

How to haul your boat at Grainger's Point

Hauling a boat should be easy, and is – if you follow these steps. There need to be two of you on board.

Preparation

Your cradle's front and rear arms ('horns') must be adjusted to meet your boat's dimensions. The front horns will act as a 'stop' to prevent you going too far ahead. The rear arms must be wide enough to allow the greatest width (beam) of your boat to pass through.

Your cradle needs a mark (coloured tape) on the front starboard arm so the Yard Foreman knows how far to submerge the cradle. That mark is placed to correspond with the height from your keel to the waterline.

Haul Time

You will be given a time for your Haul. At this time you must be ready for the Haul to start.

Arrival

A successful Haul depends on you being on time and attached, correctly to the East pole.

Approach (black arrow) the east pole (marked **E**) allowing for the steady tidal flow (red arrow) from east to west. On the pole you will find a white rope. Attach this to the cleat on your starboard stern side, and **tie off**, as close to the pole as you can. Stop your engine.

Waiting

You need to be tied to the pole, and waiting, at the time you are told you will be hauled. *Allow enough time!*

Preparing for the cradle

The key to the Haul are the white and blue ropes. Remember always these are 'fed into' your boat at the stern and bows and, once you are snugly in the cradle, they are released and thrown into the water.

Take the loose end of the white rope (call for slack from the Yard Foreman if necessary - he is at the purple arrow) and feed most of the white rope into your cockpit.

Drape more of the white rope along the starboard side of your boat and through the fairlead on your bows and **make fast**. There should be about 2 metres of white rope left (lying in the water) until the blue rope starts. The blue rope pulls you onto the cradle.

Your cradle will soon be moving down the ramp.

Entering the cradle

You enter the cradle by carefully easing the white rope from your cockpit as the Haulout Team pull on the blue rope.

When you untie the white rope from your stern cleat, take a couple of turns round the cleat: you won't be able to hold the boat without those turns.

At the bows

Your second hand will guide the boat onto the cradle. Avoid snagging the pulpit and its fittings on the cradle's arms.

When in the cradle ...

Your need to do three things to stop your boat from falling backwards as you go up the ramp.

Attach a rope to each forward horn with a bowline and take it aft to your winches; tension each rope firmly. These horn lines should be roughly horizontal to obtain maximum advantage.

At the bows, take the line attached to the front of the trolley (now underwater), lead it over your bows and attach firmly, with about 150mm slack (see photo right, black arrow shoes bow rope).

The blue and white ropes

These can be released from your boat when you receive the instruction from the Yard Foreman. The ropes will be pulled in by the Haulout Team.

