



# Carbon Fiber Masts

GMT has built carbon fiber spars for sailboats longer than any other builder in the world. Our masts have sailed in every ocean, made many successful passages around the world, and have competently handled the most demanding wind and weather conditions. Our spars are light (they're

approximately half the weight of aluminum), safe and dependable. They will make your vessel faster, stiffer and drier, and provide a more comfortable motion at sea with less heeling and hobby-horsing. A GMT mast is easy to care for, strong and long-lasting.

## Masts for every requirement

GMT engineers, details and builds masts for an unlimited range of vessels and types of sailing. Whether you own a heavy displacement megayacht, traditional or modern cruiser, classic yacht requiring a replacement spar in refit, or a round-the-world race boat, GMT has the experience and successful record you can rely on. We have built well in excess of 1000 masts from 30 to 140 feet (10 to over 40 meters) in length.

"It's a whole new boat. She is just gorgeous. With new GMT spars, *Panacea* is faster, more comfortable offshore, and she drives through the sea instead of hobby-horsing. She heels less and is drier!"

Gus MacDonald  
Hinckley Pilot



## Mast types

"It was blowing 30-plus but I didn't worry about my GMT rig; it's solid in every respect and strong as hell. GMT builds a good product and backs it up!"

George Denny  
Custom 48

We engineer, design and manufacture custom masts to suit individual vessels, their owners' desires, and the variety of sailing conditions likely to be faced. We build both in-mast furling systems as well as conventional masts. Passage-maker, cruising, and racing spars each require different designs; as we work with owners on their particular requirements, the advantage of a custom solution becomes self-evident.



## Mast finishes

"Racing to Bermuda, we had one big squall after another. Other boats had broken gear and feared for their rigs, but we didn't worry about *Cetacea* or her rig."

Chris Culver  
Sou'wester 59, Class A winner

For a high-tech look our clear-coat linear polyurethane finish shows the carbon twill's distinctive color and weave pattern. And our linear polyurethane paint comes in a nearly limitless range of colors; we can match your hull or deck or a color swatch you provide.

We also offer a *faux bois* finish that even from up close appears to be wood, and we can match the color and grain of any species of tree.





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## Mast fittings

GMT offers the finest and most modern standing and running rigging, hardware and sail management systems. GMT also understands that not everyone has a Grand Prix budget, so we offer fully customizable rigs, allowing fittings and components to be adapted to deliver the benefits of a carbon spar – but for less cost. For example, spreaders and/or mastheads can be built of alloy instead of all-carbon.



Streamlined hardware is easy to integrate with carbon composite construction. One way this can be achieved in a steaming and fore-deck light is shown here, **1a**.

GMT builds goosenecks in carbon, **2a**, stainless steel, **2b**, or bronze, **2c**, to suit any boom style or configuration.

Mastheads are custom built for each mast in carbon, **3a**, or alloy, **3b**. You can spec the number of halyards, arrays of wind instruments and electronics, and special cranes for large roached mains and Code Zeros.

Hardware, **4a** & **4b**, can mount as easily and efficiently on carbon as on other marine materials. Owners have wide latitude in choice and placement of custom mast fittings and gear.

If you want an elevator crow's nest, **5a**, GMT can build that, too!



## Q & A

GMT spars grace boats built by Alden, Baltic, Brooklin, Concordia, Cherubini, C&C, Deerfoot, Freedom, Hinckley, Herreshoff, Hylas, Lyman-Morse, Morris, Nautor Swan, Northshore, PJ, Sabre, Tartan, Open 40s, 50s and 60s, as well as custom yachts from 21 to well over 100 feet. We welcome inquiries from builders, designers, sailmakers, riggers and of course from boat owners.

**Is a carbon mast worth the cost?** For many owners, yes. Carbon saves weight aloft and reduces heeling and pitching. Boats are faster, more close-winded, and noticeably more comfortable.

**How strong is carbon?** Carbon is much stronger than aluminum pound-for-pound. GMT masts have survived boatyard accidents, unintended gybes in storm-force winds, and a full 360 degree roll – events where a metal mast would likely have been destroyed.

**Will a GMT carbon mast last?** A GMT mast was original equipment on *CCP Cray Valley*, an Open 50 raceboat now named *Totally-Money.com*. This yacht continues to race

single-handed and double-handed, going without repair for over 120,000 miles. Our first two spars made in 1990 are still sailing today. GMT spars last!

**What modulus carbon does GMT use?** We build spars in either standard or intermediate modulus carbon fiber. The choice depends on your requirements.

**Are carbon spars hard to maintain?** Actually, they're easier to maintain than aluminum because aluminum can pit or corrode if not perfectly cared for. The polyurethane finish is more durable than paint on aluminum and can be touched up if scratched or worn by abrasion.

**What fabrication system does GMT use?** We build our masts with hand-laid pre-preg carbon which is then baked in a computer-controlled oven. The Boeing Company makes aircraft parts using a similar reliable and proven method.

**What about rigging?** GMT has worked with the majority of custom designers around the world. GMT is known for delivering the best value in a carbon spar. And we can deliver your mast with its attendant rigging, whether you specify wire, rod, PBO or carbon composite.

**Have more questions?** We're glad to help. Just give us a call!

## GMT Composites

"In choosing a builder for our spars, we had three criteria: quality, experience, and price. GMT was the only company who was strong in all three."

Ron Drucker  
Hylas 70

A GMT mast is custom designed, engineered, and built expressly for you. The main components use pre-preg carbon fiber for the greatest strength-to-weight ratio. Our carbon masts are beautifully finished and can be clear-coated or painted; a *faux bois* finish is available for those who desire the look of wood. The finish is extremely durable and long-lasting, and is designed to minimize maintenance time and expense.

After preliminary discussion with clients, GMT will estimate the cost of one or more solutions, then provide concepts and proposals at no charge or obligation. When one of our proposals meets your approval, we will then complete the full engineering and design of your GMT mast.

GMT has an outstanding record of customer satisfaction building carbon fiber components for all kinds of boats and conditions. Since 1984 GMT has led the development of carbon fiber composites for marine and non-marine applications. See [www.gmtcomposites.com](http://www.gmtcomposites.com) for more information on our history and products, and updates on new products and applications.

**GMT Composites, Inc.**

*Defining the Art of Carbon since 1984*

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