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1. Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your new RS 21, and thank you for choosing an RS product. We are confident that you will have many hours of great sailing and racing in this truly excellent design. The RS 21 is an exciting boat to sail and offers fantastic performance. This manual has been compiled to help you to gain the maximum enjoyment from your RS 21, in a safe manner. It contains details of the craft, the equipment supplied or fitted, its systems, and information on its safe operation and maintenance. Please read this manual carefully and be sure that you understand its contents before using your RS 21.

This manual will not instruct you in boating safety or seamanship. If this is your first boat, or if you are changing to a type of craft that you are not familiar with, for your own safety and comfort, please ensure that you have adequate experience before assuming command of the craft. If you are unsure, RS, your RS Dealer, or your national sailing federation – for example, the Royal Yachting Association – will be able to advise you of a local sailing school, or a competent instructor.

Please keep this manual in a secure place and hand it over to the new owner if you sell the boat.

For further information, spares, and accessories, please contact: RS Sailing Premier Way Abbey Park Romsey Hampshire SO51 9DQ Tel: +44 (0)1794 526760 Email: info@RSsailing.com

For details of your local RS Dealer, please visit www.RSsailing.com



Designer	Richards / Whitehouse / RS Sailing
Length	6.34m
Beam	2.2m
Draught	1.38m
Displacement	650kg
Hull construction	Eco-friendly composite
Keel	Lifting - with bulb
Rudder	Removeable - composite
Mainsail area - Race	16.2m ²
Jib are - Race	8.4m ²
Gennaker area - Race	40m ²
Mainsail area - Club	16.2m ²
Jib area - Club	8.4m ²
Gennaker area - Club	35m ²
Spinnaker area - Club	30m ²
Mast	One piece carbon composite
Shrouds and froestay	Stainless steel wire
Halyards - Main, jib, gennaker	Dyneema / polyester
Boom	Aluminium alloy
Bowsprit	Carbon composite



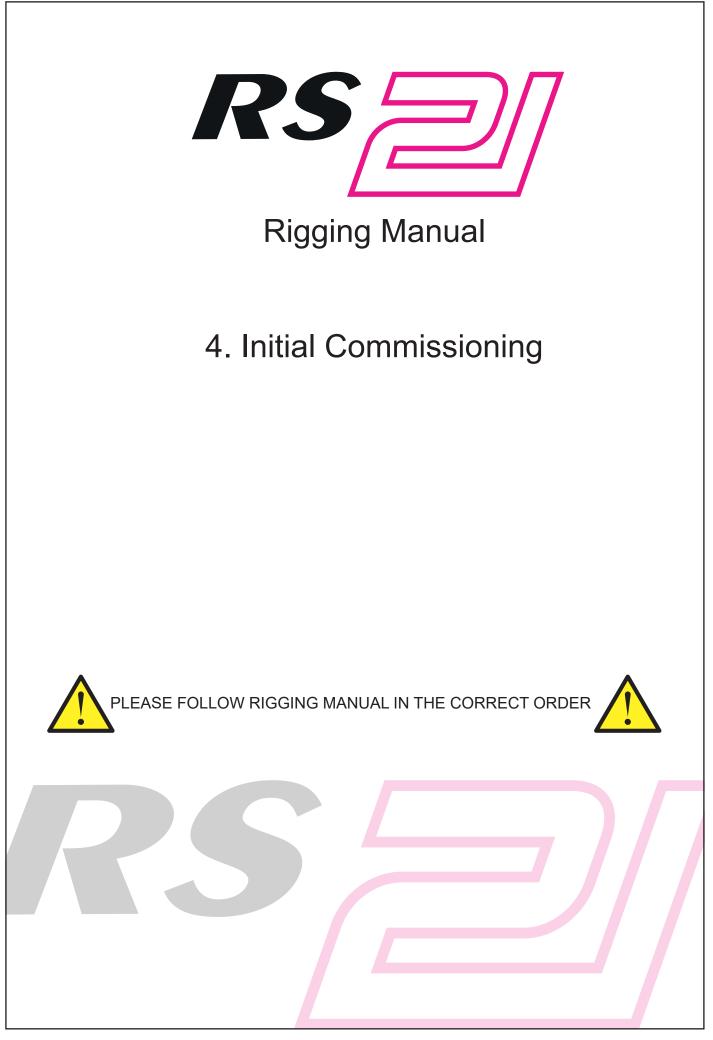


RS 3.1 - Components - Customer Pack

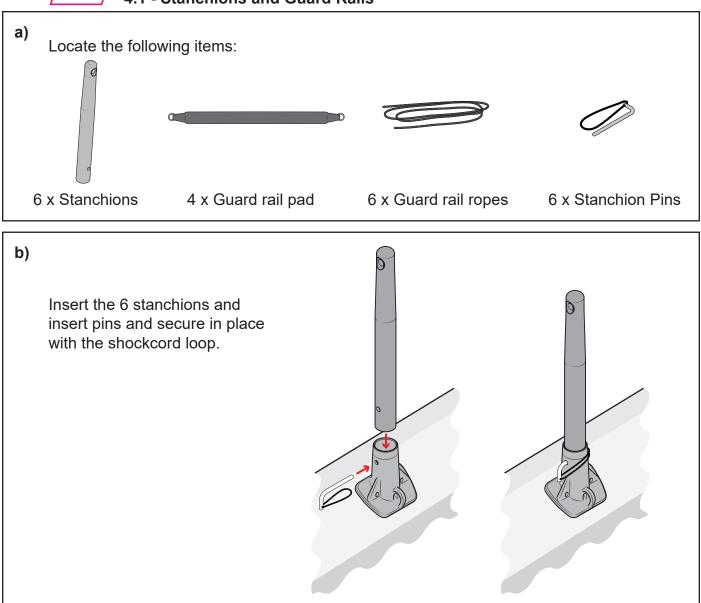
	Part	Usage	Quantity
	30mm Block, Single, Swivel	Backstay/Kicker	2
	40mm Block, Single	5	
(C) D	30mm Block, Single, Strap	Jib Cunningham	1
	30mm Block, Sing./beck. Swiv.	Cunningham	1
	40mm Block, Fiddle, Cam Cur		1
	40mm Block, Fiddle	Kicker	1
	40mm Block, Single/becket	Kicker	1
	45mm Block, Wire	Kicker	1
	20mm Block, Single Becket	Electric Drive	1
	60mm Block Single	Kite sheets/Mainsheet	3
	40mm Block, Single Strap	Mainsheet	2
	40mm Block, Single, Strap	Jib Clew	2
	Shackle dia 5,Slotted,Narrow	Backstay	2
	Shackle ø5x11x26, BOW ST	Kicker	1
0	6mm Stopper Knob - Black	Jib Tack Deadend/Pole Out/Main Halyard/Jib Haly / Spinn Haly	5
	Spinnaker Bag Tube, L=650	Spinnaker Bag Pole	1
	Spinnaker Bag Tube, L=830	Spinnaker Bag Pole	1
	30mm Three Singles on a Ring		1
	Rudder Pin	Rudder	1
	Keel Strap	Keel Securing Strap	1
	Rubber Tapered Bung and Line		



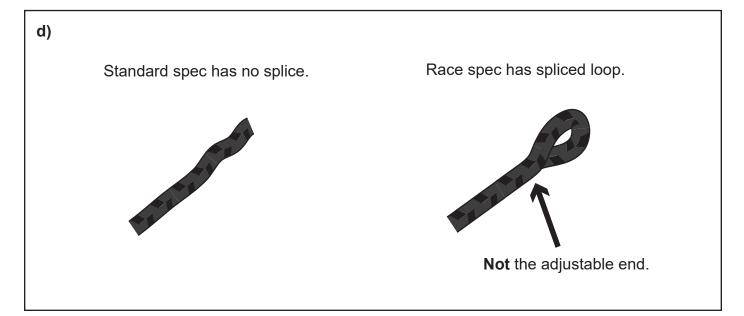
Cut Length (m)	Finished Length (m)	Size (mm)	Description	Qty	Type	Colour	Comments
4.40	4.40	5	Launch Line	~	Evo Race78	Black / Blue Melange	
10.00	10.00	9	Tack Line	-	Evo Race78	Black / Red Melange	
2.20	2.20	4	Jib Cunningham Purchase	-	Evo Race78	Black / White Melange	
2.60	2.60	4	Jib Cunningham Control	-	Evo Race78	Black / White Melange	
31.00	31.00	8	Spin Sheets	-	Braid on Braid	Red / Black Melange	
3.50	3.50	5	Cunningham	-	Evo Race78	Black / Blue Melange	
1.10	0.90	4	Cunningham Tail	-	Rig12	Black	Small Soft Eye Spliced One End
6.00	6.00	5	Vang	-	Evo Race78	Black / Pink Melange	
2.90	2.50	5	Vang Purchase	-	Rig12	Black	Small Soft Eye Spliced Both Ends
11.50	11.50	8	Jib Sheet	-	Braid on Braid	Blue / Black Melange	
16.30	15.50	8	Mainsheet	-	Braid on Braid	Black / White Melange	Cover Only Eye Each End (Whipped)
1.00	1.00	1.5	Mainsheet Whipping	-	Rig12	Black	
2.50	2.50	4	Engine Uphaul	-	Evo Race78	Grey / White Melange	
0.40	0.40	1.5	Engine Block Tie	-	Compact78	Black	
8.50	8.50	5	Backstat Control	-	Evo Race78	Black / Neon Yellow Melange	
0.50	0.50	4	Backstay Block Tie	-	Rig12	Black	Blocks Tie
6.18	5.5 - 4.7	4	Backstay Purchase	-	Rig12+	Black	Soft Eye One End Adjustable Eye Other
0.25	0.25	2	Back Rest	2	Rig 12	Black	
1.45	0.35 - 0.62	4	Stanchion	2	Rig 12	Black	Soft Eye One End Adjustable Eye Other
1.45	0.77 - 0.50	4	Stanchion	2	Rig12	Black	Soft Eye One End Adjustable Eye Other
			Halyards				
18	18	9	Main Halyard	-	Evo Race78	Black / White Melange	
16.8	16.8	6	Jib Halyard	1	Evo Race78	Grey / White Melange	
19.5	19.5	9	Spin Halyard	-	Evo Race78	Black / Neon Yellow Melange	



RS 4.1 - Stanchions and Guard Rails

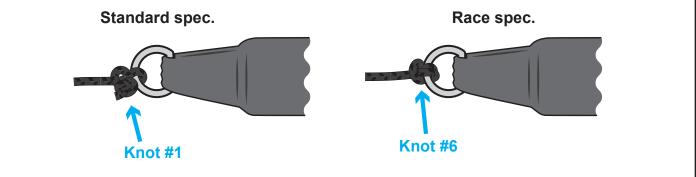


Note: The guard rail ties differ for the regular and race versions.

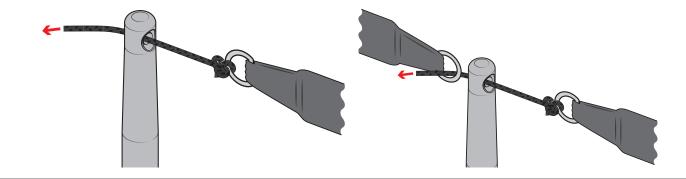


RS 4.1 - Stanchions and Guard Rails

e) Attach the 4 long adjustable guard rail ropes onto the D-ring at each end of the guard rail pads, leaving a D-ring free at the end of each pad.

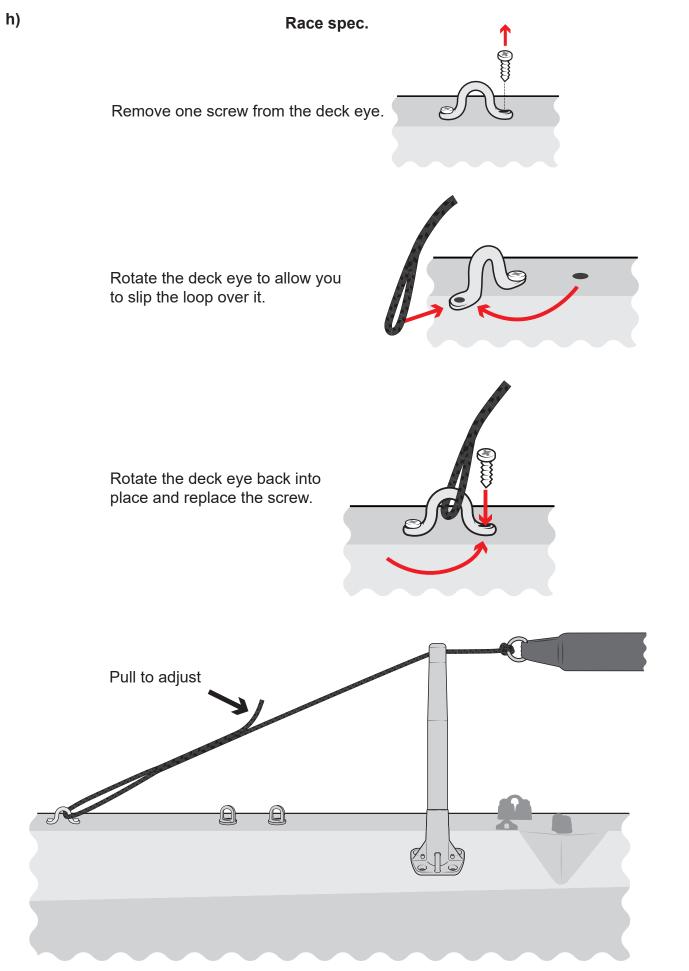


f) Pass the other ends of the long guard rail ropes through the hole in the top of the stanchions (in a forward direction for the front stanchions and an aft direction for the aft stanchions). Use the 2 short ropes to attach the 2 guard rail pads together through the centre stanchion.



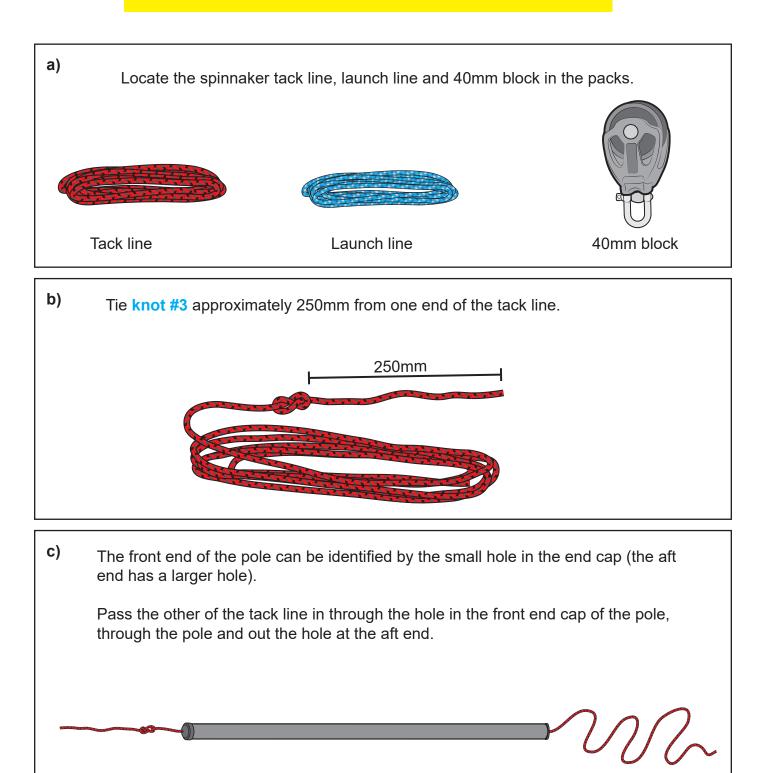
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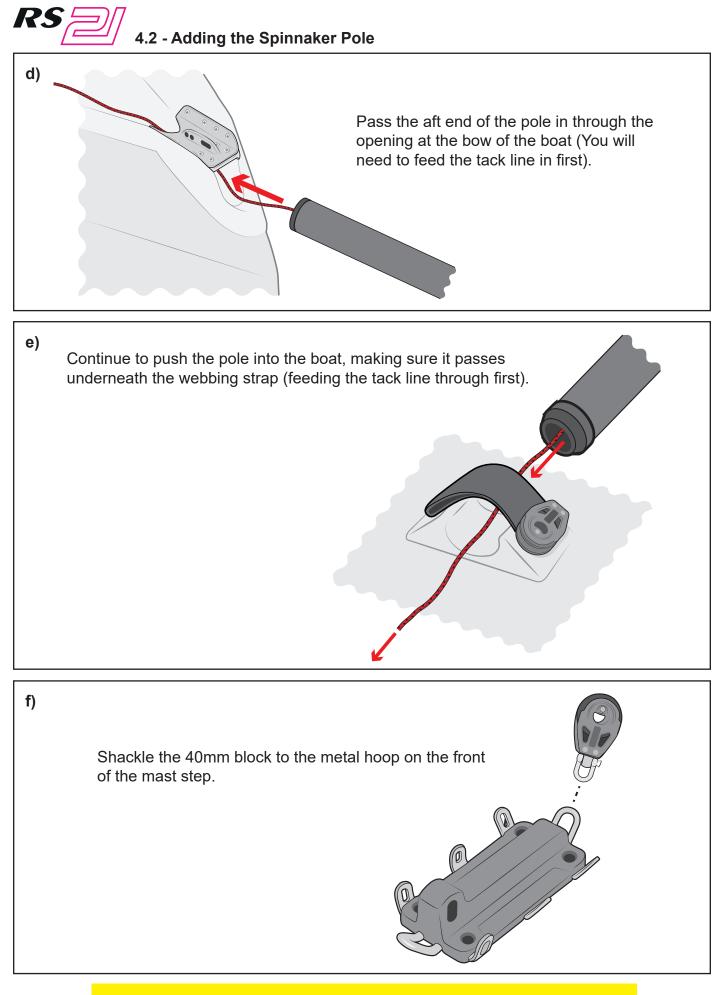




RS 4.2 - Adding the Spinnaker Pole

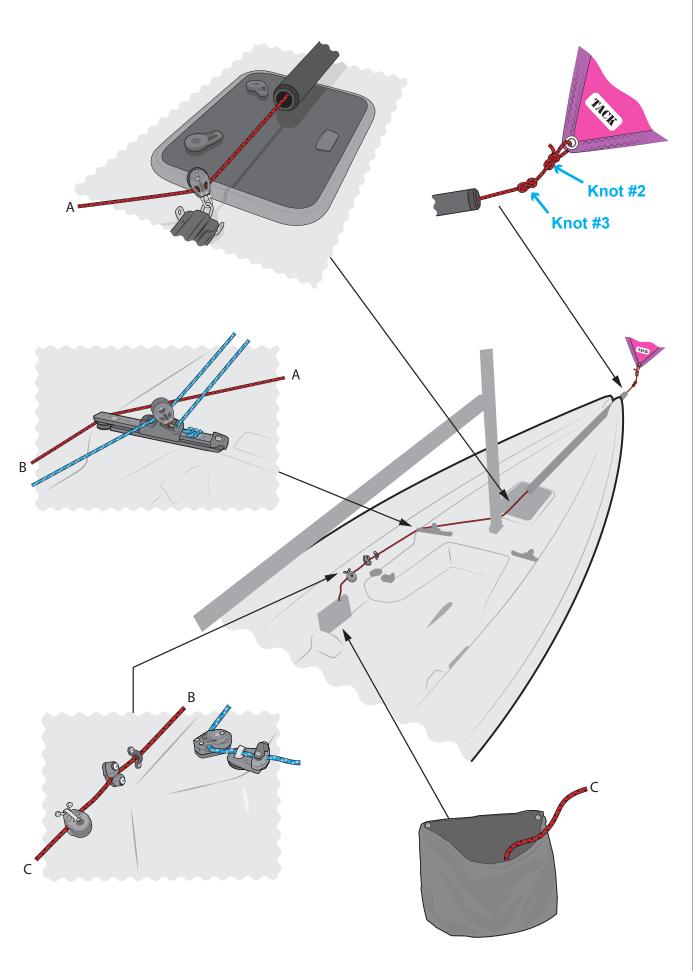
The spinnaker pole may already be attached to your boat. If it is already attached you can move straight on to **section 4.3**.





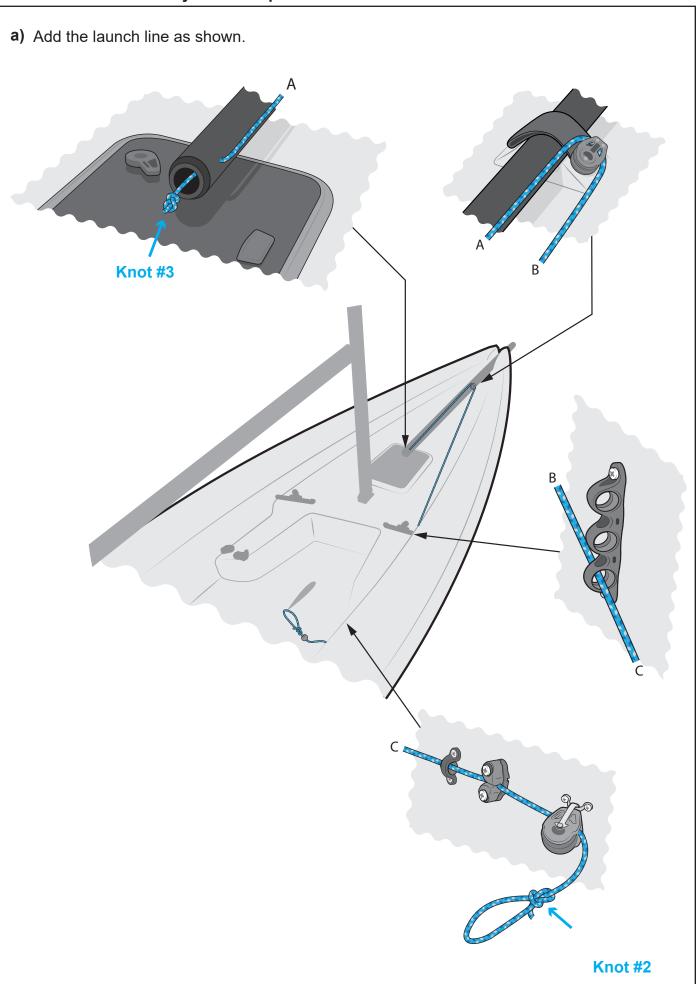
Continue to add the tack line as shown on the following page.





4.4 - Asymmetric Spinnaker Launch Line

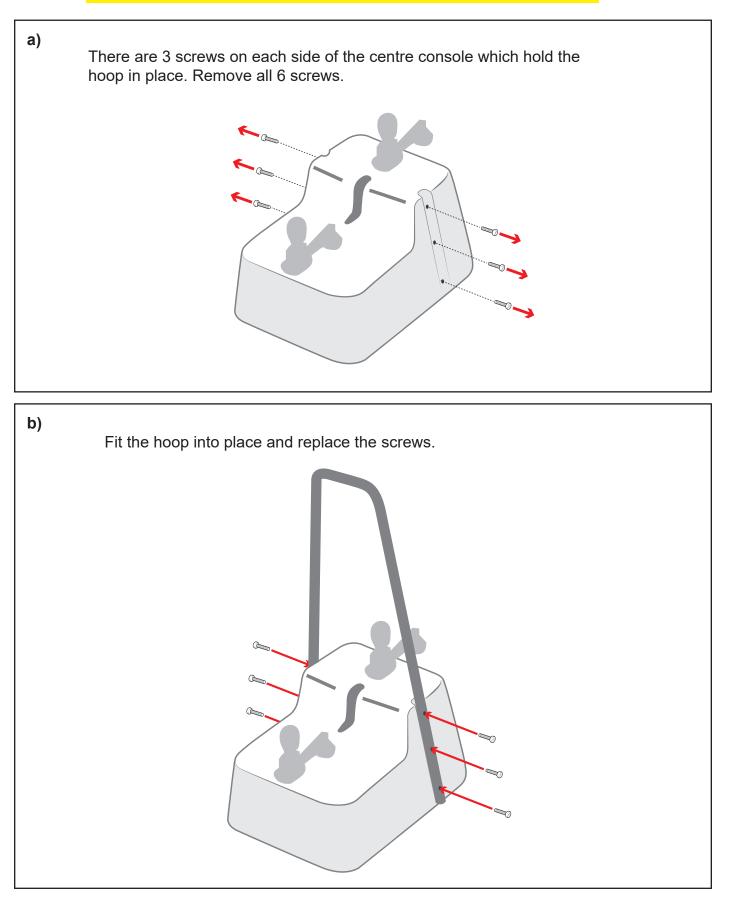
RS

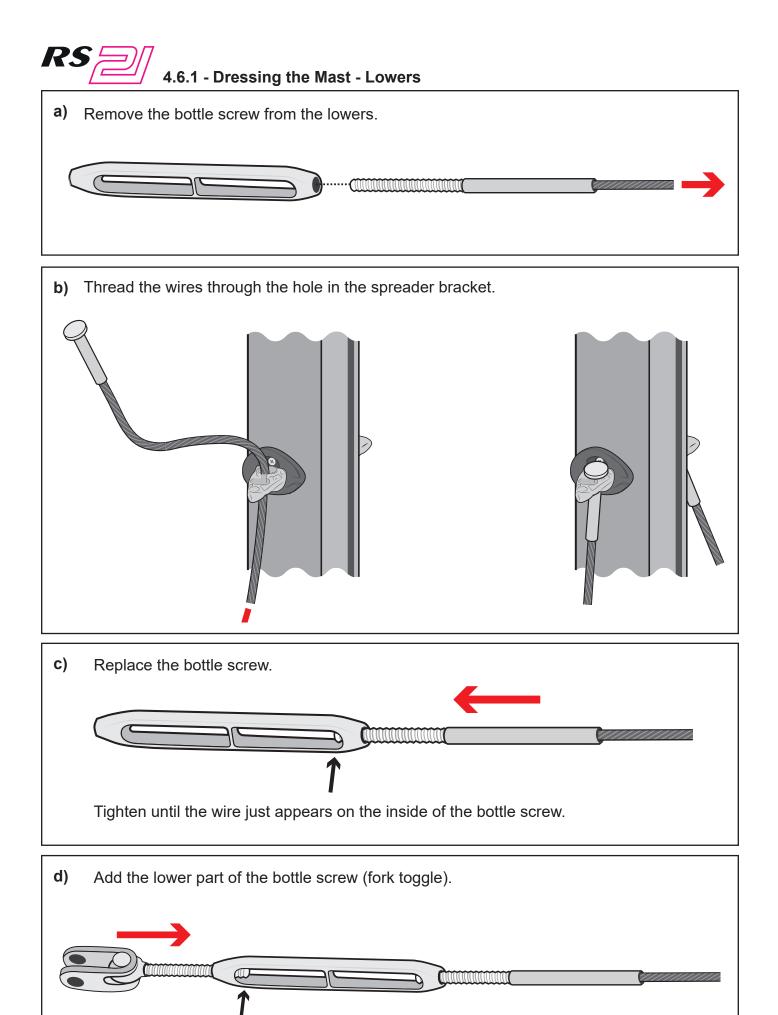


RS 4.5 - Adding the Hoop

Your boat may arrive with or without the hoop attached.

If the hoop is already attached move straight on to **section 4.6**.



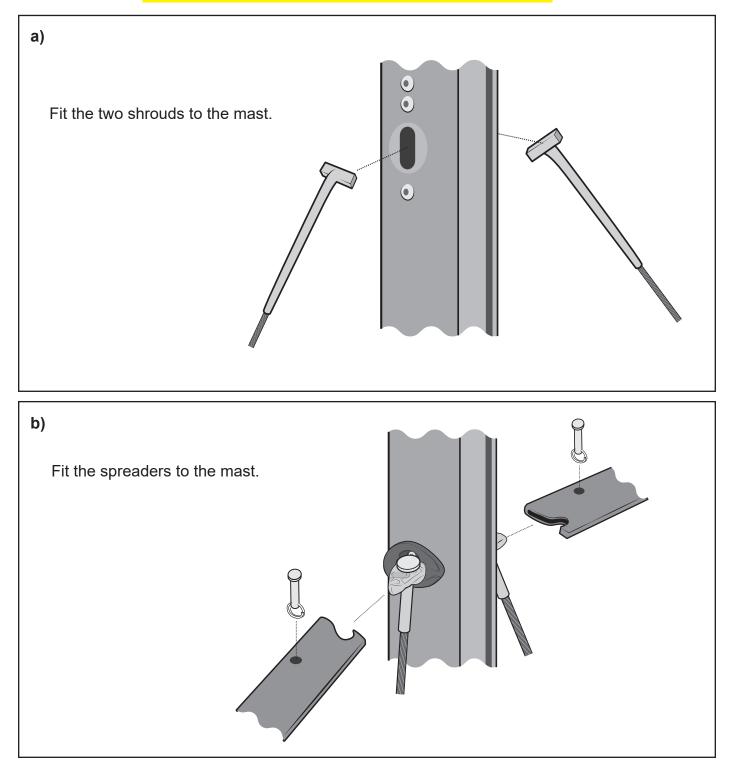


Tighten until it just shows on the inside of the bottle screw.

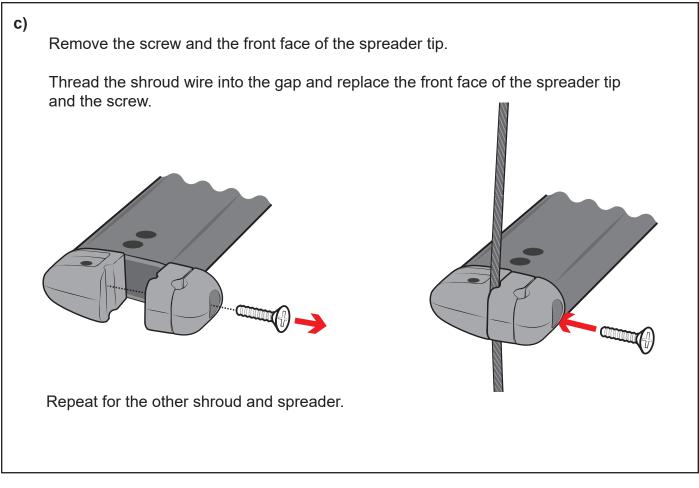
RS 4.6.2 - Dressing the Mast - Spreaders

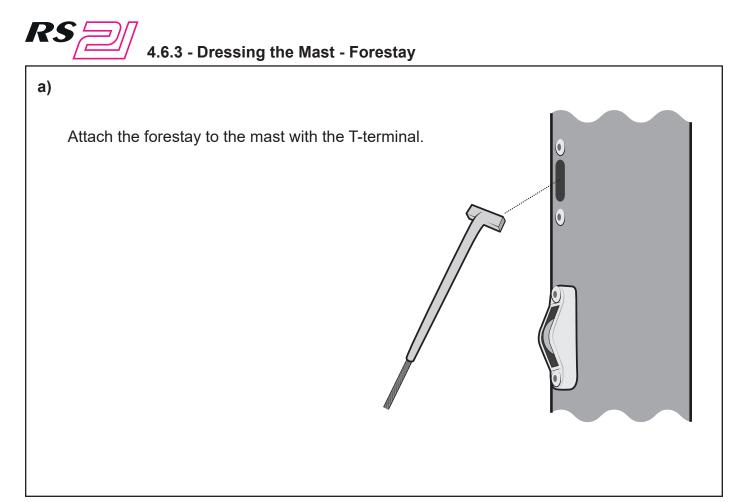
To complete this section you will need:

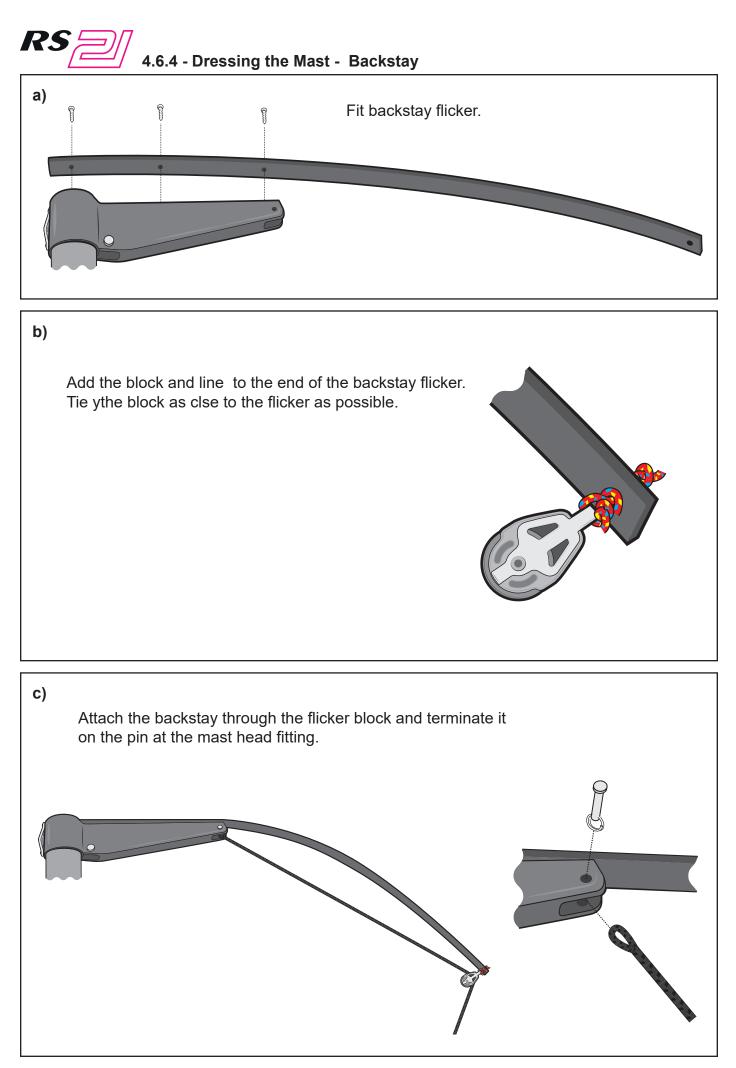
- Spreaders x 2
- Shrouds x 2
- Forestay
- Backstay
- Backstay flicker and 3 x machine screws
- Main halyard
- Jib halyard
- Spinnaker halyard



RS 4.6.2 - Dressing the Mast - Spreaders

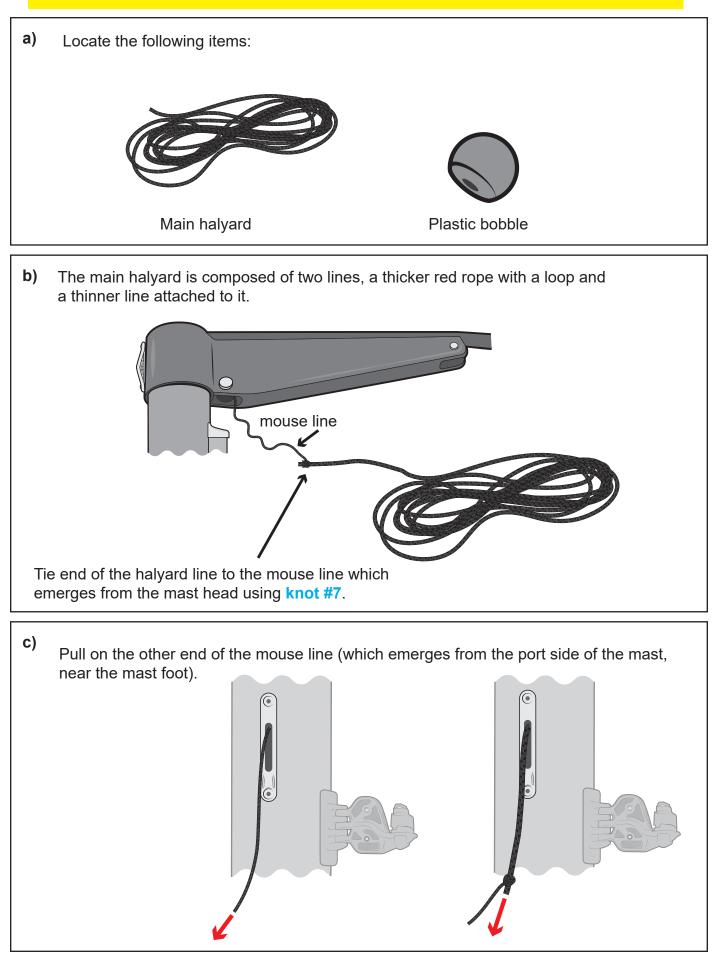






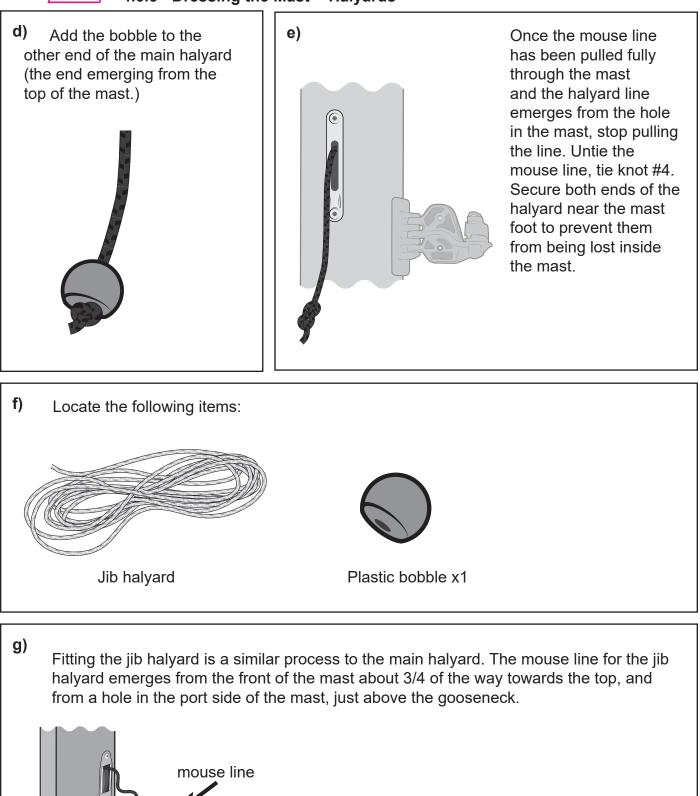
RS 4.6.5 - Dressing the Mast - Halyards

Note: There are mouse lines for the halyards already running through the mast.





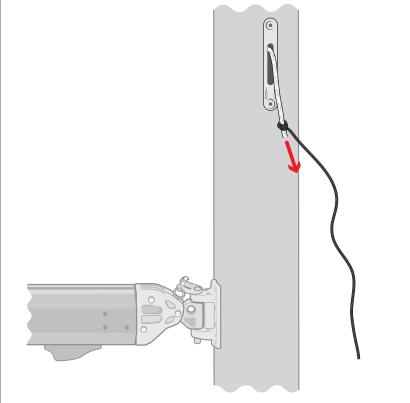
Knot #7

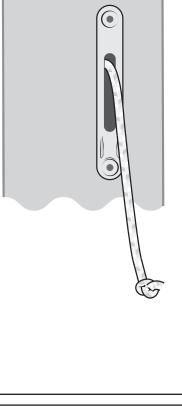


RS 4.6.5 - Dressing the Mast - Halyards

h)

Pull the mouse line through until the jib halyard emerges from the mast. Untie the mouse line and tie **knot #4**. Secure both ends of the halyard near the mast foot to prevent them from being lost inside the mast.



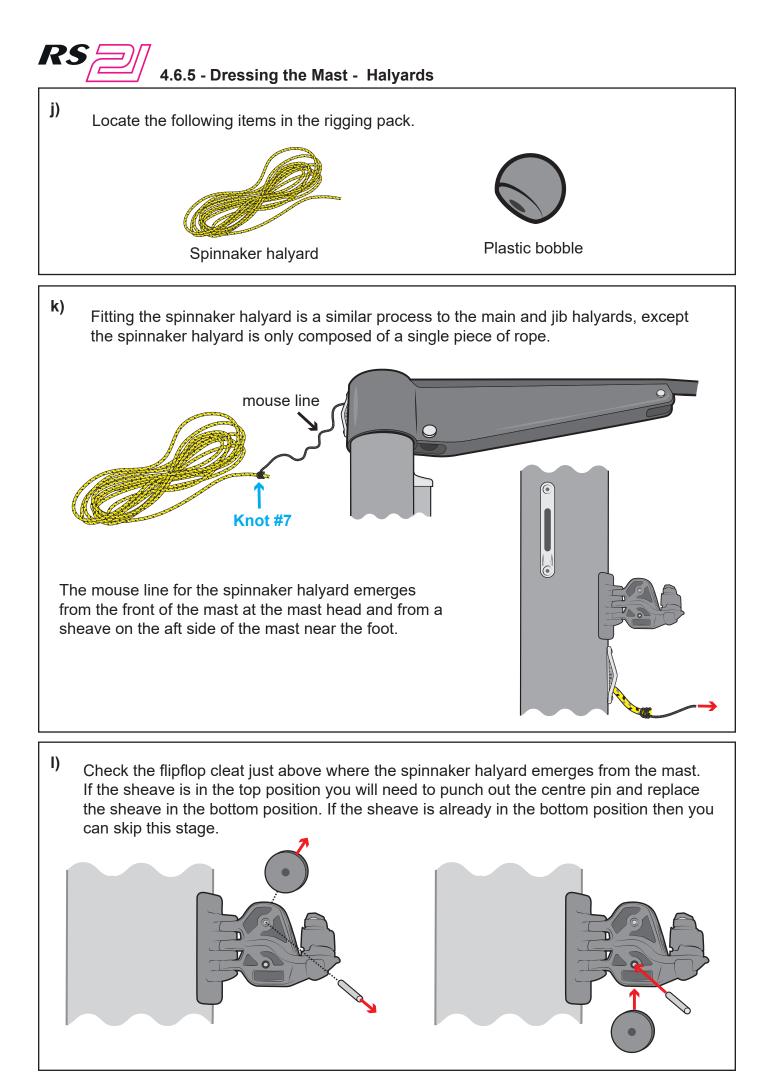


i)

Add a plastic bobble to the other end of the jib halyard (the end emerging from top of the mast).

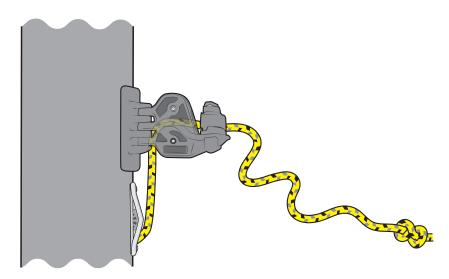
Remember to secure both ends at the bottom of the mast once the halyard is fitted.





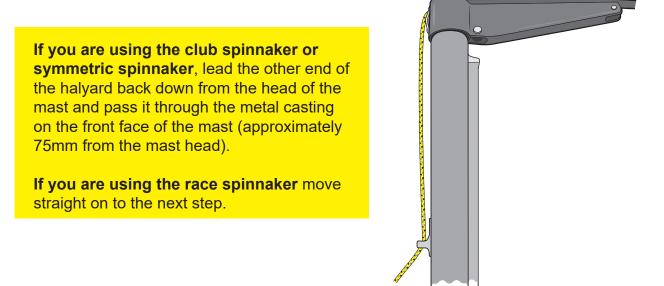
RS 4.6.5 - Dressing the Mast - Halyards

m) Pass the end of the spinnaker halyard around the sheave and through the cleat as shown, and tie knot #3 in the tail.



Remember to secure the other end of the spinnaker halyard near the base of the mast.

n)



o)

Add a plastic bobble to the other end of the spinnaker halyard (the end emerging from top of the mast).



Remember to secure both ends at the bottom of the mast once the halyard is fitted.





4.7.1 - Stepping the Mast



BEFORE STEPPING THE MAST, CHECK THAT YOU ARE NOT IN THE VICINITY OF OVERHEAD POWER CABLES



REMEMBER

Check that both ends of the main halyard, jib halyard, and gennaker halyard are tied off at the bottom end of the mast so that they are within easy reach when the mast is stepped.

A minimum of 2 people are needed to step the mast.

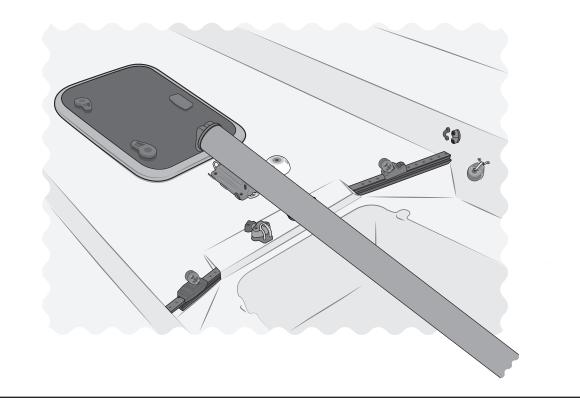
Note:

It is easiest to step the mast with the keel down so you can lay the mast centrally in the boat.

If you need to step the mast with the keel up you will find instructions in section 4.7.2.

a)

Lay the dressed mast on the boat with the heel just in front of the mast step.





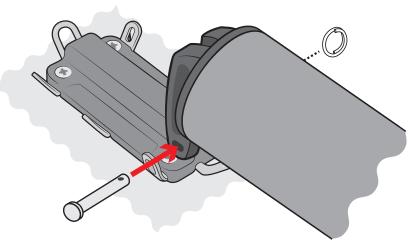
b)

Using some spare line, tie the spinnaker halyard onto the bow stem fitting.

This will act as a temporary forestay.

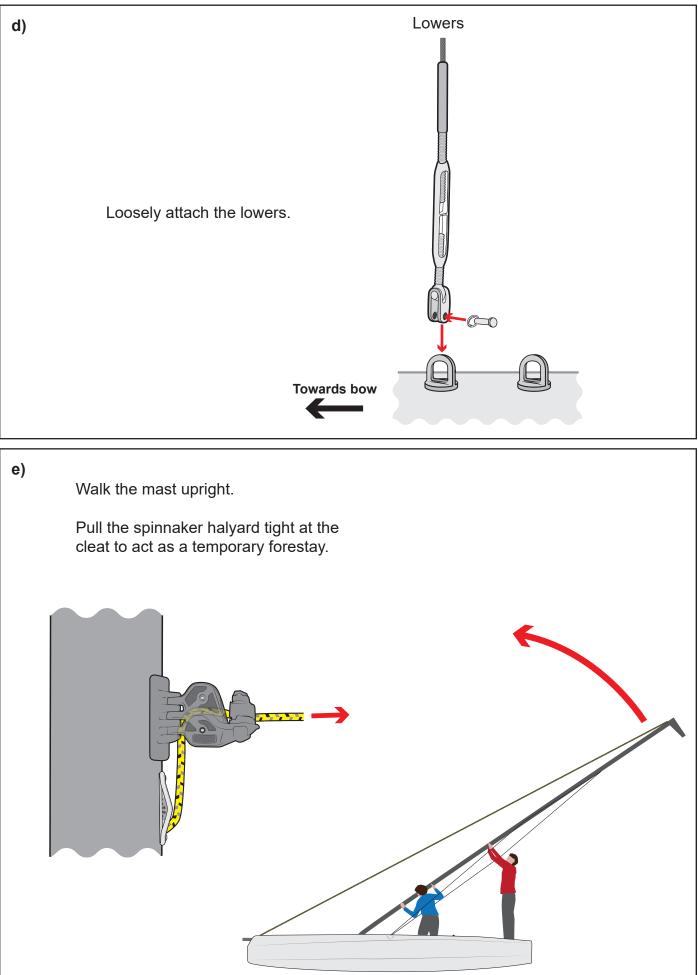
c)

With the tallest person at the back, lift the mast up and move it backwards.



The back of the mast should be lifted above the mainsheet hoop. The person at the front of the mast should attach the heel of the mast to the mast step with the pin and ring.







Attach the forestay.

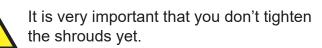
You can now remove the spinnaker halyard from the mast stem fitting and attach it near the base of the mast.

g)

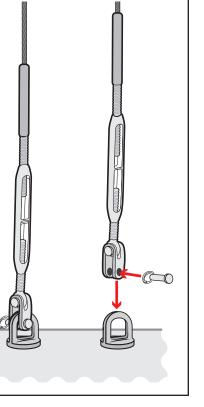
f)

Attach the shrouds.

Take up the tension but don't make them tight yet.



Towards bow

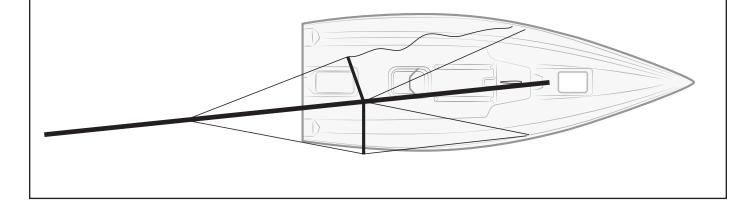


Shrouds

Lowers

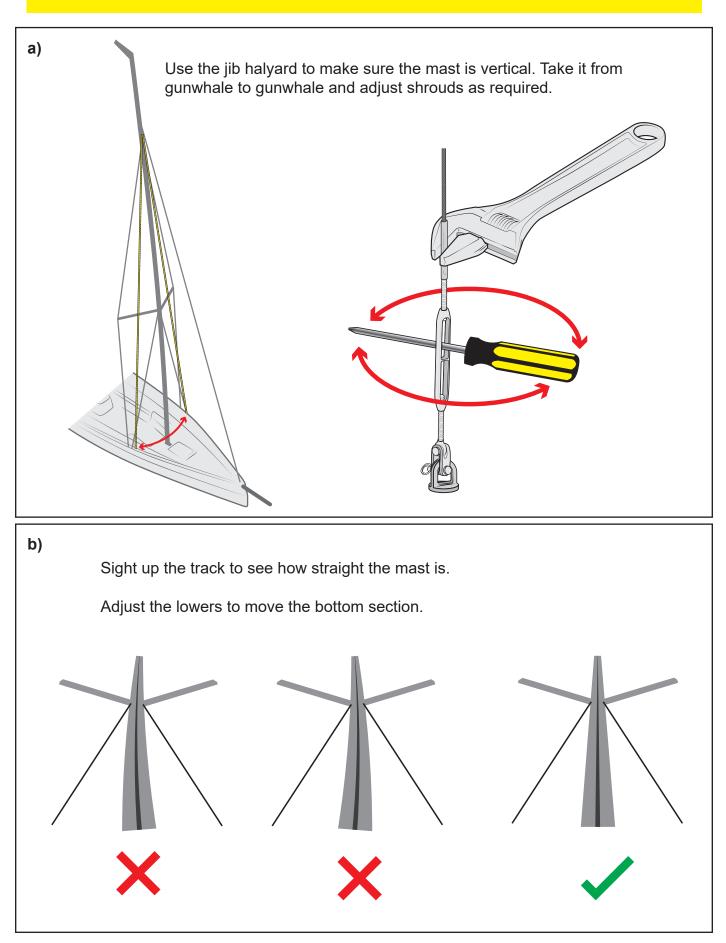
To step the mast with the keel up:

- Lay the mast in the boat slightly off to one side with the heel at the mast step.
- Attach both of the lowers and the one shroud on the same side of the boat as the mast.
- Pick the mast up above the keel.
- Attach the other shroud.
- Fit the mast foot to the mast step with the pin.
- Walk the mast upright.

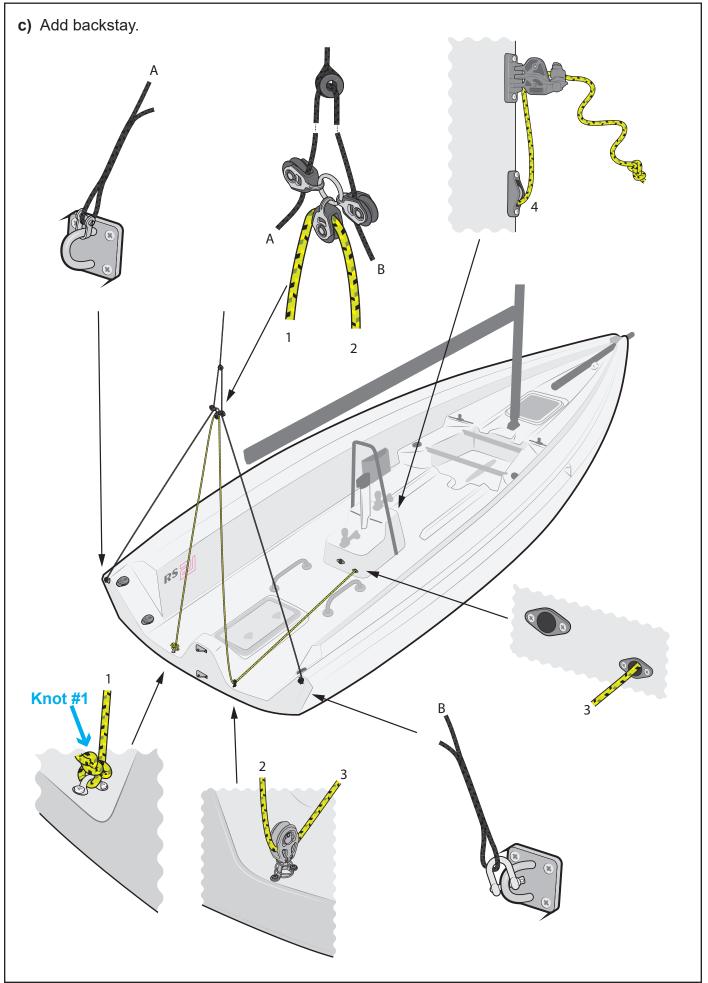




To complete this section you will need a long tape measure and an adjustable spanner.



RS 4.8 - Rough Rig Setting



RS 4.8 - Rough Rig Setting

Attach one end of your tape measure to the main halyard and hoist it to the top of the mast, keeping the other end in your hand.

e)

d)

Cleat the main halyard and pull tight on tape measure. Measure the distance from the top of the mast to the top back edge of the transom (above the rudder gudgeon).

You should be aiming to set the mast rake so that this distance is 9550mm



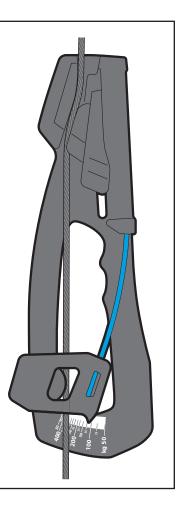


f)

Using a rig tension gauge, wind down the cap shrouds and lowers in equilibrium until they reach the numbers shown on this table.

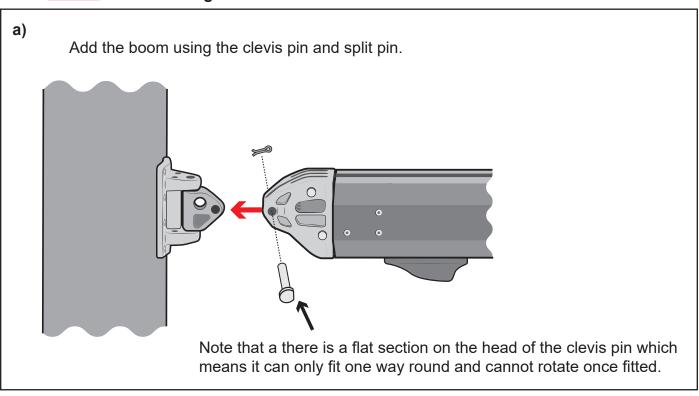
Wind Speed (Knots)	Cap Shroud (full turn)*	Tension	Lowers (full turn)*	Tension	Jib Car	Tack Height	Vang/Kicker
0-6	-2	200	-1	120	1	2.5"	snug to max ease
7-11		275		155	1	2"	snug to max ease
12-15	+4	400	0	155	2	1"	snug +
16-20	+6	475	+1	212.5	3	1"	tight

Base is set at 7-11knots. Headstay is 120 on gauge with backstay slack | *Full turns on the adjusters. Tensions using the Spinlock Rig Sense Gauge.



g) Once you have reached the base settings, add the velcro shroud straps between the shroud and lower bottle screws to prevent them from working loose. Image: Tape all split pins / rings.

RS 4.9 - Adding the Boom



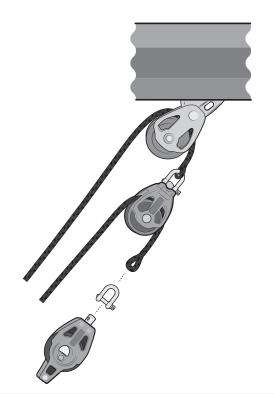


a) Locate the following items in the rigging pack: 30mm block Shackle Single block Vang 45mm block Vang control 40mm block Double block with becket purchase b) Locate the black vang purchase line and attach it to one of the shackle from one of the 40mm blocks using knot #6, leaving one end 140mm longer than the other. 140mm c) d) Pass the longer end of the black rope through the block on the boom and attach Add the 45mm block to the it to the shackle by passing the shackle boom. through the spliced loop. Attach the shackle onto the 40mm block.



e)

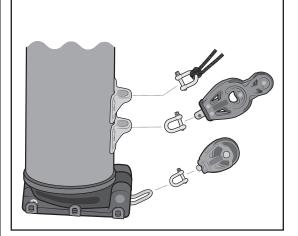
Pass the shorter end of the black rope through the block which you added in **step d** and shackle it onto the double block.



f)

30mm block

Shackle the black rope, double block and 30mm block onto the mast as shown.



40mm block

g)

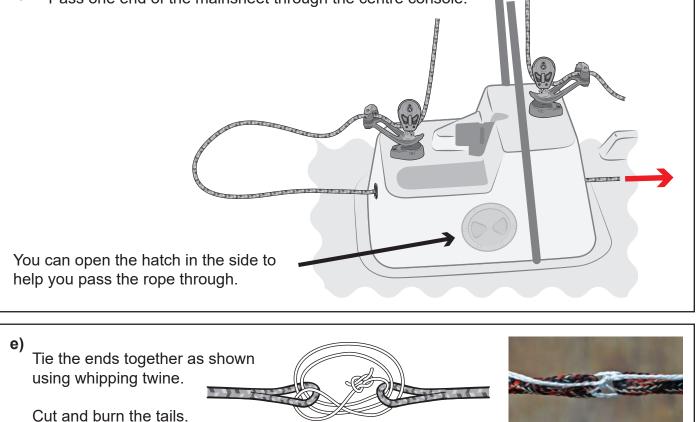
Locate the pink vang rope in the pack.

Tie one end of it to the becket on the double block (attached to the mast) then thread the rope through the blocks as shown.

Tie knot #3 in the tail.

RS 4.11 - Mainsheet

a) Locate the mainsheet in the rope pack. Thread the mainsheet through C) b) the 40mm blocks on the boom Pass the tails through the ratchet blocks as shown. and hoop as shown. d) Pass one end of the mainsheet through the centre console.

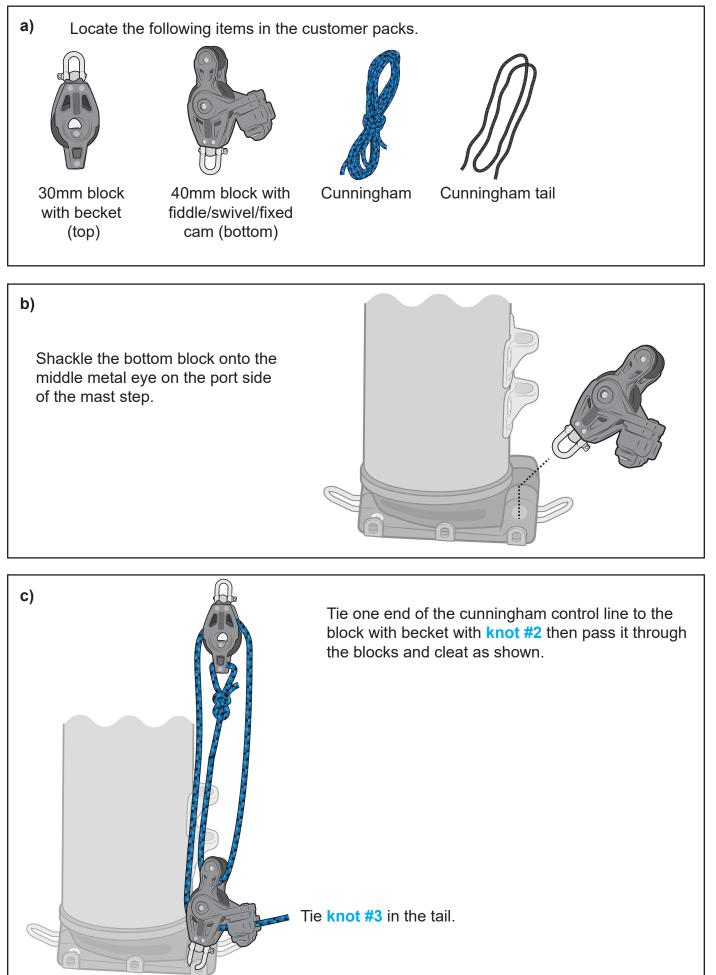


4.12 - Main Halyard Tension System

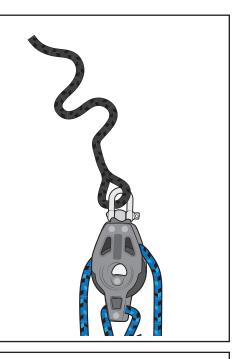
RS L

a) Feed the main halyard throught the 2 cleats and through the cheek block so the halyard runs back into the boat. .

RS 4.13 - Cunningham







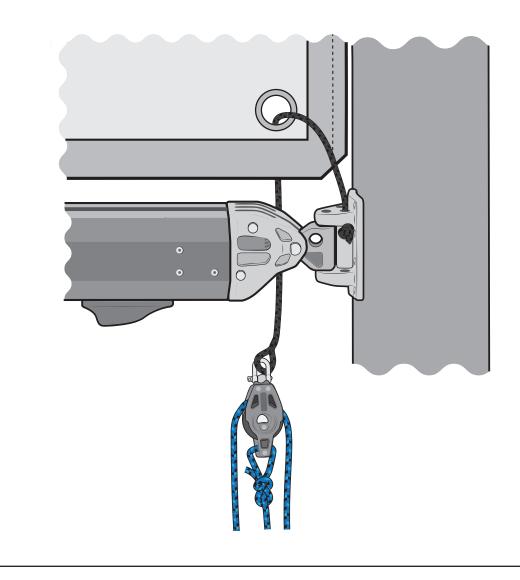
e)

d)

To use the downhaul, pass the downhaul tail through the cringle on the tack of the sail and tie it off on the hole in the gooseneck fitting.

Loop the cunningham tail onto the top block (30mm

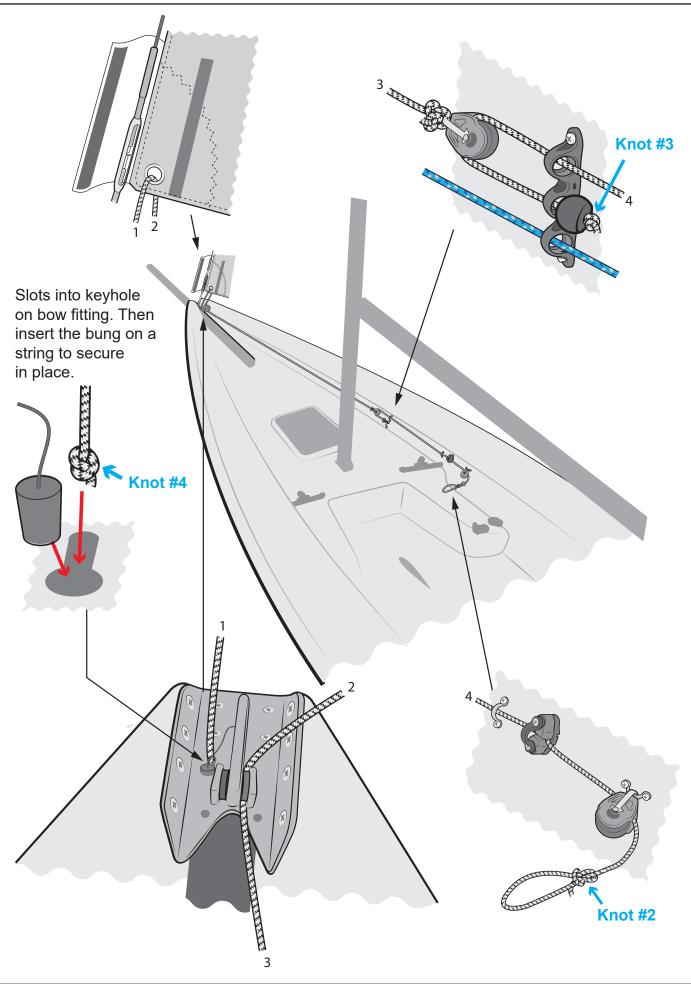
block with becket) using the shckle.





a) Feed the jib halyard throught the 2 cleats and through the cheek block so the halyard runs back into the boat. . 00 Jan Jan San

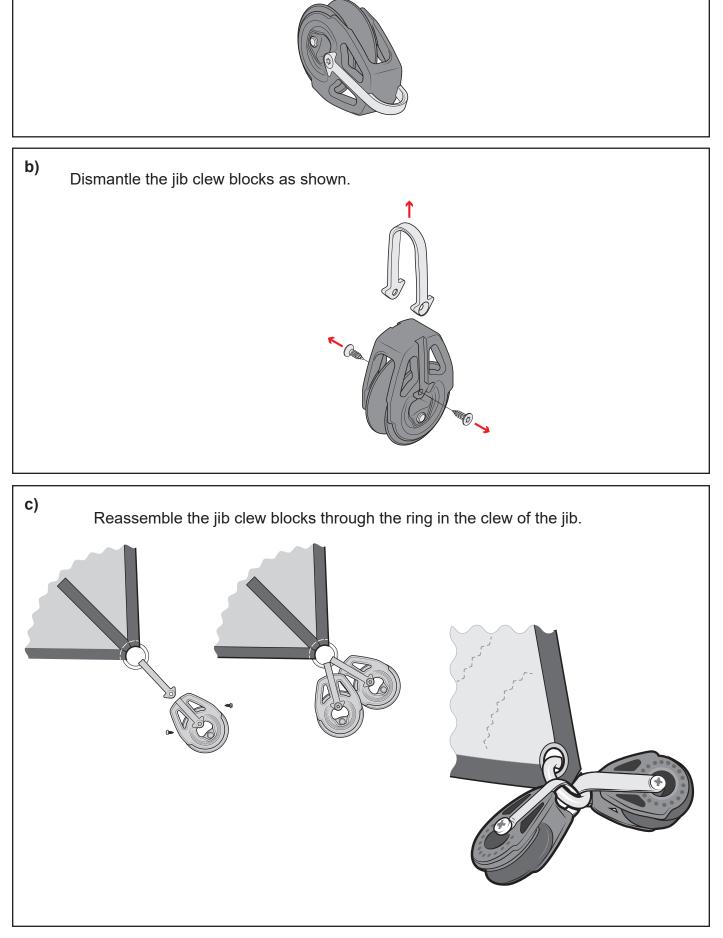




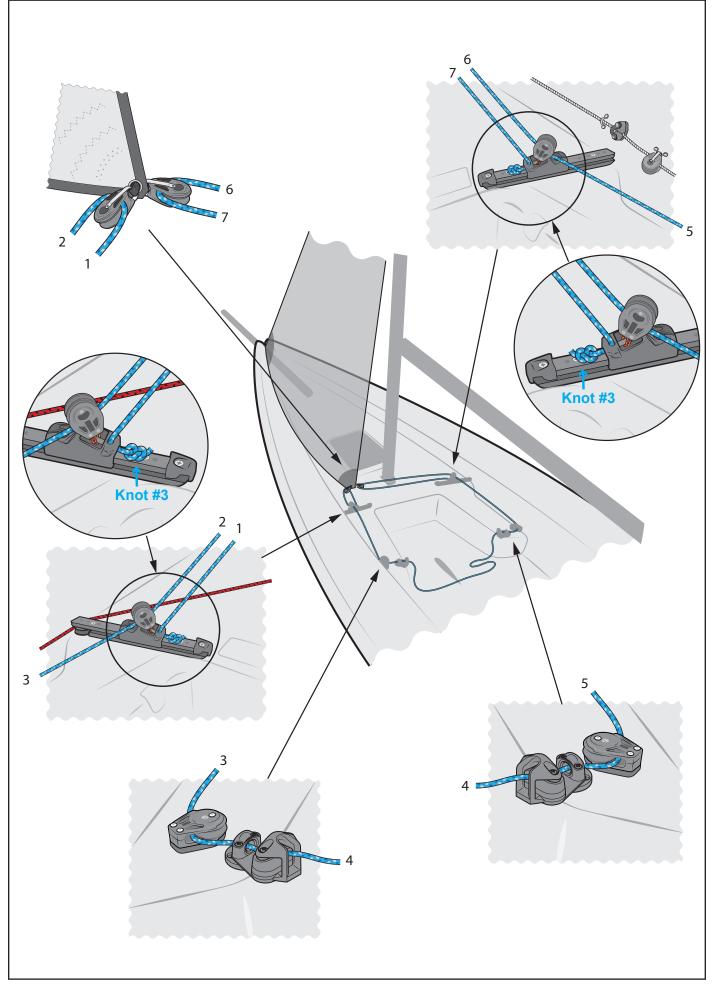


Locate the 2 x 40mm jib clew blocks in the hardware pack.

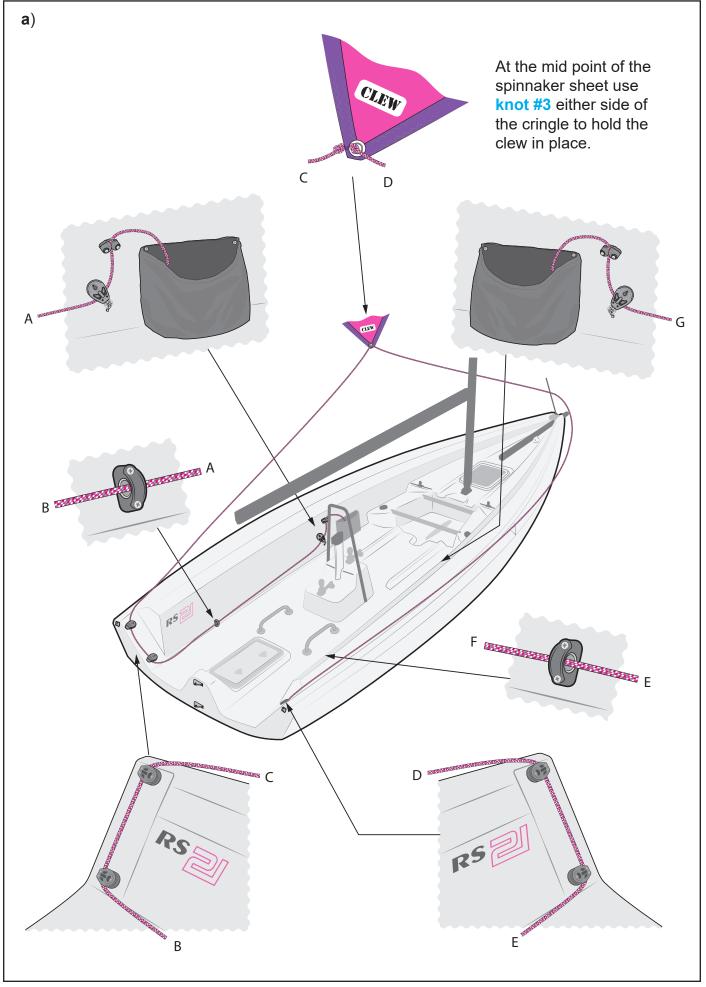
a)

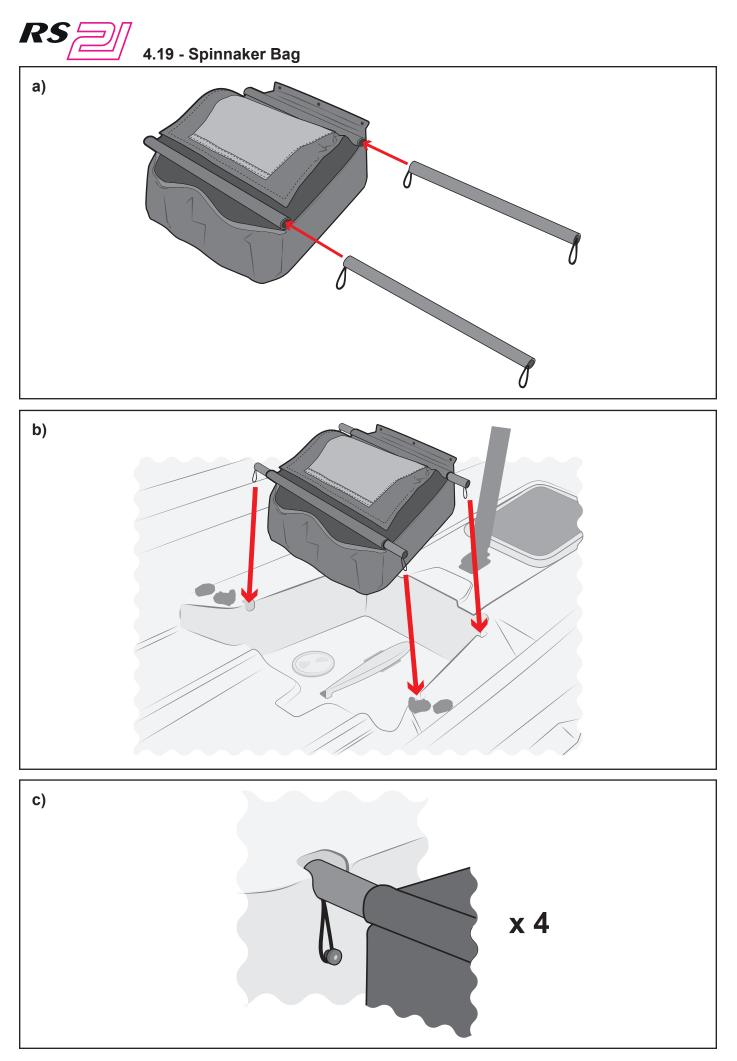


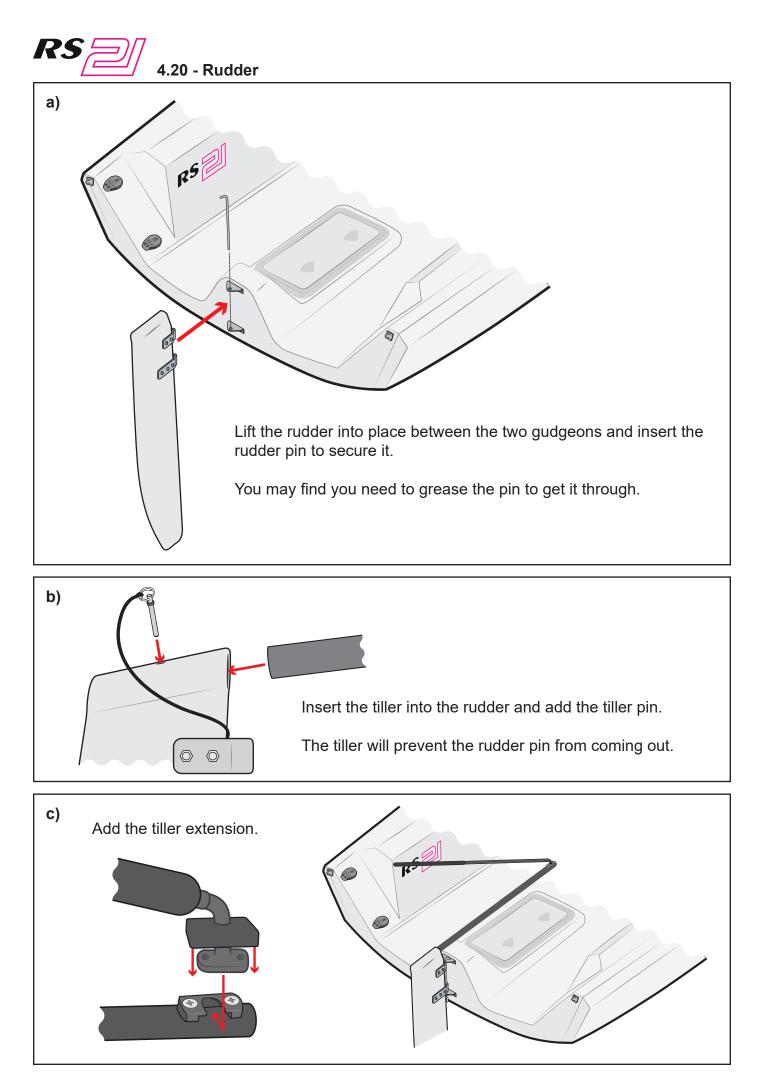




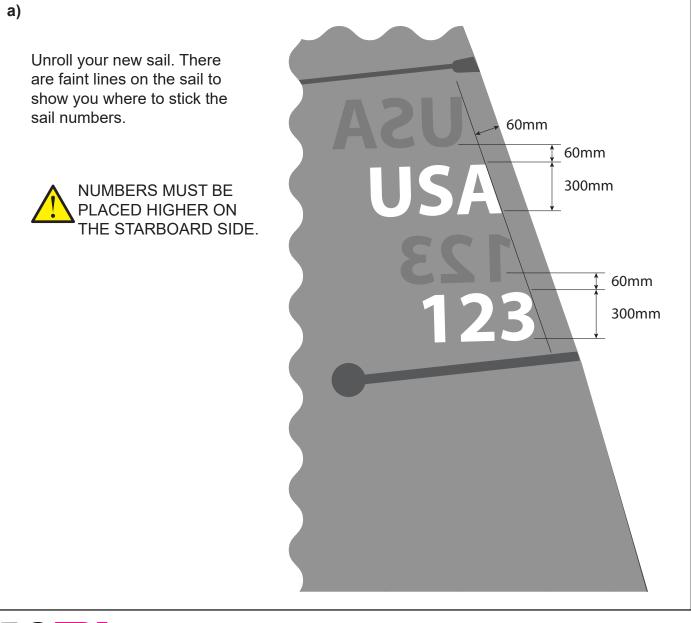




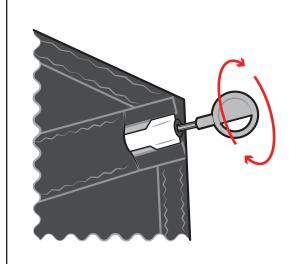












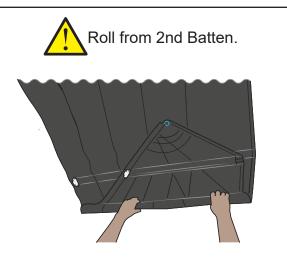
Batten key should be on clew of sail.

Check the inboard ends of the battens are positively located in the inboard plastic end fitting. To tension, turn the key clockwise until the cloth becomes just tight. If it is over tightened you will have trouble tacking the head of the sail in light weather. Insufficient tension and the sail will set up too flat with wrinkles running down from the head.



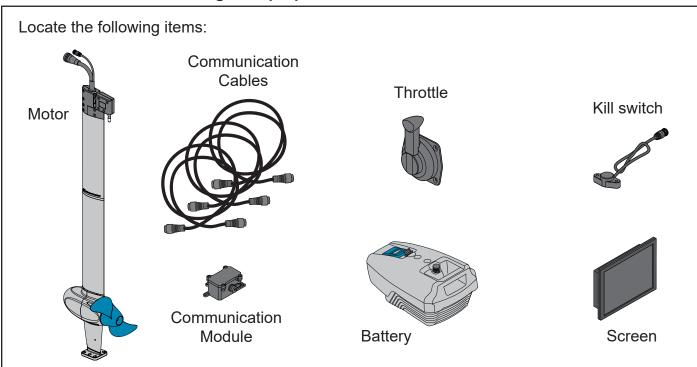
Wash salt off sails after use and dry. Roll from the head. It is easier to fold the head in (as shown) so the top of the battens coincide before starting rolling. Store sail in its bag in dry conditions away from sunlight. Although the sail is made from a quality high denier fabric it is best to slightly slacken the top 2 battens' tension for long term storage.

When using a new sail for the first time, try to avoid extreme conditions as high loads on new sailcloth can diminish the racing life of the sail.



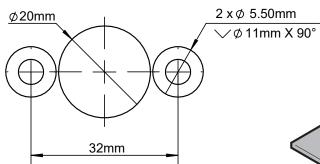
If your sail is stained in any way, try to remove it using a light detergent and warm water. **DO NOT attempt to launder the sail yourself.**

A sail can be temporarily repaired using a self-adhesive cloth tape, such as Dacron or Mylar. The sail should be returned to a sail maker for a professional repair. Check for wear and tear, especially around the batten pockets, on a regular basis.



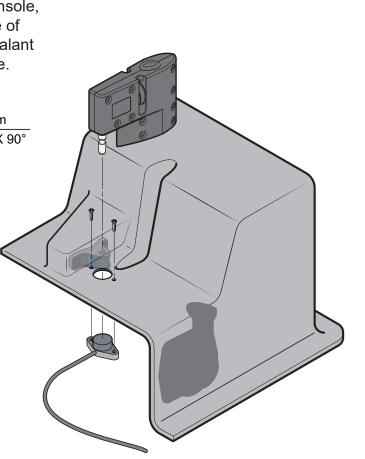
a) Kill switch installation

Three holes need to be drilled in the console, ensuring the location pin is in the centre of the 20mm sensor. A small amount of sealant should be used to fix the sensor in place.



Two No.5 x 16 pozi countersunk head screws are used to fix the kill switch to the underside of the console.

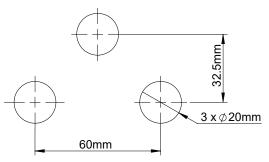
Test the hight of the locator pin, using the motor head, adjust so there is a small gap between the pin and the sensor.



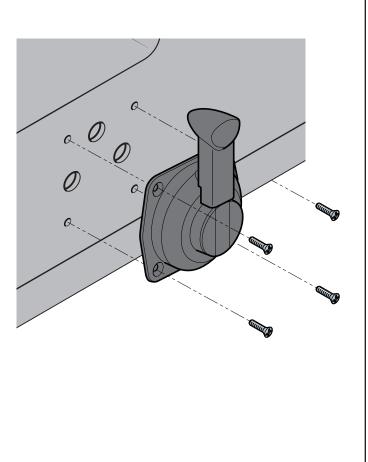
b) Throttle installation

Make sure the proposed location reserves enough room for operating and will allow rotating the throttle without hitting obstructions. This will be approximately 85mm above the deck.

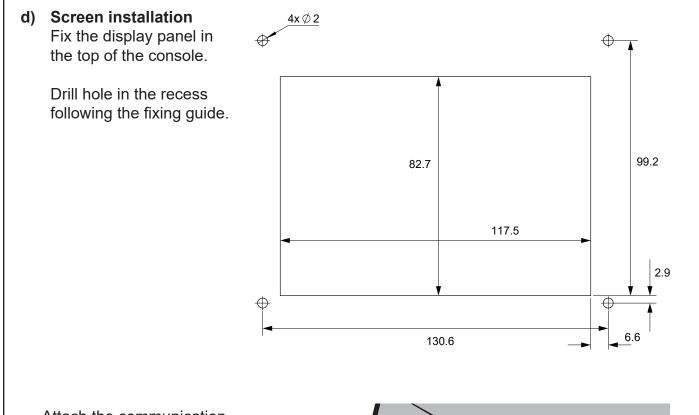
Drill holes in the console through the fixing guide referring to the dimensions in the drawing.



Fix the throttle to the side of the console using the 4 No.6 x 16 self tapping screws provided.



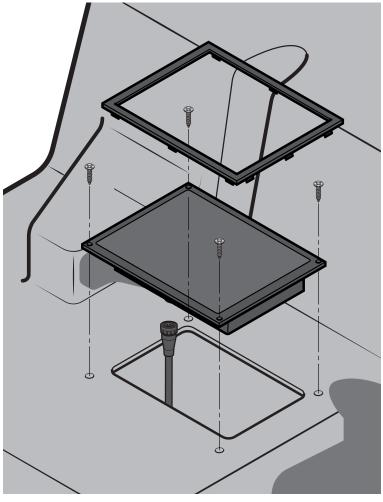
c) Now connect 3 cables to the back of the throttle. First the thinner cable coming from the motor, then the kill switch cable and finally the communication cable that will go to the display panel. Note: Make sure the correct cable is connected to the correct port on the back of the throttle, as indicated below. Kill Swich 0 0 0 0 0 Display Motor Port 0 0 Panel (Connect to A G Communications Module) 0



Attach the communication cable from the back of the throttle to the display.

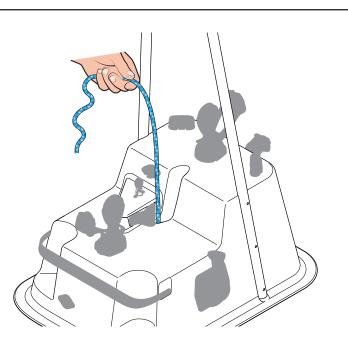
RS

Fix the display panel using 4x No4 x 3/4" Pan Head self tapping screws. Do not over tighten the screws.



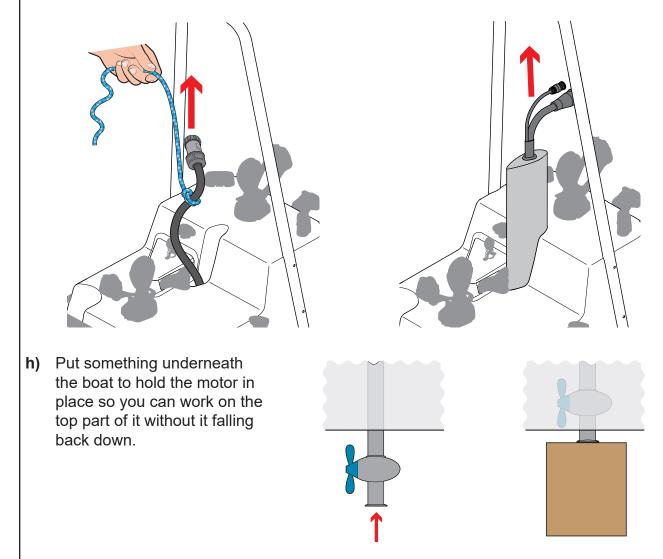
e) Lay the motor on the floor beneath the boat.

f) Pass a rope down through the hole in the console from above the deck.



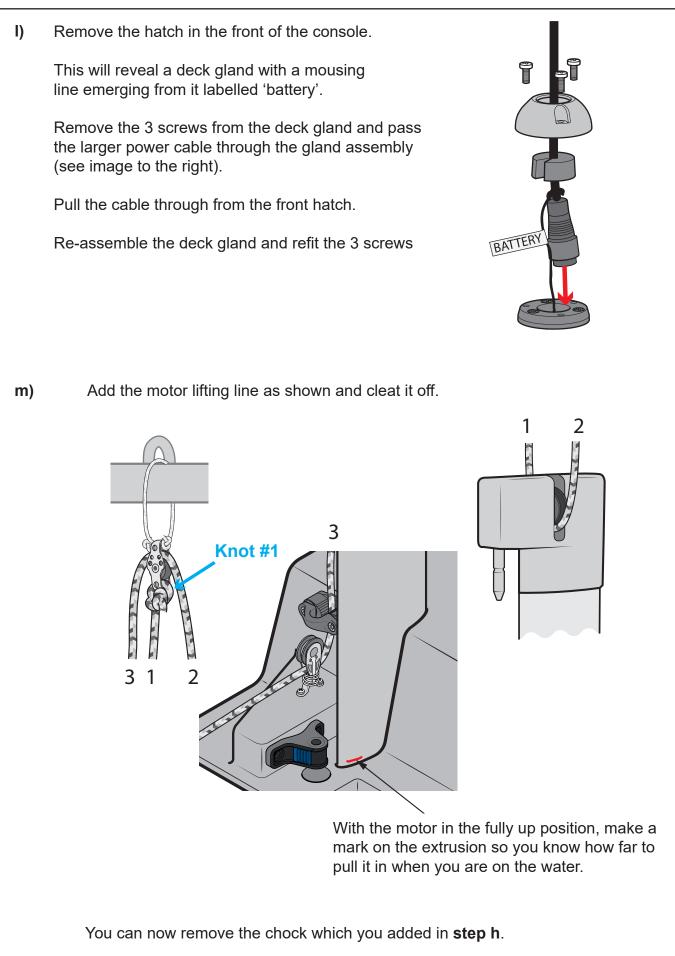
g) Use this rope to pull the motor cable up through the hole.

Once you have hold of the motor cable above deck you can use this to pull the motor shaft up into the hole.



i) Add the handle to the Add sheave top of the motor shaft. Add pin j) Bolt the two sides of the handle together, C io making sure that the pin and sheave locate properly in place. (<u>@</u>.() k) Remove the forward mainsheet block and jammer base to reveal a hole. Pass the cables down through the hole. Ensure the cables are properly seated in the cutout then replace the mainsheet block and jammer base.

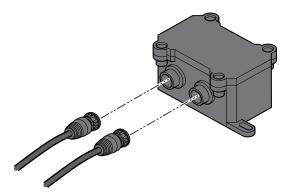
RS



n) Fitting the Communications Module

RS

Fit the communications module through the front hatch on the console. Attach it to the wooden bulkhead in the console using the M4 screws provided.

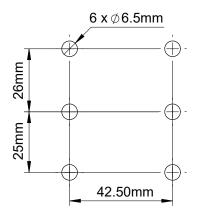


Attach the the cables from the motor and the throttle to the 2 connectors on the side of the module.

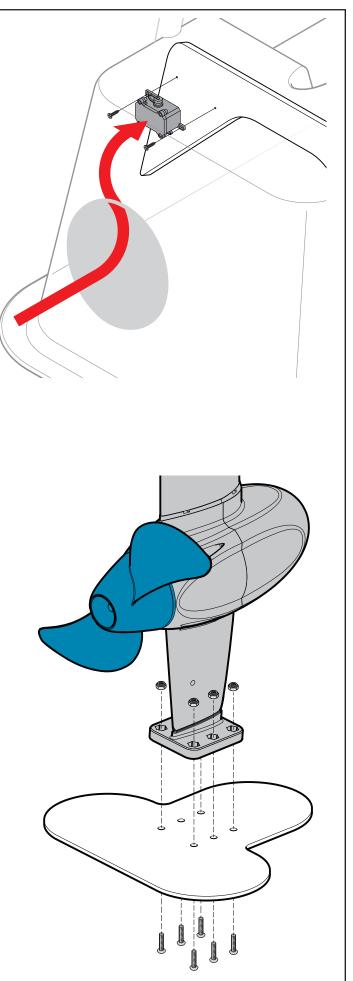
Note: Make sure the correct cable is connected.

o) Bottom Plate Installation

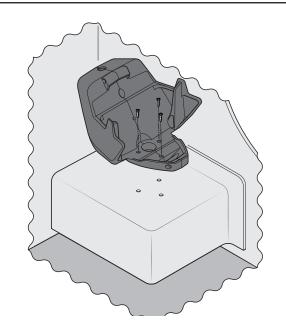
Drill six Ø6.5mm holes in the bottom plate according to the size shown below.



Fix the hull plate to the skeg mount with $6 \times M6 \times 16$ mm hex socket countersunk bolts with M6 locknuts.

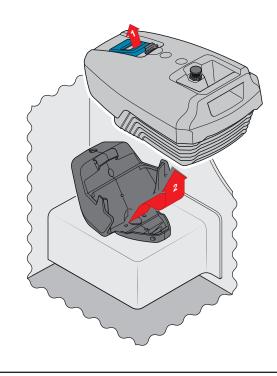


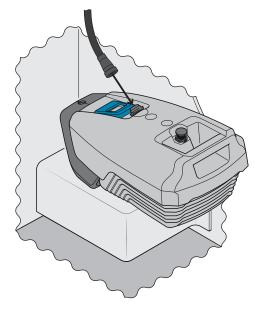
 p) Install the battery base using 14 x 2"pozi pan screws. Make sure the base is located so the battery can locate without hitting the bulkheads.



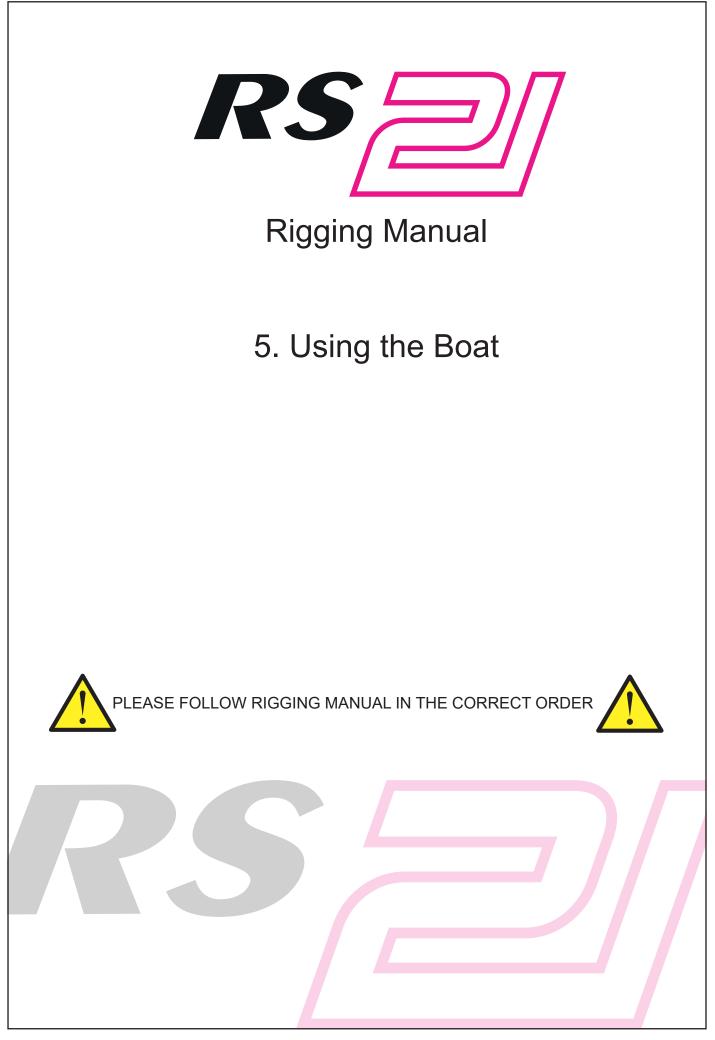
Installing the battery, lower the battery and the slide forward and down until you hear an audible "CLICK". Check the batter is located securely before sailing.

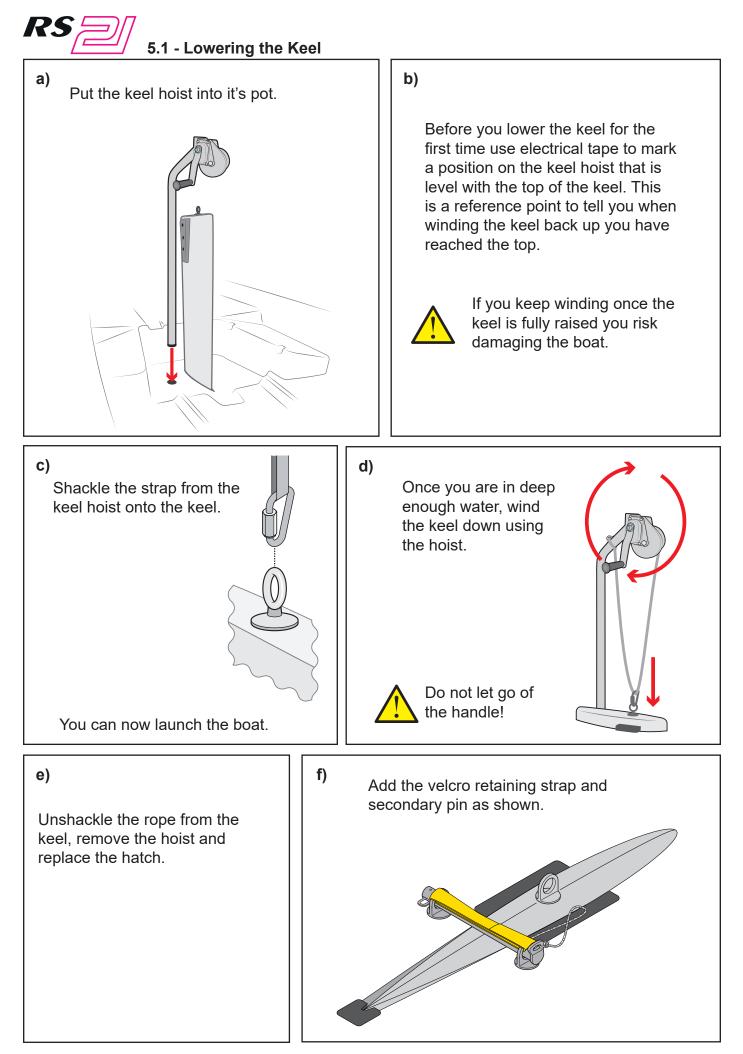
Once all the cables are connected, connect the battery cable to the battery as indicated in the image.





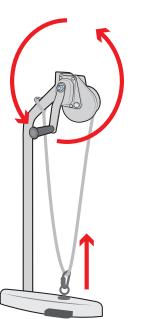
Removing the battery, Lift the blue handle and lift and slide the battery back and away from the bracket.





RS 5.2 - Raising the Keel a) b) Put the keel hoist into it's pot (inside the Undo the velcro strap which is holding hatch just to the port side of the keel). the keel down. Shackle the rope from the keel hoist onto the keel. c)

Wind the keel up using the hoist.



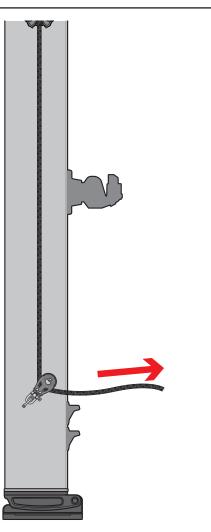


b) Put the top of the main sail into the opening in the Shackle the main halyard to the head of the mainsail. mast track, just above the gooseneck. 0

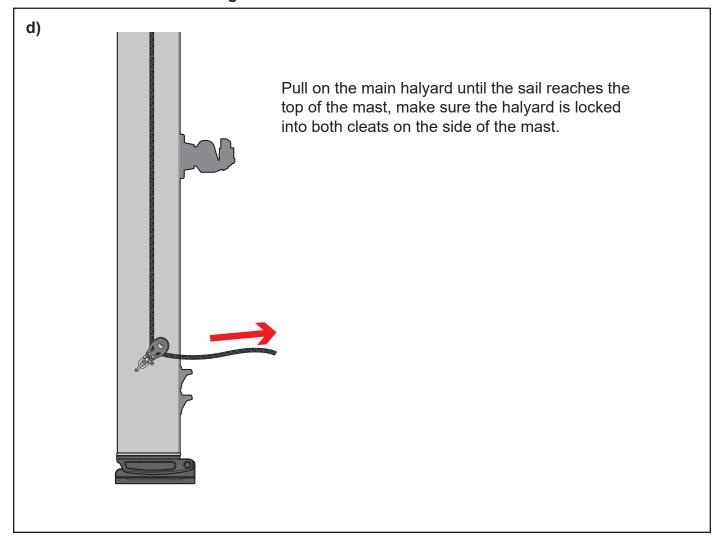
c)

a)

Hoist the mainsail by pulling on the line which comes out of the port side of the mast.



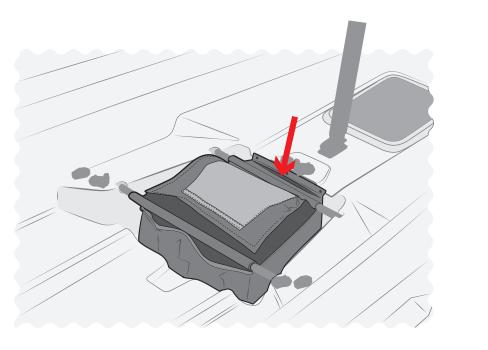
5.3 - Hoisting the Mainsail



e)

RS

There is a pouch on the front edge of the spinnaker bag which can be used to stow the tails of all halyards.

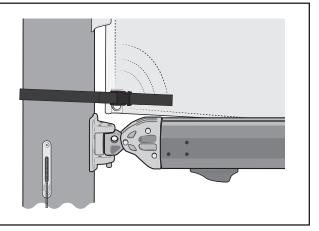




a)

Attach the tack strap around the mast before adjusting the outhaul

NOTE: Do not attach the main sail to the shackle on the goosneck.

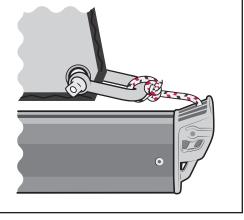


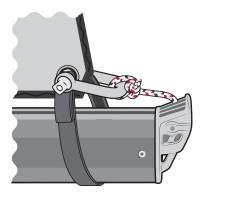
b)

Attach the outhaul to the clew of the sail.

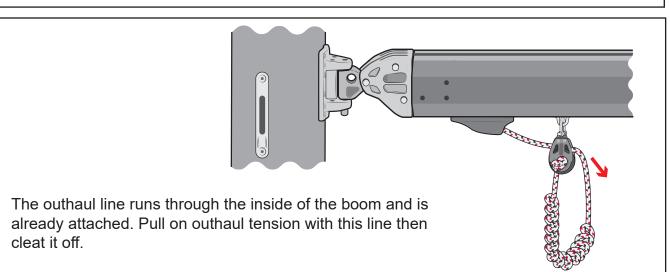
c)

Add the clew strap.

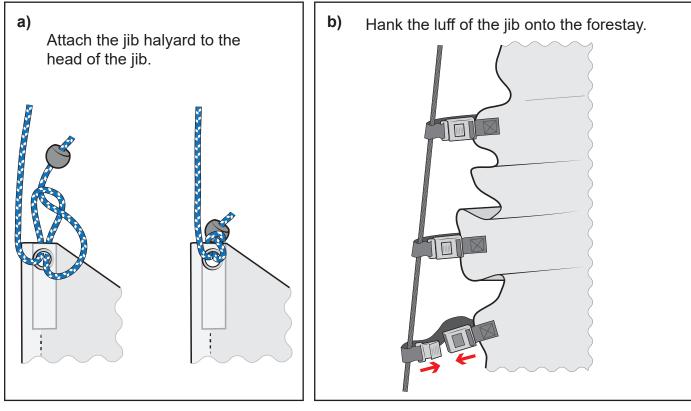




d)



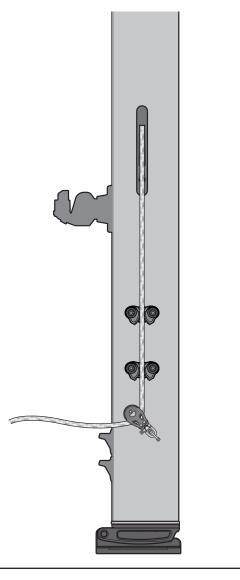
RS 5.5 - Hoisting the Jib

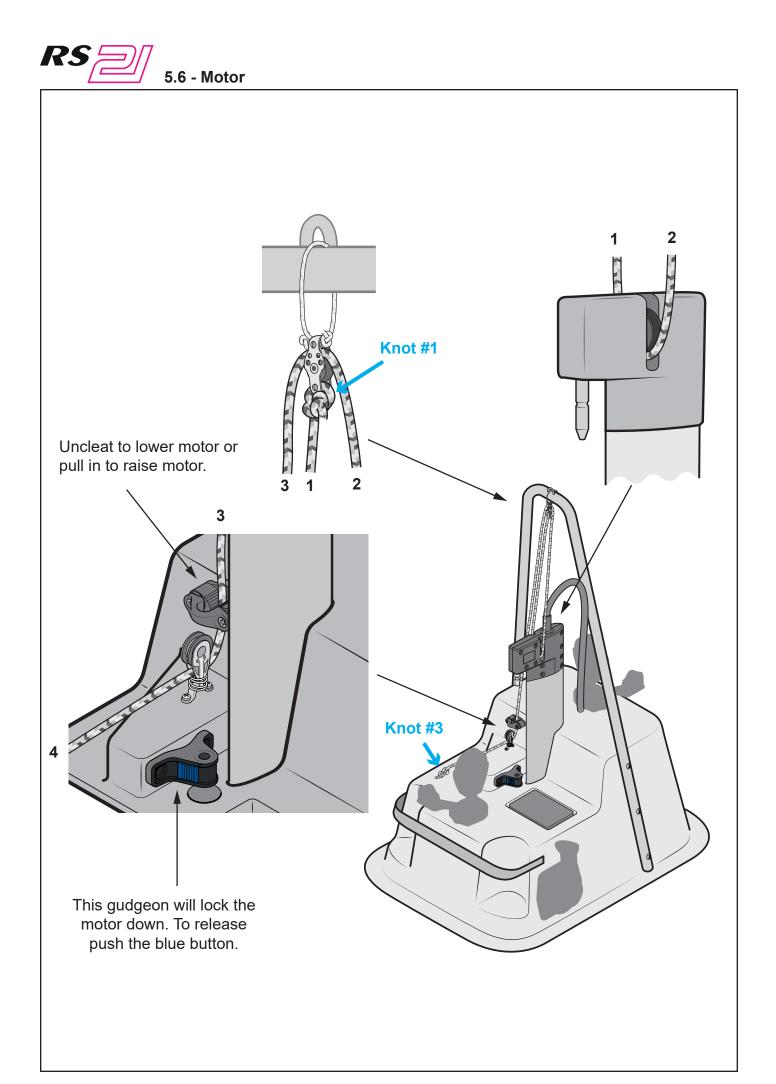


c) Hoist the jib by pulling on the line which comes out of the starboard side of the mast, just below the level of the gooseneck.

When the jib is almost fully hoist, a rope loop will emerge from the hole in the mast.

Hook the snap shackle on the block (added in **step 4.9b**) onto this rope loop and continue to hoist the jib.

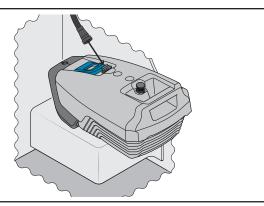






a)

Connect the battery.



b) Uncleat the engine lifting line and lower the engine.



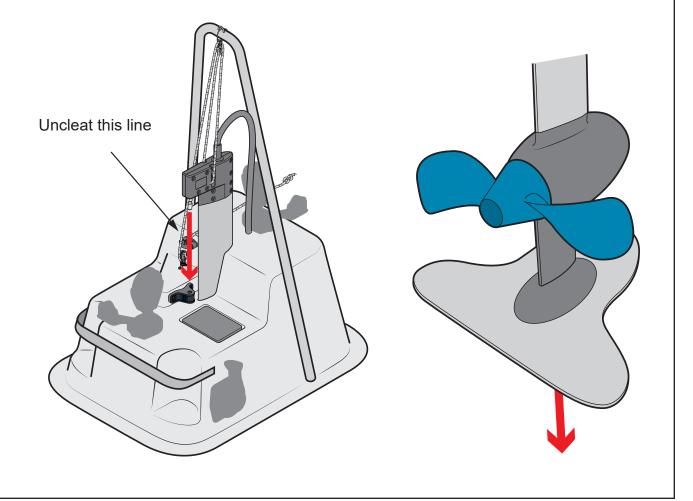
Only lower the engine when you are moving at less that 3 knots.

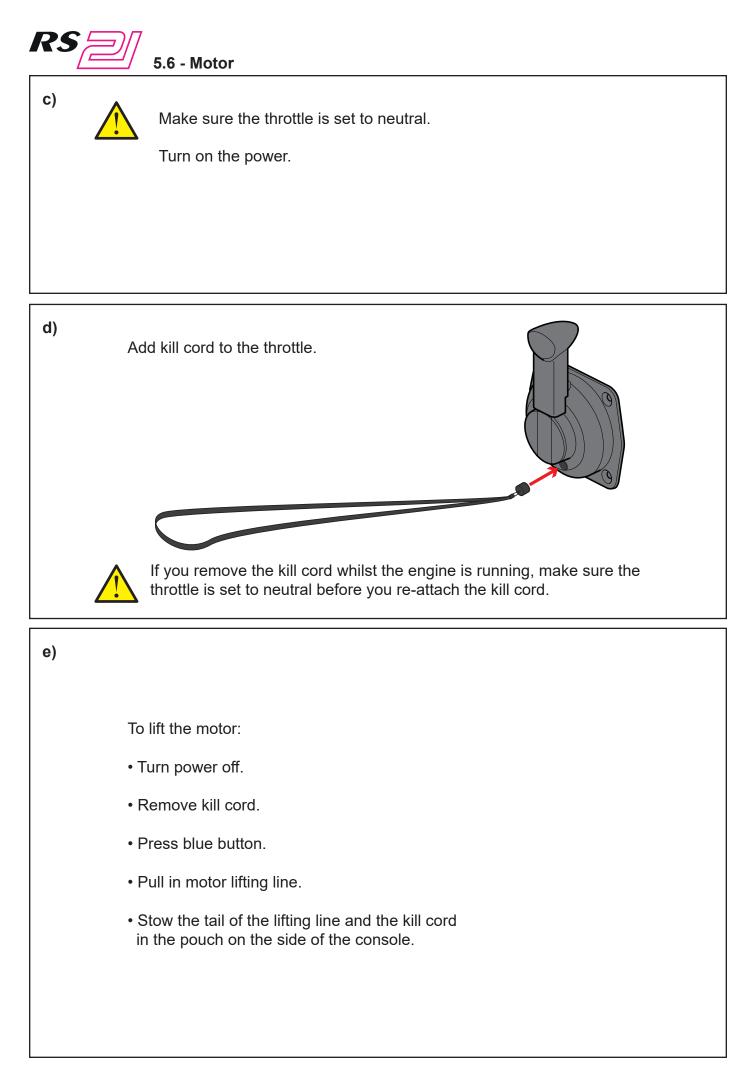


You may need to push downwards on the Epropulsion handle to get the engine to drop.



Make sure you drop the engine fully so that the pintle on the handle clicks into the gudgeon.



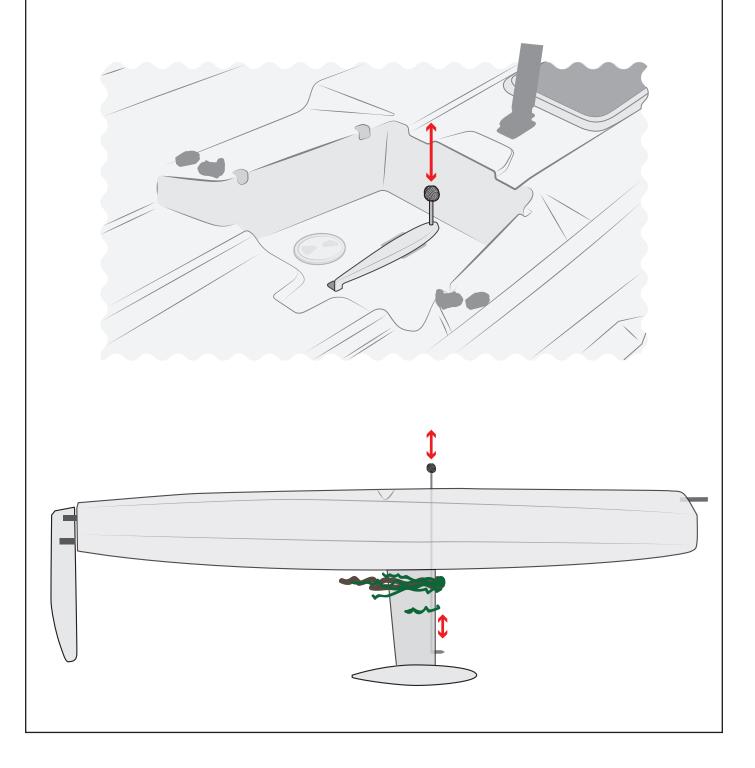


5.7 - Weed Cutter

RS

As an optional extra, a built in weed cutter is available which runs through the front of the keel, with a blade that is hidden inside the keel bulb .

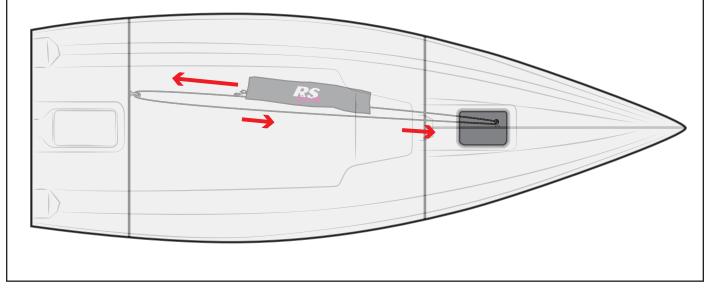
If you have weed stuck on your keel, pull the rod which emerges from the top of the keel and the blade will run up and down the keel until the weed is removed.

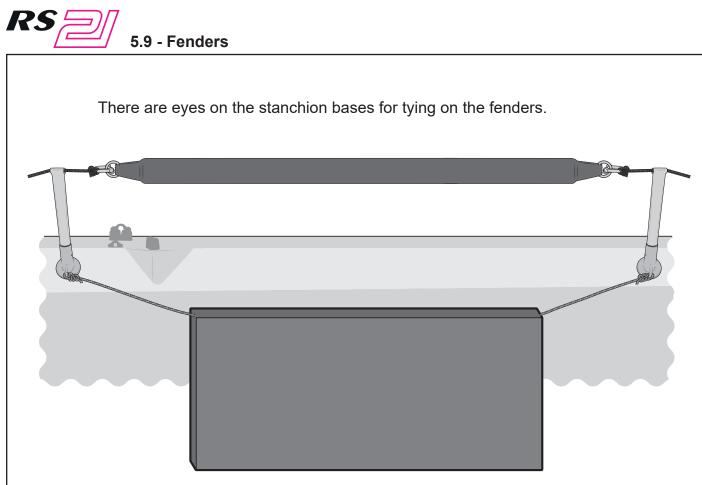




Inside the forward hatch there is a loop of rope with a hook on it, which runs around a block on the aft bulkhead.

To stow your sail bags, hook them onto this rope and pull on the other end of the rope. This will pull the sail bag aft.





5.10 - Lifting the boat

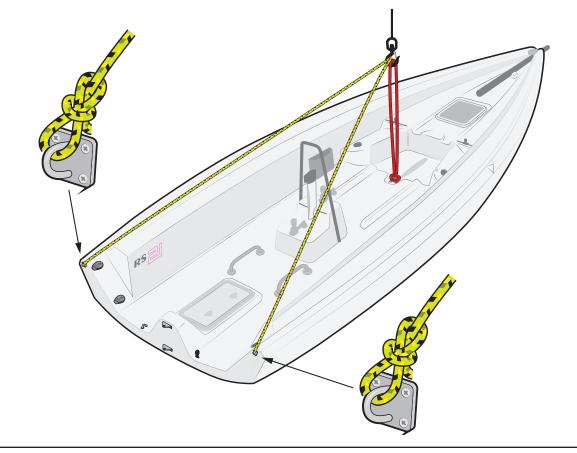
<complex-block>

b)

RS

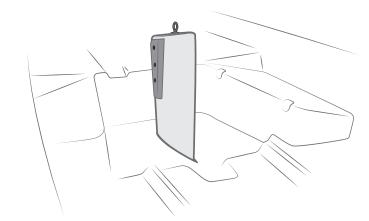
If the boat is to be lifted without the keel attached:

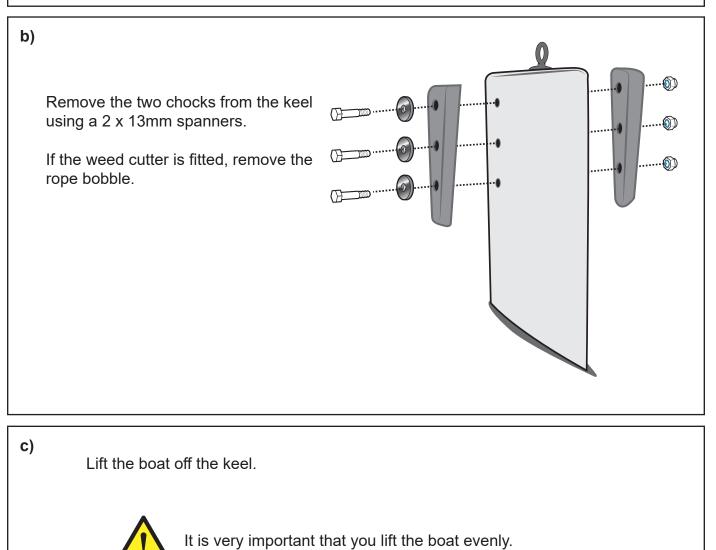
- Fit the lifting strop to the same eye as you would if the keel was fitted.
- Run 2 lines from the lifting strop to the backstay eyes on the transom.



5.11 - Removing / Adding the Keel

a) To remove the keel with the boat on a crane, first drop the boat down so that the chocks at the top of the keel are accessible.

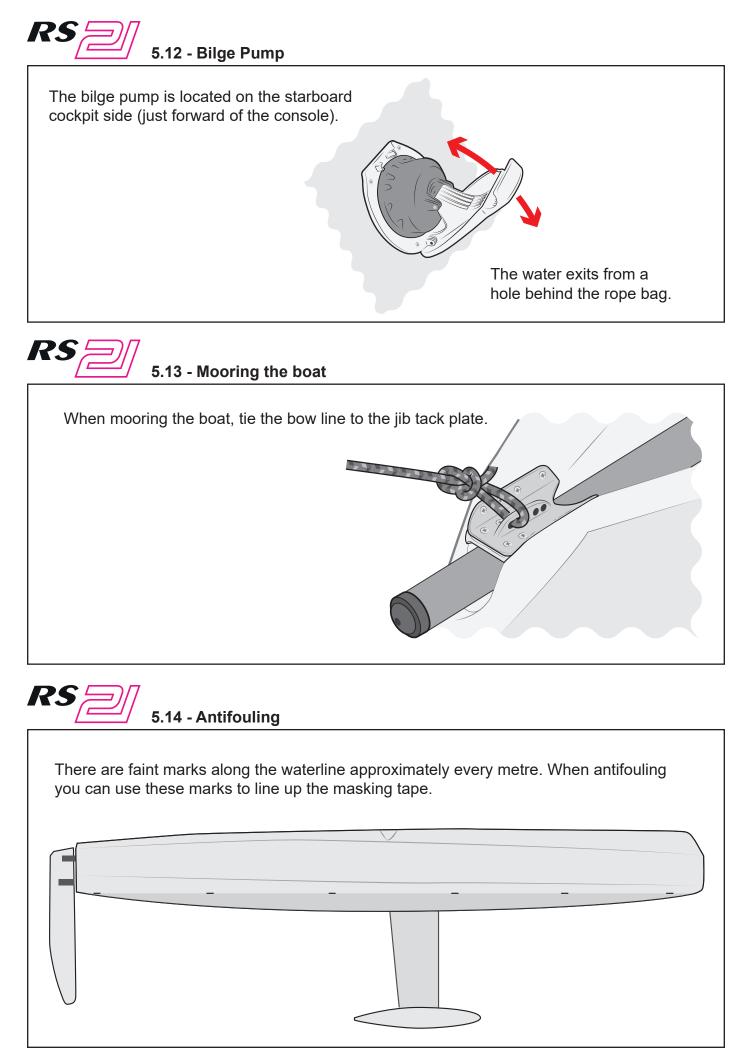




d)

RS

To add the keel, reverse this process.





RS 5.15 - Fitting Symmetric Spinnaker - Components

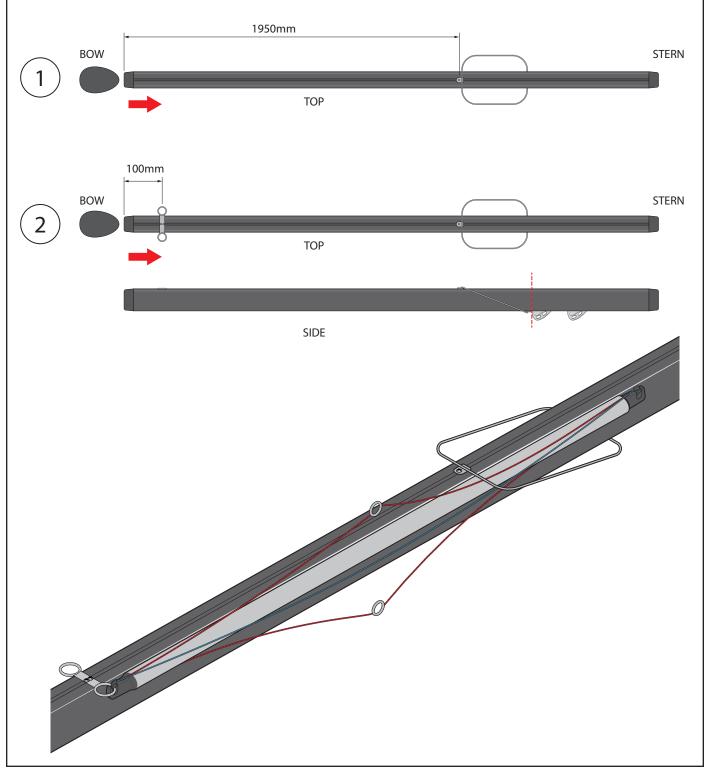
	-	
	Part	Quantity
	30mm block with swivel	2
	38mm Cleat	0
	38mm Line guard	2 2
	38mm Fairlead	2
	40mm block with swivel	2
	40mm block with strap	2
	Spinnaker Pole Uphaul - 11m	2
	Spinnaker Pole Downhaul - 4.2m	2
	Twinning Line - 2.4m	2
	Spinnaker Sheets - 16m	2
i	Spinnaker pole storage kit	1
		10
	Spinnaker pole	1

/ Symmetric Spinnaker Pole Boom Storage

RS

Fit the aft part first by loosening the fixing screw/plates.Slide the top fixing into the slot ontop of the inboard end of the boom. Slide the part down the boom until the lower fixing it against the mainsheet fitting. Now rotate the fixing plate on the under side and slot it into the recess in the boom. As you tighten the fixing it will rotate to clamp the part in place. Then tighten the fixing on the top of the boom.

Nest fit the front fitting, loosen the fixing scres/plates enough to slide them into the slot in the top side of the boom. Slide the fitting along until it is 100mm from the inboard end of the boom. Tighten the fixings to hold the fitting in place.





Fitting the Spinnaker Halyard



BEFORE LOWERING THE MAST, CHECK THAT YOU ARE NOT IN THE VICINITY OF OVERHEAD POWER CABLES

REMEMBER

Check that both ends of the main halyard, jib halyard, and gennaker halyard are tied off at the bottom end of the mast so that they are within easy reach when the mast is lowered.

A minimum of 2 people are needed to step the mast.

Note:

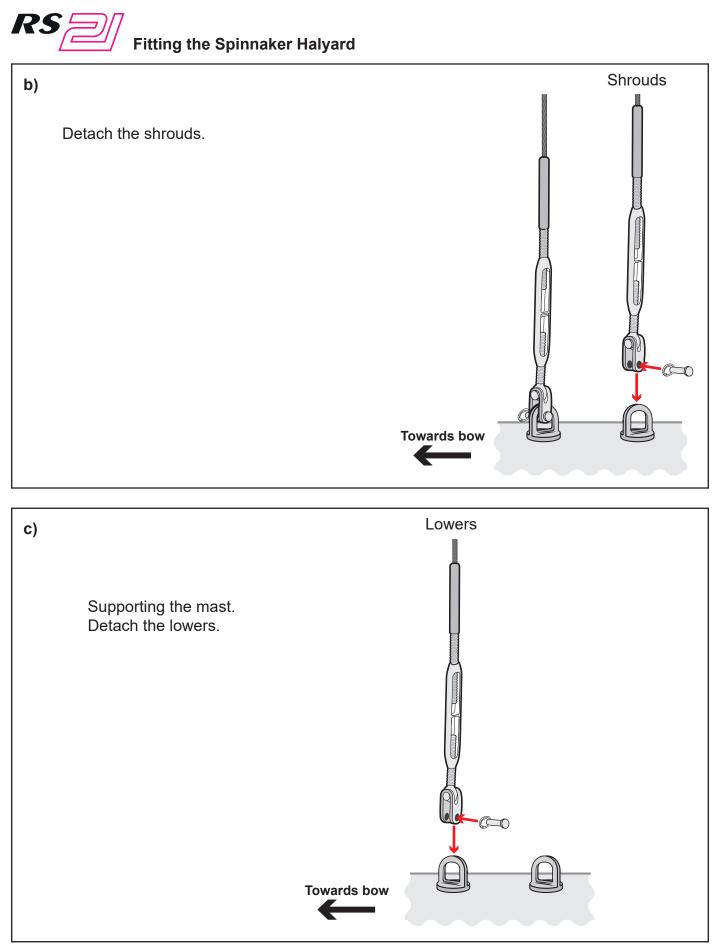
It is easiest to lower the mast with the keel down so you can lay the mast centrally in the boat.

a)

Using some spare line, tie the spinnaker halyard onto the bow stem fitting.

This will act as a temporary forestay.

Fitting the Spinnaker Halyard



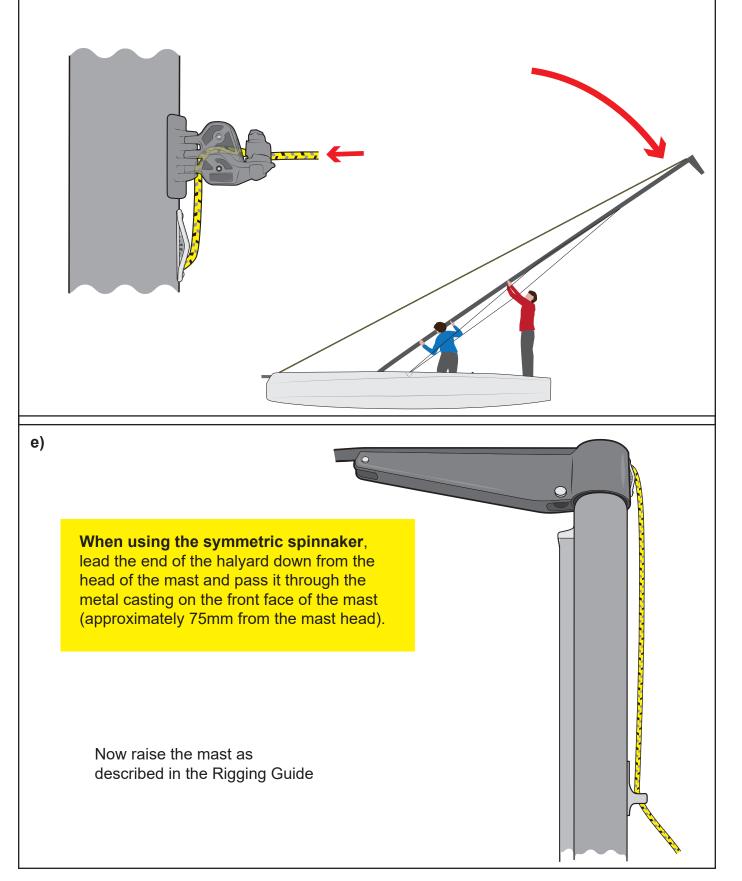
Fitting the Spinnaker Halyard



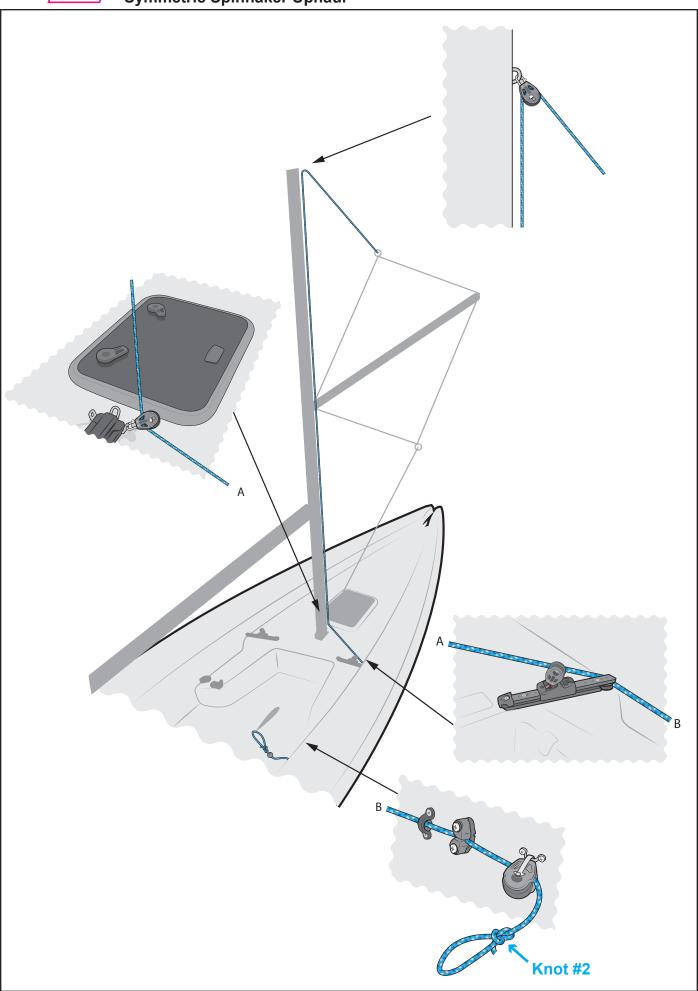
RS

Lower the mast carefully

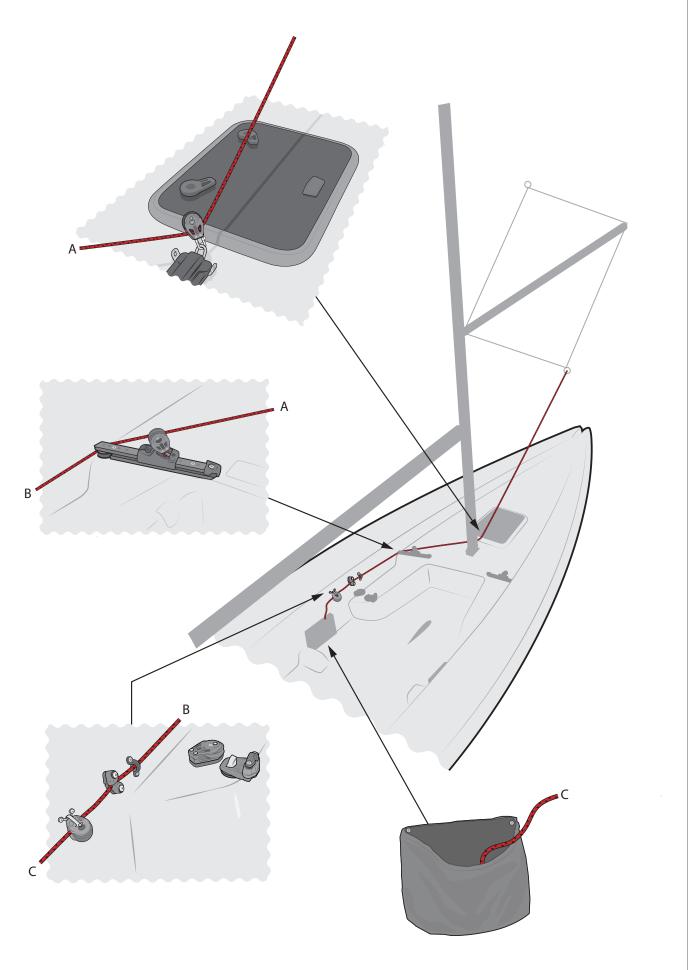
Using the spinnaker halyard at the cleat to control the decent of the mast..



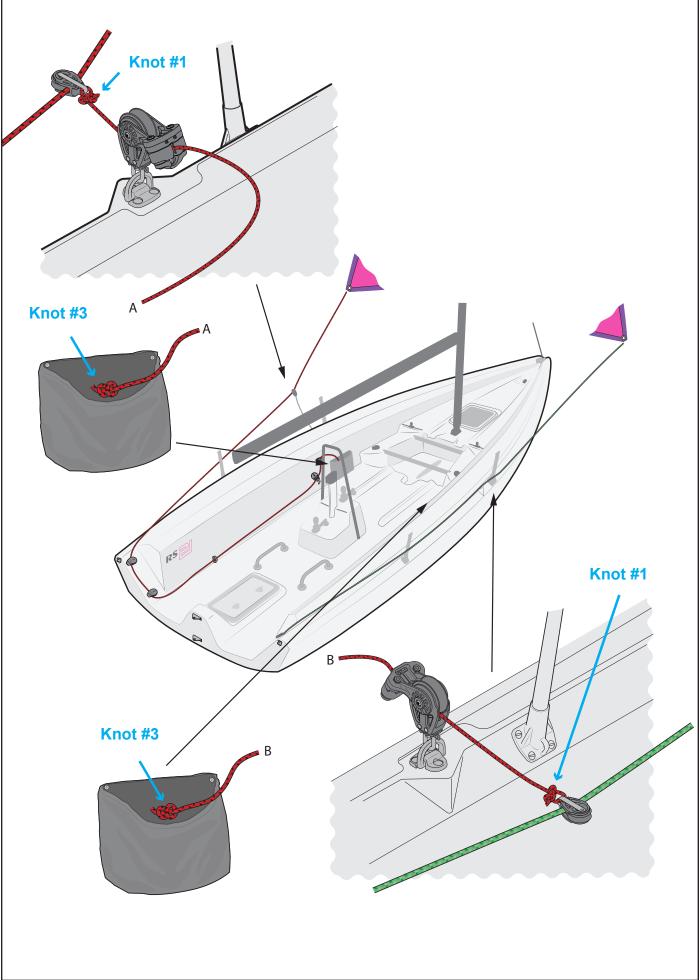






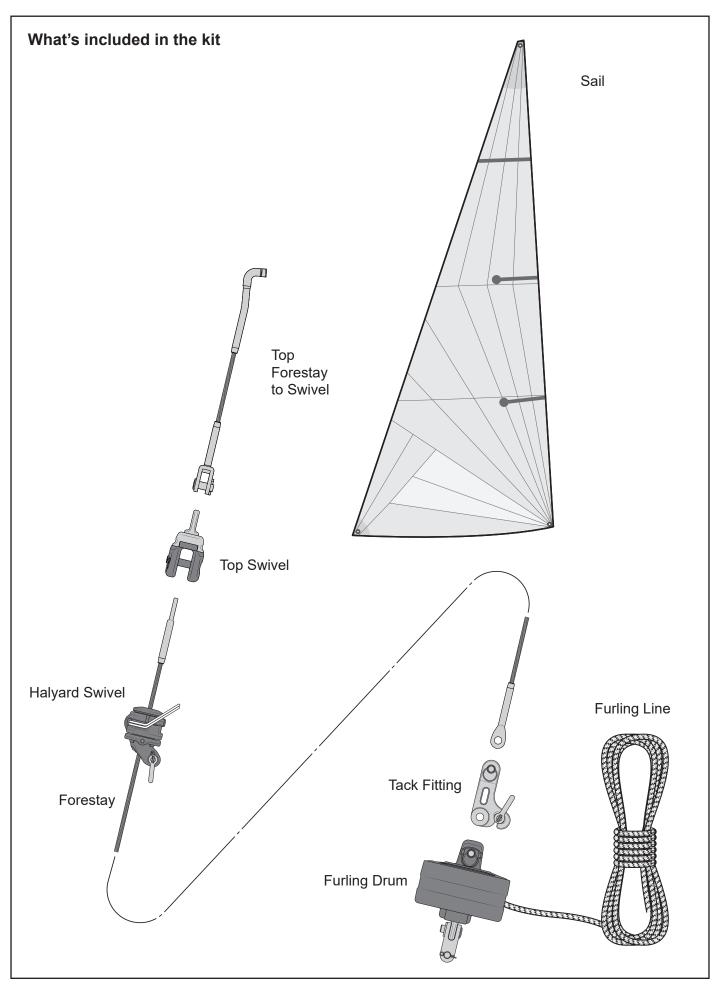


RS Symmetric Spinnaker Sheets





Fitting the Furling Jib System







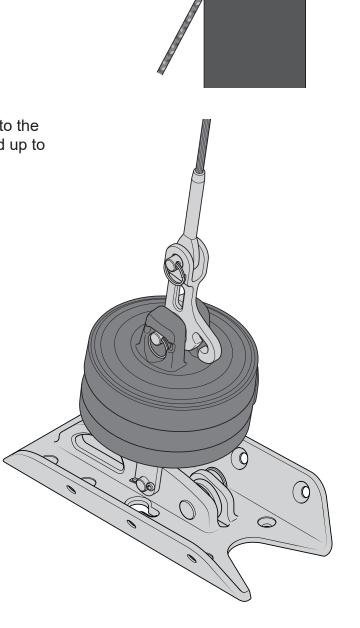
RS

Before stepping the mast, attached the furling forestay t-terminal to the mast.

Thread the jib halyard though the fairlead that is just below the sheave.

b)

Stand the mast up and attach the drum to the tack plate. Ensure the split pin is opened up to prevent the pin from moving.





c)

Thread the furling line through the triple fairlead on the foredeck and then through the existing jib cunningham eye and cleat on the starboard side.

EDED!

E E



Hoisting the Jib

d)

Tie the jib halyard to the top of the halyard swivel. Attached the head of the jib to the bottom of the halyard swivel.



Attach the tack to the tack fitting on top of the furler drum. Hoist the jib.

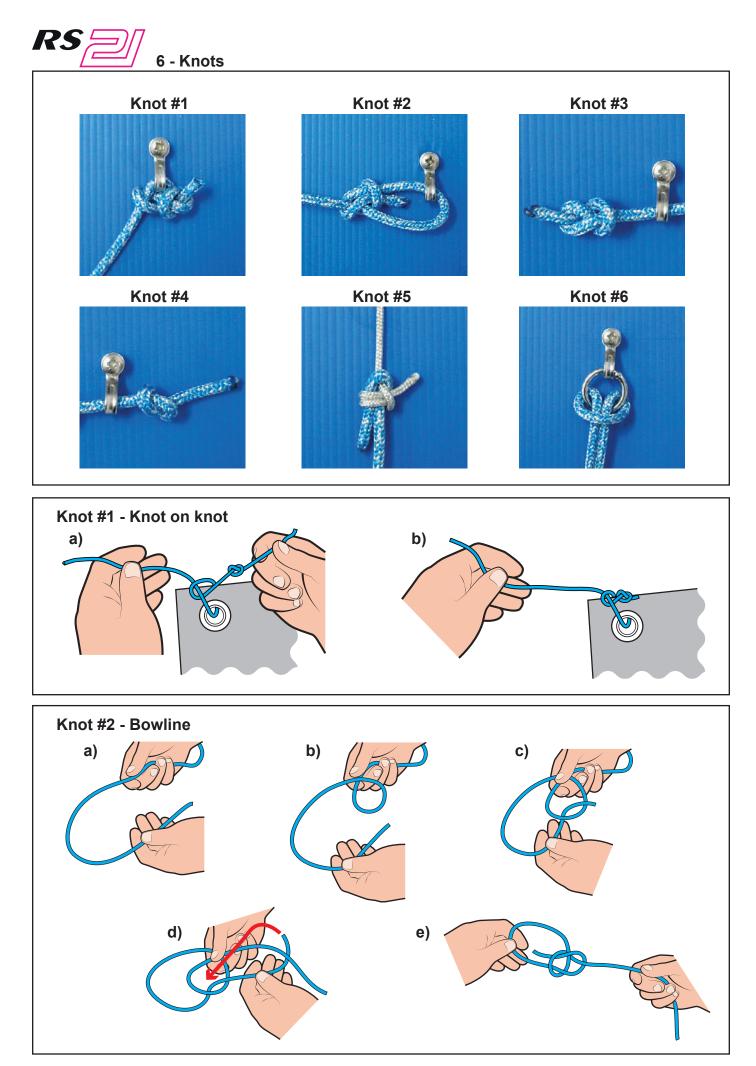


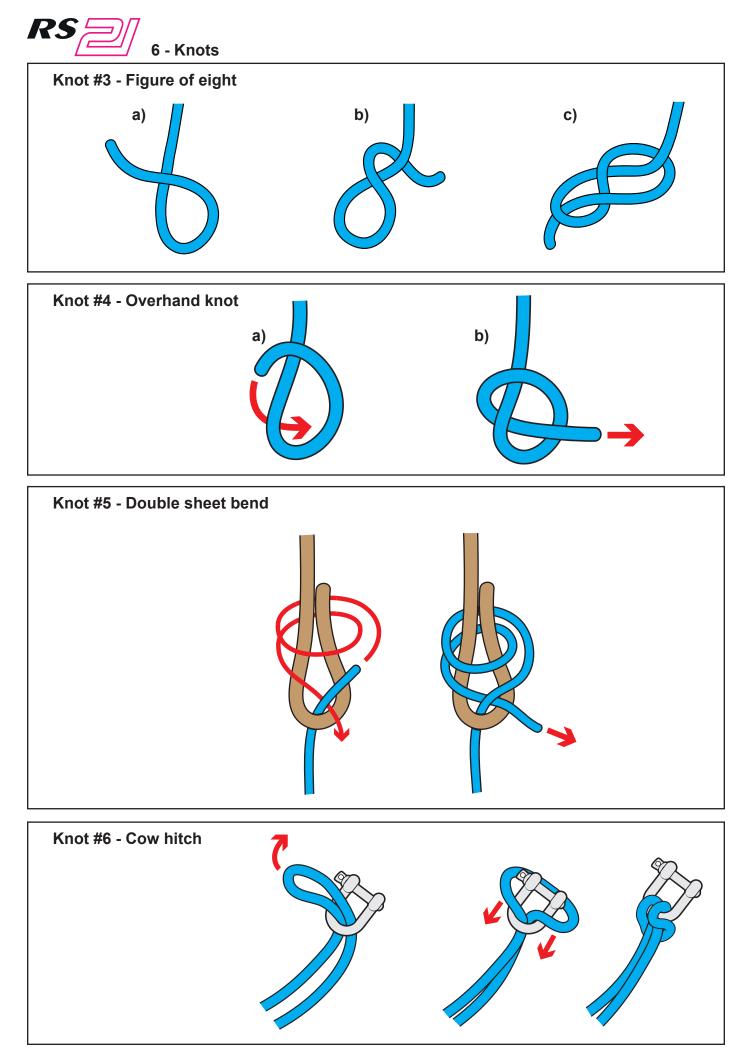
Furling the Jib

To furl the jib, pull the furling line and secure the line in the cleat. Tidy the line away into the cockpit bag..

THE REAL PROPERTY OF

 \in







Α

Aft	At the back
Anchor Line	Rope that attaches the anchor to the boat
Astern	Behind the boat
Asymmetric	Gennaker flown from a retractable pole at the bow

В

Back	To 'back the sail'; allowing the wind to fill the back of the sail
Bailer	A bucket or other container used for bailing water
Batten	A thin strip of wood/plastic inserted in the sail to keep it flat
Batten Key	A key used to adjust the batten
Batten Pocket	A pocket on the sail that holds the batten
Beam	Width of the boat at the widest point of the side of the boat.
	The phrase 'wind on the beam' means that the wind is coming from the side.
Bear away	To turn downwind
Beat	To sail a zig-zag course to make progress upwind
Beaufort Scale	A measure of wind strength, from Force 1 to Force 12
Bilge Rail	The moulded line that marks the transition from the side to the bottom of
	the hull
Block	A pulley used for sail control lines
Boom	The spar at the bottom edge of sail
Boom Pad	The pad that fits onto the boom
Bow	The front of the boat
Bow Lifting Handle	The handle at the front of the boat, used for lifting
Bowline	A useful and reliable knot, with a loop in it
Bow Snubber	The part of the trolley that the bow rests on
Builder's Plate	Plate that contains build information
Bung	A stopper for the drain hole

RS 7 - Glossary

Buoy	Floating object attached to the bottom of sea – used variously for	
	navigation,mooring, and to mark out a race course	
Buoyancy Aid	Helps you to stay afloat if you fall in the water	
Buoyancy Compartm	ent Water-tight compartment in the hull that maintains buoyancy	
Burgee	Small flag at the top of the mast to show wind direction	

С

Capsize	To overturn
Capsize Recovery	To right, or recover, the boat after a capsize
Catamaran	A boat with two hulls
Centreboard	The foil that sits below the hull to counteract the sideways push of the wind,
	and to create forward motion
Centreboard Case	The casing in the hull in which the centreboard sits
Centreline	An imaginary line that runs through the centre of the hull, from the bow to
	the stern
Chart datum	Depths shown on a chart, at the lowest possible tide
Cleat	A device to grip ropes and hold them in place – some grip automatically,
	while others need the rope tying around them
Clew	Lower corner of the sail, closest to the stern
Close hauled	Sailing as close to the wind as you can; point of sailing to sail upwind
Cockpit	The open area in the boat providing space for the `helm and the crew
Collision Regulations	The 'rules of the road' to avoid collisions
Compass Rose	The compass shown on a chart to aid navigation
Crew	Helps the helmsman to sail the boat, and usually handles the jib sheets
Cutter	A boat with two headsails or jibs

D

Dacron	A brand of polyester sailcloth that is wrinkle-resistant and strong
Deck	A floor-like surface occupying part of the hull
Deck Moulding	A moulded deck
Downhaul	Applies downwards tension to a sail
Downwind	To sail in the direction that the wind is blowing
Drain Hole	A hole in the hull from which trapped water can be drained



Draught	The depth of the vessel below the surface
E	
Ease	To 'ease sheets' means to let the sail out gently
F	
Fairlead	A pulley block used to guide a rope to avoid chafing
Foils	The daggerboard and the rudder
Foot	The bottom edge of a sail
Fore	Towards the front of the boat
Forestay	The wire line that runs from the front of the mast to the bow of the
	hull, holding the mast in position
Furl	To gather a sail into a compact roll and bind it against the mast or forestay
G	
Gennaker	A large sail that is hoisted when sailing downwind
Gennaker Chute	Webbing pocket in which the gennaker is stowed when not hoisted
Gennaker Pole	The sprit that protrudes from the front of the hull, to which the tack of the gennaker is attached
Gnav Bar	Bar that sits between the mast and the boom, performing the same function as a kicking strap
Gnav Control Line	Line that applies and releases tension to the gnav
Gooseneck	The 'jaws' of the boom that clip onto the mast
Gunwhale	The top edge of the hull, that you sit on when leaning out to balance the boat
Gybe	To change tack by turning the stern of the boat through the wind.
н	
Halyard	The rope used to hoist sails
Halyard Bag	Bag attached to the hull, in which the halyards can be stowed

The top corner of a sail

Head



'Head to Wind'	To point the bow in the direction that the wind is blowing from, causing the sails to flap
'Heave to'	To stop the boat by easing the main sheet and backing the jib
Heel	A boat 'heels' when it leans over due to the sideways force of
	the wind
Helm/Helmsman	The person who steers the boat, or another name for the tiller
Hoist Block	Block behind which the gennaker halyard is pulled when hoisting
	the gennaker
Hull	The hollow, lower-most part of the boat, floating partially submerged
	and supporting the rest of the boat

I

'Into the Wind'	To point the bow in the direction that the wind is blowing from,
	causing the sails to flap
Inversion	A capsize where the boat turns upside down, or 'turtles'

J

Jammer	Another word for a cleat
Jib	The small sail in front of the mast
Jib Sheet	The rope used to control the jib

Κ

Kicking strap	The rope system that is attached to the base of the mast and
	the boom, helping to hold the boom down
Knot	A measurement of speed, based on one minute of latitude

L

Launching

To leave the slipway

RS 7 - Glossary

Latitude	Imaginary lines running parallel round the globe from east to west.
	They help you measure position and distance on a chart.
Leech	The back edge of the sail
Leeward	The part of the boat furthest away from the direction in which the
	wind is blowing
Leeway	The amount of sideways drift caused by the wind
Leverage	The result of using crew weight as a 'lever' to counteract heel
	caused by the wind
Lie to	A way of stopping the boat temporarily by easing sheets on
	a close reach
Lifejacket	Unlike a buoyancy aid, a lifejacket will keep a person fully afloat
	with their head clear of the water
Longitude	Imaginary lines running round the globe from north to south,
	like segments of an orange. Used with lines of latitude to
	measure position and distance
Lower Furling Unit	The fitting at the bottom of the forestay that enables the jib
	to be furled
Luff	The front edge of the sail

Μ

Mainsail	The largest sail on a boat
Mainsail Clew Slug	The fitting that sits in the track on the boom, to which the clew of
	the mainsail is attached
Mainsheet	The rope used to control the mainsail
Mainsheet Bridle	The rope runs across the transom of the boat, to which the
	mainsheet is attached
Mainsheet Centre Block	The main block, usually fixed to the cockpit floor, through
	which the mainsheet passes
Man Overboard Recovery	The act of recovering a 'man overboard' from the water
Mast	The spar that the sails are hoisted up
Mast Foot	The bottom of the mast
Mast Gate	Fitting which closes across the front of the mast at deck level,
	holding the mast in place



Mast Lower Section	The bottom section of a two-piece mast
Mast Step	The fitting on the deck that the mast fits into
Mast Top Section	The top section of a two-piece mast
Meteorology	The study of weather forecasting
Moor	To tie the boat to a fixed object
Mylar	A brand of strong, thin, polyester film used to make racing sails

Ν

National Sailing Federati	on Body that governs sailing in a nation. In the UK, this is the
	Royal Yachting Association
Navigation	To find a way from one point to the other
Neap Tide	Tides with the smallest tidal change

0

'Off the Wind'	To sail in the direction that the wind is blowing
Outboard Bracket Kit	Bracket which enables an outboard engine to be attached
	to the transom
Outboard Engin	Small portable engine that attaches to the transom
Outhaul	The control line that applies tension to the foot of the sail,
	by pulling the sail along the boom
Outhaul Hook	The fitting on the boom that hooks the eye at the back of
	the sail, and to which the outhaul is attached

Ρ

Painter	The rope at the bow used to tie the boat to a fixed object
Pontoon	A floating jetty to moor your boat to
Port	The left-hand side of the boat, when facing forwards

R

RS Dealer	A third-party who sells the RS range
Reach	Sailing with the wind on the side of the boat



Reef	To make the sails smaller in strong winds
Retaining Pin	On a trolley, to hold the launching trolley to the road base
Road Base	A trolley that you place your boat and launching trolley upon to trail behind a vehicle
Rowlocks	U shaped fittings that fix onto the gunwale and holds your oars in position while rowing
Rowlock Holes	The holes in the gunwhale into which the rowlocks fit
Rudder	The foil that, when attached to the stern, controls the direction of the boat
Rudder Blade	The large, rigid, thin part of the rudder
Rudder Downhaul	The control line that enables you to pull the rudder into place
Rudder Pintle	The fitting on the transom onto which the rudder stock fits
Rudder Stock	The top part of the rudder, usually including the tiller, into which the
	rudder blade fits, and which then attaches to the rudder pintle
Run	To 'run with the wind', or to sail in the direction that the wind is blowing
S	
Safety-Boat Cover	Support boats, usually RIBs, in case of emergency
Sail	An area of material attached to the boat that uses the wind to
	create forward motion
Sailmaker	A manufacturer of sails
Sail Number	The unique number allocated to a boat, displayed on the sail when racing
Sail Pressure	A sail has 'pressure' when it is working with the wind to create motion
Sailing Regatta	An event that usually comprises of a number of sailing races
Shackle	A metal fitting for attaching ropes to blocks, etc.
Shackle Key	Small key used to undo tight shackles
Sheet	A rope that controls a sail
Shroud	The wires that are attached to the mast and the hull, holding
	the mast up
Side Safety Line	The line that runs along the side of the hull
	5
Single Handed	To sail a boat alone



Slider	Sliding fitting on the boom to which the gnav bar is attached
Soundings	The numbers on a chart showing depth
Spars	The poles, usually carbon or aluminium, to which the sail is attached
Spreaders	Metal fittings attached to the mast which hold the shrouds out
Spring Tide	The tides with the biggest range and strongest currents
Starboard.	The right-hand side of the boat, when facing forwards
Stern	The back of the boat
Stern Lifting Handles	The handles at the stern, used for lifting the boat
Stopper Knot	A form of knot used to prevent a rope from sliding through a
	fitting, such as a pulley or a cleat

Т

Tack	a) To change direction by turning the bow of the boat through the wind
Iden	
	b) The bottom front corner of a sail
Tack Bar	The bar at the bow of the hull, to which the tack of the jib is attached
Tack Line	The rope that emerges from the front of the gennaker pole, to which
	the tack of the gennaker is attached
Tender	A small vessel, usually used to transport crew to a larger vessel
Tidal height	The depth of water above chart datum
Tidal range	The difference between the depth of water at low and high tide
Tidal stream	The direction in which the tide is flowing
Tiller	The stick attached to the rudder, used to steer the boat
Tiller Extension	A pole attached to the tiller to extend its reach, usually used when hiking
Toe Straps	The straps to tuck your feet under when you lean out to balance the boat.
Top Furling Unit	Fitting at the top of the forestay which enables the jib to be furled
Towing Line	A rope attached to the boat, used to connect to a towing vessel
Transit	An imaginary line between two fixed objects, used to ensure that
	you are staying on course
Transom	The vertical surface at the back of the boat
Trim	Keeping the boat level fore and aft
Trimaran	A boat with three hulls
Trolley	A wheeled structure, used to move the boat around on land
Trolley Supports	The part of the trolley in direct contact with the hull



U

A term derived from the act of 'weighing' anchor, meaning to be in motion
To sail against the direction in which the wind is blowing
Neoprene sailing suit designed to keep you warm when wet
The part of the boat closest to the direction in which the wind is blowing