Mainsail Measurement

What is being measured?  **Half width (MHW), three quarter width (MTW) and upper width (MUW).**

What are these?  The distances from the **half, three quarter, and upper leech points** to the **luff.**

In practice:

1. Lay the sail out flat on a suitable floor.

2. Establish **head point** and **clew point** as shown by the diagram.

3. Fold the **head point** to the **clew point**. Mark the fold in the **leech.**
   That is **half leech point (for MHW)**

4. Fold the **head point** to the **half leech point**. Mark the fold. That is **three quarter leech point (for MTW)**

5. Fold the **head point** to the **three quarter leech point**. Mark the fold. That is **upper leech point (for MUW)**.

6. Measure from each **leech point** to the nearest point on the **luff**. These distances are the **mainsail widths**. *(MHW, MTW, MUW)*

7. Check for **sail edge hollows**

8. Add any **hollow (A)** to each measured **Width (B)** to get the final **widths**. *(MHW, MTW, MUW)*

References:


G.4.1 and G.4.2 define **clew point** and **head point**.

G.5.2 and G.5.3 define **Half Leech Point** and **three quarter leech point**.

IRC definitions define **upper width** of the **mainsail** as:

**MUW**  The **upper width** of the **mainsail**, the **upper leech point** being the point on the **leech** equidistant from the **three-quarter leech point** and the **head point**.

G.7.5, G.7.6, and G.7.7 define **half width**, **three quarter width** and **upper width**.

G.2.4 and H.5.2 address **Sail edge hollows**.