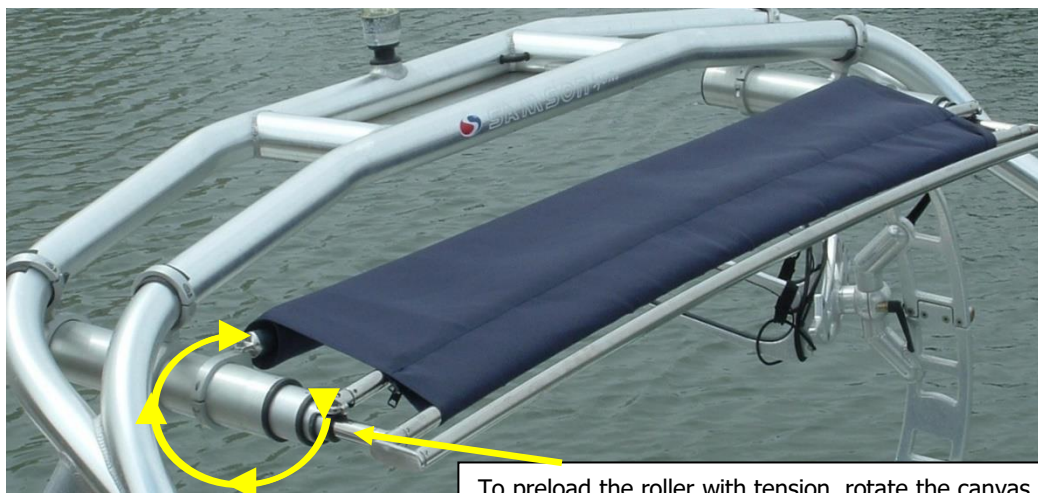


## 4. Tension the Roller

To enable the SureShade to retract properly and remain taut when deployed, the canvas roller is spring-loaded. You might need to add tension or “preload” the roller to make sure that the SureShade assembly operates correctly. To do this, unzip the canvas from the outer bar and rotate both the roller and canvas several revolutions as needed toward the crossbars, then re-zip the canvas to the outer bar. Do not rotate the canvas in toward the hardtop; this will distort the internal springs.



Depending on how much tension is on the canvas roller, in order to release the locking pins you may have to push up and outward on the crossbar to release the tension on the first locking pin.

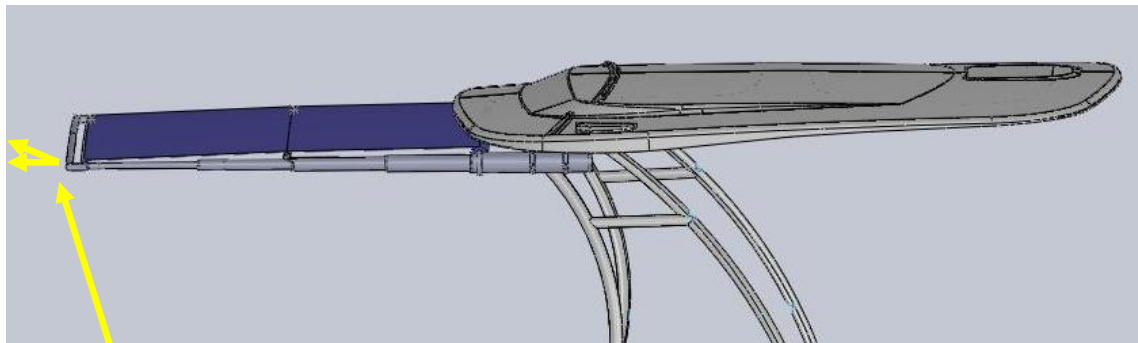


To preload the roller with tension, rotate the canvas with the roller in the direction shown a few revolutions as needed before attaching to the pull bar.



## 5. Shade Operation

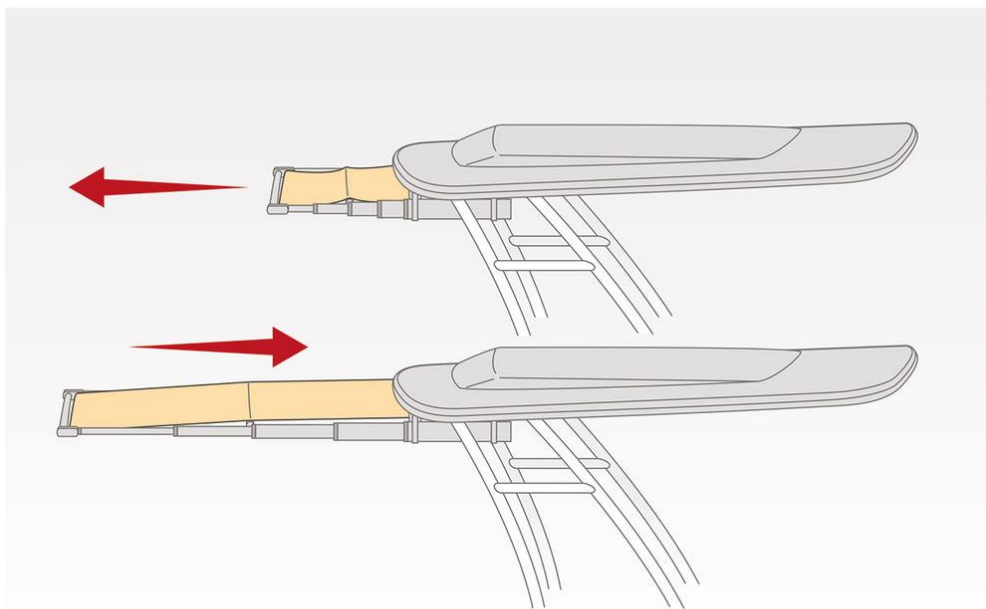
To test the RTX extension, center yourself in the middle of the push/pull bar for even leverage. Lift the framework up and aft to reduce friction for easier movement and extend until all locking pins are engaged.



To retract, lift the framework up and out one side at a time to release the locking pins on each side. Center yourself and lift the framework up while pushing it in to reduce friction for easier movement until fully retracted.

### Extension

1. Center yourself in the middle of the push bar for even pressure
2. Lift up and out (as shown) on push bar when extending to reduce friction and for easier movement
3. Extend until all locking pins are engaged



### Retraction

1. To release the first stage locking pins, relieve pressure on the pins:
  - Release the first stage locking on one side at a time
  - Relieve pressure on the pins by lifting the framework up and pushing out (as shown) as if you are extending the framework and release the locking pin, repeat on other side actuator
2. Center yourself in the middle of the push bar for even pressure
3. Lift up and push in bar when retracting to reduce friction and for easier movement until fully retracted

If you push too much on one side there is the chance of getting the framework stuck, if this occurs, start over by extending the shade and then proceed with the retraction instructions again



## Care & Maintenance

SureShade recommends following basic care and maintenance of SureShade shade components to maintain peak performance and prolong the life of your sunshade system.

### REGULAR CLEANING

We recommend using the cleaning product Nev-Dull® Magic Wadding Polish for cleaning SureShade system components. Petroleum-based cleaners and abrasive metal cleaners should not be used.

To clean and polish, extend the shade fully and wipe down all components using the Nev-Dull polish. Then, use a rag to wipe off any excess and polish the tubes.

Clean the shades no less than every other month and perhaps more frequently in saltwater areas and areas with higher-than-average temperatures (e.g., southwest Florida or the Caribbean).

### CANVAS

***NOTICE: SureShade does not recommend removing canvas from the roller system, as it may be difficult to properly reinstall or may result in damage to the rollers. Under no circumstances should the canvas supplied with any SureShade system ever be placed in a washing machine.***

SureShade sunshade systems use Sunbrella® fabrics for canvas, and we recommend following Sunbrella's basic canvas care and cleaning instructions to prolong the life of the canvas.

Basic canvas care includes:

- General, light cleaning with a hose on a monthly basis with clear water to remove debris.
- A thorough cleaning every 2-3 years, which may include fabric guard and/or mildew treatments.
- Conduct an annual inspection of your canvas to ensure that all threading is intact.
- A pull test on the thread to confirm that threading has not become dry-rotted from the elements.

### LONG-TERM STORAGE

SureShade sunshade systems are built with quality marine-grade construction and materials; however, just like other parts of your boat, SureShade canvas systems need to be shielded from snow and other harsh winter weather conditions to protect the canvas and mechanical components.

SureShade recommends that customers take proper precautions to avoid damage during winter storage (or ground transportation for winter storage), which include fully retracting and securing the SureShade sunshade system and properly tarping or shrink-wrapping your boat.

Many boaters transport their boats to a storage location or a warmer climate during the winter months. To ensure that the SureShade system is properly transported and to avoid potential damage, visit [www.sureshade.com/sureshade-groundtransportation-guide/](http://www.sureshade.com/sureshade-groundtransportation-guide/).



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