

TO: SERVICE MANAGER  TECHNICIANS   
PARTS MANAGER

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## Selecting A Propeller For The MerCruiser Diesel

The MerCruiser Diesel whether a stern drive or inboard application, should be propped at or near the top end of the specified RPM range (3600 – 3900 RPM) with a normal boat load. This will allow the engine to develop full power and operate at a correct RPM range, enhancing overall reliability and durability of the engine.

The diesel engine utilizes a governor to control engine speed regardless of change in the engine load. The governor operation must be realized when selecting a propeller for a particular hull design.

Choosing a propeller too small in pitch would let the engine run against the governor at full throttle, not allowing correct horsepower/torque application in relationship to the boat load. A governor speed/fuel/load ratio problem would occur throughout the RPM range and if not corrected could cause premature damage to the engine and/or drive system. This would also happen if the propeller pitch was too large. Choosing the correct propeller will give the customer the best performance expected of the diesel engine.