

26. Anchoring & the windlass

Setting your anchor:

Preparation:

- Establish a non verbal communication system from bow to stern, as with the noise of the engine and wind, verbal communication proves difficult.
- Tie the dinghy painter close to the boat at the bow or amidships to avoid wrapping it around the prop.

Location:

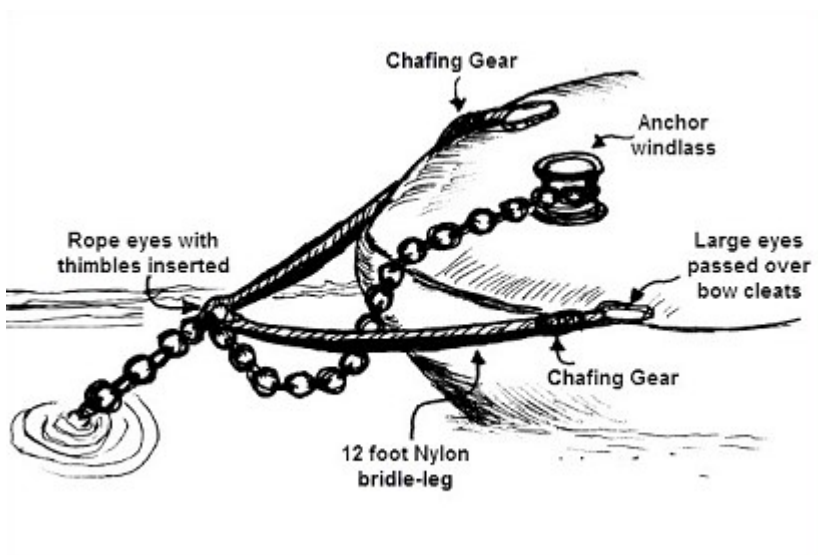
- Choose a clear area to anchor in, with deep in 5 to 10 m. A white collar of bottom under the sea water is sand and perfect for anchoring. A brown or green bottom will be grass, rock or coral. **Only anchor in sand.**
- Make sure that the land relief is protecting you from the wind and that you are not being pushed onto the shore.

Action:

- Carefully lift the anchor over the bow roller and slowly put the chain till the anchor is just above the water surface.
- Use the external forces; approach from down wind or current, whichever prevails.
- Once the yacht is stationary use the electric windlass to drop the anchor. The external forces will push you back and away from the anchor.
- Minimum scope is 4:1. In heavy weather you may want to increase that, always ensuring your rotation area is clear of any obstacles. Chain has red painted indication for each 10 m. You can issue 40m chain max. The chain is connected to the hull by a 10mm rope which serves to drop out the chain in case of danger, and not for the preservation of the chain.
- Engage reverse, slowly up to 1500 rpm to really drive your anchor into the sand.
- Once set, put the engine in neutral and allow the yacht to settle, it is always advisable to snorkel the anchor and rotation area to be ensure it is bedded in correctly and not underwater rock in area.

Attaching the snubbing line:

- Once you are happy that the anchor is set you must attach the snubbing line. The snubbing line protects the windlass and it is important that you attach the snubber every time you set the anchor.
- Attach the hook around the chain link (the hook is too big to go through the link) and cleat off the bitter end of the line to a bow cleat. Pay out enough chain so that the snubbing line becomes taut.



There is a 100A automatic fuse that will switch off if the windlass gets overloaded.



The fuse is located on the space under the bed in port aft cabin.

If the windlass is not workable, but the windlass fuse on the 12v panel is switched on, and that the green light is illuminated, this indicates that the yacht service battery power is too low to run the windlass. Please run the engine @1500 rpm for 15 min, and try again. If the windlass still refuses to operate, please call technical support.

Manual operation of the windlass

If you lose power to your windlass, start the engine and give it to 2000rpm in neutral, to make sure you have not just got a low battery voltage. Then make sure the windlass breaker with the anchor icon is in the 'on' position on the 12 volt panel. If there is still no power, check the the windlass fuse in on position. If you still have no power, you can operate the windlass manually.

To drop the anchor, insert the windlass handle into the star fitting on the top of the windlass. Continue to pull back on the windlass handle, so that the brake cap loosens. Your anchor is now ready to drop.



Remove the safety line and push the anchor over the bow, keeping hands and feet clear. Control the rate the chain pays out by tightening or loosening the brake with the windlass handle.

When you have paid out sufficient chain - 3 to 5 times the water depth, push the handle forward to tighten the brake. Increase revs to 1500 rpm, to set the anchor. If you drag, pay out more chain, and re-try 1500 rpm in reverse. When the anchor is set, fit the snubbing line, and cleat it off, then release the chain on the gypsy as above, so that the load is taken up on the snubbing line.

Keep attention on chain length indicated in red per each 10m (totally 50) to release less the 40m. Chain is not fixed on hull and can be released in dangerous situation with cut the line between hull and chain.