

Ask the Propguy...

Did you ever wonder what's the difference in propeller materials and what are the advantages? Aluminum or Stainless steel, Bronze or Nibral, why the difference besides price? Here's the inside skinny on pro's and cons of propellers.

Aluminum is the most popular outboard and stern drive propeller because of availability and best all around use. The aluminum propeller can be used to find the best size for your application without laying out a fortune. They are easy to handle and store and relatively inexpensive to have repaired. Downside is these propellers will flex under heavy loading and not get the thrust needed for skiing or extra passengers.

Stainless steel propellers will carry more weight; provide more thrust when needed for water skiing or extra gear or passengers. They are heavier than Aluminum and can be a handful to store or carry. They will take more abuse with soft bottoms and debris like tree branches. Downside to SS propellers is they are quite a bit more expensive to purchase and repair.

Aluminum propellers are meant to absorb some of the impact of striking bottom or debris without transferring the shock up the shaft to the gearing. Stainless will deflect softer objects but transfers the shock up the shaft. A hard hit with either propeller will destroy your gear.

Both propellers are available with traditional rubber hub inserts or with exchangeable systems. The exchangeable systems will save money if another propeller is needed be it for replacement or different size, pitch or composition. These kits give you the best of both worlds and do not need to be replaced with special tools.

If you are having issues with acceleration or fuel usage, changing propellers may be all you need to "wake up" your vessel!

Come to Wolverine Propeller and see what your boat has been missing! Contact us on the web at **Propguy@Firststep.net** or call **866 PROPGUY** (776 7489) **TOLL FREE** to discuss boating issues. We are re-power specialists and drive train repair experts. If you have had a long standing

issue that has plagued your vessel, let us use your knowledge of your vessel along with our propeller expertise to get it corrected the first time!

May you have light winds and calm seas..PG