

# Sailing

THE BEAUTY OF SAIL

## Launchings

### New boat: Walker Bay RID

Rigid inflatable boats are no longer a secret. From America's Cup courses to the local marina, RIBs have become a popular way to get around with a motor. Small-boat specialist Walker Bay has taken the RIB concept and come up with a line of rigid inflatable dinghies that will serve a family well beyond just getting from the mooring to shore.

An inflatable tube surrounds Walker Bay's popular original models, making

it virtually impossible to capsize. The boats are wide enough to comfortably seat a family for the row into shore, or for the more anxious, a small outboard motor can be mounted to the back.

But the genius of the RID line is that Walker Bay's sail kits can be fit right to the dinghy. Now dropping the anchor means the kids or even mom and dad can head out for a sail around the harbor without any worry of ending up in the drink.

The tubes are usually out of the water, allowing the hull to move through the water efficiently, but allow owners to load up the boat with more people without sacrificing lateral stability. The tubes are protected, so the boat can be safely dragged up a rocky beach or flipped over and set on a car's roof rack. Heavy-duty handles, stainless steel lifting eyes and a stainless bow eye ensure the boat will stand up to the rigors of cruising and everyday use.

Sizes range from 8 to 10 feet long and hold two to four people. Oars are included but outboards and sail kits are sold separately. Four models are available: the RID 270, RID 275, RID 305 and RID 310. The first two are based on the Walker Bay 8 hull and the latter two on the Walker Bay 10 hull.



#### Walker Bay RID

**275:** LOA 9'; Beam 5'8"; Weight 89 lbs.; Capacity 3 people; Optional 4-hp outboard

**310:** LOA 10'; Beam 6'; Weight 149 lbs.; Capacity 4 people; Optional 6-hp outboard



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