

large at this stage, either front to rear or side to side, remove and trim accordingly, or you can fold and tuck the sheet as used to be the case in real life. See diagram for correct tuck method. If sheeting a load where two sheets are required because of the length, the rear sheet should be fitted first so that the front sheet when fitted overlaps the rear sheet, preventing wind from lifting the second sheet.

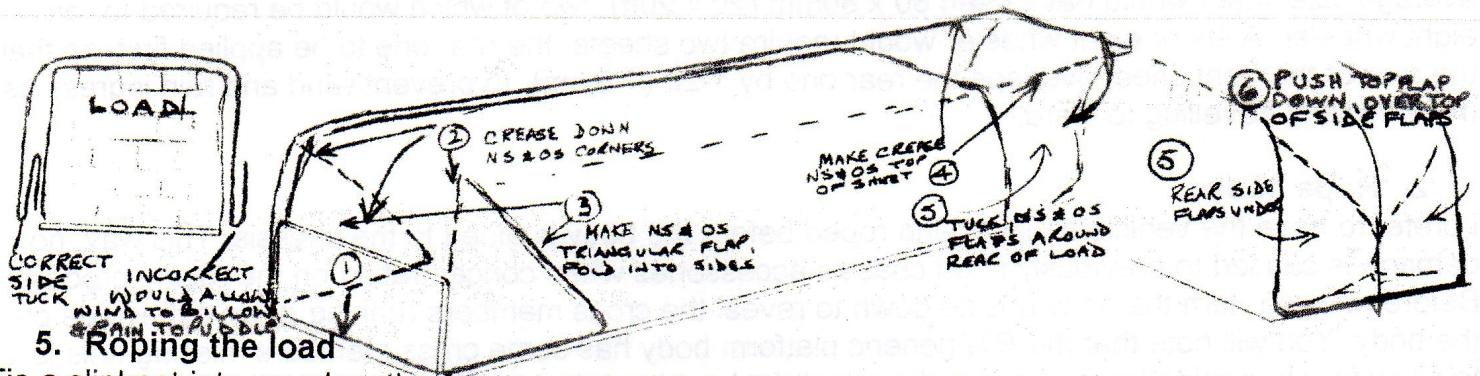
We will assume the sheet is going to cover the entire load. Place over the load and fold down front and rear to the lengths that you have decided upon. Now fold over both sides. Press the sheet down either side of the load at the extreme front and push the front of the sheet into the headboard. This should form two triangles sticking out either side. Fold these triangles back over the sides, this is to ensure that wind cannot get into the sides and make the sheet billow.

Now smooth the sheet along the sides of the load to the rear and push the lower ends of the sheet around the rear, leaving a flap protruding towards the rear from the top of the load. Now push this top flap down over the tailboard or the rear cross member, covering the two rear side flaps. This will ensure rainwater falls off of the rear flap and not into the folds or onto the load. Press the sheet all over the load, pushing in various creases to ensure that it fits snug and tight against the load. Now carefully unfold and remove, ensuring that all of the folds and creases are still visible.

Now apply a matt paint in the colour desired, usually varying shades of green, grey, black or a mixture of all three. Take particular care to apply a good coat around all of the outer and inner edges of the sheet, applying at least a second and maybe third coat to these inner and outer edges.

When completely dry, apply a Bostik type glue over the top and sides of the load and reapply the sheet, folding the same as before.

When the glue has dried, apply further coats of paint to the main sheet area and in particular in creases and folds where paint may have been removed when reapplying. Now smooth the sheet down to achieve folds and creases, and then carefully push in to varying profiles on the load. Now dry brush grey paint over the sheet to accentuate the creases and profiles.



Tie a slipknot into your length of cotton and apply to the second or third nearside cross member hook and pull very tightly, closing the slipknot over the hook. Cut off the loose tail. Take the cotton diagonally halfway up the nearside corner of the sheet and continue over the top offside corner down to the equivalent hook on the offside. Wrap around the hook once and take the cotton back halfway up the offside corner of the sheet and over the top nearside corner down to the hook where you started. This will have formed a criss-cross over the front and both top corners. Wrap around the hook once and then straight over the load, back to the equivalent hook on the offside. Now you can continue down the load moving to the next hook towards the rear, straight over the load to other side until you get to the final one before the rear cross member. Now repeat the exercise you started with at the front of the load, to ensure the rear end is criss-crossed with rope, maybe a couple of times. Finally, tie off the end of the cotton (rope) on one of the cross ties and pull quite hard, making a knot at this point. Cut off any excessive loose end. You will probably find tweezers useful for pushing the cotton underneath the one you are tying off on to, because if the cotton is sufficiently tight, you will be unable to get your fingers under the gap. Touch in any paint that may have rubbed off the "sheet" in the roping process.

