Double Braid Class II Stripping Cover

Class II core-dependent double braids are made in whole or part from any of the following high modulus fibers: Dyneema®, Vectran®, Technora®, and Zylon®.

Many high-performance sailors like to strip the cover from the core to save weight aloft for halyard applications. In simple terms, you want to strip the cover from the core up to the area of the stoppers, cleats and winches. Leave the cover on the core wherever you have to cleat or winch the rope. The following is a simple, step-by-step method of stripping the cover and finishing the transition area where the cover ends and the core continues.

1. **MARKING AND KNOTTING**
   - Tie a slipknot with a loop about 5 feet back from the dot on the cover.
   - Mark a dot on the cover in the area where you want the core to be exposed.

2. **EXTRACTING THE CORE**
   - Bend rope sharply at extraction point. With a pusher or any sharp tool such as an ice pick, awl, or marlin spike, spread the cover strands to expose core. First pry, then pull the core completely out of cover.

3. **SLIDING AND MILKING COVER**
   - Slide the cover back toward the knot, then milk the cover from the knot to the core to balance the cover and the core.

4. **LOCK STITCHING**
   - Lock stitch the cover to the core from the dot back for about 3 complete passes. (See page 3 for tips on lock stitching.)

5. **MEASURING AND MARKING COVER**
   - From the point of the lock stitch toward the end of the cover material, measure 6 inches and mark. This will be Mark 1 on the cover.

6. **MARKING COVER AGAIN**
   - From Mark 1 measure 6 inches and make another mark. This will be Mark 2 on the cover. Mark 2 should now be about 12 inches from the lock stitch.
**Double Braid Class II Stripping Cover**

**STEP 7**
**REMOVING COVER**
Cut off the cover at Mark 2 and discard the rest of the cover material.

**STEP 8**
**MARKING CORE**
From the front of the lock stitch toward the end of the exposed core, measure 15 inches and put a mark on the core. This will be Mark A.

**STEP 9**
**COVER INTO CORE**
Insert a splicing fid with the cover into the core as close to the lock stitch as possible. Continue pushing the fid through the center of the core and extract the fid and cover at Mark A on the core.

**STEP 10**
**UNBRAIDING COVER**
Pull the cover out of the core until Mark 1 is exposed. Unbraid the cover from the end back to Mark 1. Angle-cut the strands from Mark 1 to the end of the cover to perform a taper.

**STEP 11**
**MILKING THE CORE**
At the point of cover insertion into the core, milk the core down toward the end of the cover. This will cause the cover to disappear into the core.

**STEP 12**
**WHIPPING**
Whip the area where the cover is inserted into the core, to finish. (See pages 3-4 for tips on whipping.)
Lock Stitching Procedure Whipping Method I

**STEP 1**
Pass stitching twine through spliced area near throat of eye as shown.

**STEP 2**
Reinsert twine through the rope. The twine should cover 2 strands from the exit point. Pull the twine snug, but not tight.

**STEP 3**
Continue to reinsert as shown until you have at least 3 complete stitches on each side of the rope. Each stitch should cross over 2 strands in the rope.

**STEP 4**
After completing Step 3, rotate spliced part of rope 90° and reinsert end A into spliced area in the same fashion as in Steps 1, 2 and 3. The splice will now be stitched on 2 planes perpendicular to each other. Make sure you do not pull the stitching too tight.

**STEP 5**
After stitching at least 3 complete stitches as in Step 3, extract both ends of the twine together through the same opening in the braid. Tie them together with a square knot and reinsert back into braid. For double braids, re-insert the knot between the cover and core.

**Whipping Finished Splice Method I**

**Choosing twines for whipping:**
In general, braided nylon twine is preferred for whipping. Polyester twines, or twisted twines in either polyester or nylon, can also be used.

For double braids the twine used should be approximately twice the diameter of the strands in the cover.

Whip or seize the end of the spliced area with whipping twine for extra security and a professional touch. Keeping tension on rope while wrapping results in tighter whipping.

**STEP 1**
Form loop along the rope with whipping twine and wrap end around the back.

**STEP 2**
Continue wrapping at least 1 rope diameter in length.

**STEP 3**
Cut both ends close to whipping.
Seizing Method II

**STEP 1**
Attach twine to netting needle.

**STEP 2**
Tape the free end of the twine to the opposite side of the area to be whipped.

**STEP 3**
Start seizing. Wrap the needle around the circumference of the rope 1 complete turn. Pass the netting needle under the complete wrap left to right. Pull the loop tight. Pull the needle up maintaining tension on the completed half hitch and then quickly pull back down to lock the half hitch in place.

**STEP 4**
Continue with this procedure until the whipped area is approximately 1/2 of the desired length, then cut off the taped end near the last wrap.

**STEP 5**
Using some spare twine, tape a loop that covers the length of the intended whipping distance, letting the 2 free ends of the looped twine lay over the completed whipping. Tape the free ends of the loop past the already whipped area.

**STEP 6**
Continue whipping for the desired total length over the top of the looped twine. After whipping is complete, pass the exposed whipping twine through the loop. Remove the tape on the looped twine and pull the ends to draw the loop under the whipping. Cut off any excess twine.

**STEP 7**
Pull the loop through the whipped area. This should place the remaining whipping twine under the whipped area.