

To ensure proper operation, read these instructions carefully and completely before using the Mast Stepper III. The Mast Stepper III can be used with your Hobie Getaway catamaran on or off the trailer. If on the trailer, your trailer winch is used for power. If your trailer is not equipped with a winch, one can be purchased from your local dealer. For off-trailer, use of a block and tackle is necessary (Mainsheet system).

**HARDWARE INSTALLATION** The Mast Stepper III requires a few hardware installations on your boat.

A) Install the loop tangs in the forward crossbar castings. 4 threaded holes are present in the end casting. Use the lower / forward hole (Figure A / Starboard shown with wing leg in place). Bolt into place using the provided hex bolts. Position the tang with the loop facing up.



Figure A

B) Detach the furler system from the bridles. Position and attach the furler to the lower end of the jib as in its normal sailing position. Install the short stainless plate in the bottom of the jib furler. The plate sits either to the side of the forestay adjuster or between the two plates and pins in place using the same clevis pin used to hold the forestay plate in place. This plate must protrude below the bottom of the furler drum. This is used to attach to the stepper pole.



Figures B

## USING THE MAST STEPPER III

**CAUTION: LOOK FOR AND BE AWARE OF OVERHEAD POWER LINES WHEN STEPPING THE MAST. MAST CONTACT WITH AN OVERHEAD POWER LINE COULD CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR EVEN DEATH!**

1) Position the boat and trailer on level ground. If there is some slope, position the bow of the boat downhill. Best if the trailer is attached to a tow vehicle during stepping.



2) Place the mast in position and insert hinge pin. NEVER ATTEMPT TO RAISE THE MAST WITHOUT A HINGE PIN IN PLACE. Mast should be centered on the trampoline.

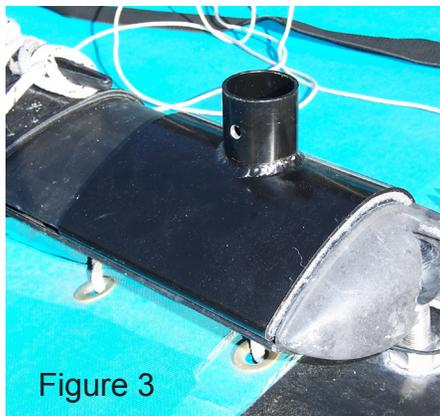


Figure 3



3) Place the Mast Stepper III adapter on top of the mast at the base as shown in (Figure 3). The fit of the adapter will hold the mast in rotation while stepping. The mast may be rotated to left or right. Fasten the shock cord loop around the adapter post, around the mast and back to the post. This will hold the adapter tightly to the mast.



Figure 4

4) Place the stepper pole vertical onto the adapter \*\* with the eye strap on the pole facing aft. Pin the pole to the adapter using the carriage pin provided.

**Note:** The stepper's line system has a sail slug at one end and two loops tied about a third of the way along the lines (the pole side-to-side bridles end at the loops). The mast bridles to prevent side to side swing extends from these loops to the sail slug.

5) Shackle the pole side-to-side bridle line "loops" to the tangs installed (Figure A) using two of the provided shackles. If a seat is installed, position the seat in the sailing position. Route the lines over the strut then down and in front of the wing leg as shown in figure 5.

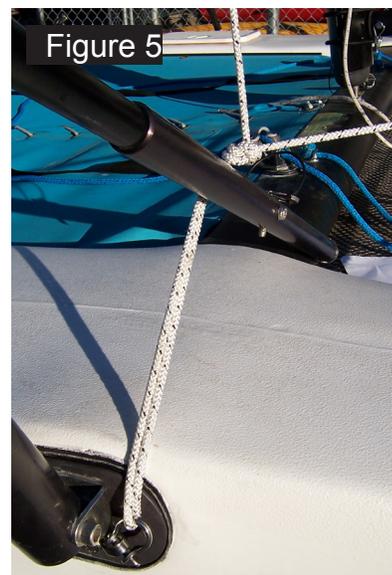


Figure 5



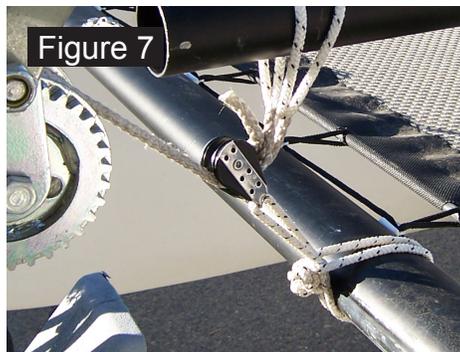
Figure 6

6) Slide the plastic slug into the mast track and fasten the halyard to the two bowline loops. Hoist the halyard until both sets of bridle lines (mast and pole) are snug. Tie off the halyard to hold. These lines will get tighter as the mast is raised, so they

should be loose enough to be stretched further, but tight enough to hold the mast from swinging left or right during stepping. Adjust the lines at the pole end if one side appears to be looser than the other. This slack depends on the rotation of the mast. You may want to mark (in some way) one side of the system for use on starboard or port in the future.



7) The mast stand with winch must be about a foot forward of the bow spreader bar. This insures that the pole will not contact the mast stand when it swings forward to raise the mast. The winch **MUST NOT** pull the pole out away from the mast. If the winch is used without the small block attached to the spreader or mast stand, the winch needs to be positioned below the bow spreader and in a direct line with the forestay when the mast is upright. Add the provided turning block in this position on the mast stand or to the bow spreader itself to accomplish the same required line angle. The trailer winch must have a line that can be passed through the Harken 082 bullet block. (Mast upright position shown in figure 7)



If the block and line are used, loop around the center of the bow spreader directly below the furler position.

8) Attach the winch line to the stepper pole. The winch line attaches to the double loop of line around the pole that extends forward of the stainless eye strap. Must attach to both line loops. This double loop is tethered to the eye strap to keep it from sliding off the end of the pole during stepping.



9) Attach the bottom of the furler drum to the pole's eye strap using one of the provided shackles (Figure 9).

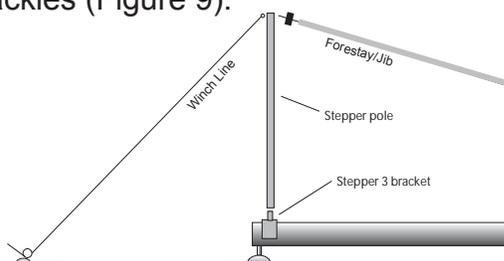


Figure 10

FORESTAY AND POLE BRIDLES CONNECT TO TOP OF POLE

- 10) You now have the pole upright.
- Connected to the winch line.
  - Connected to the forestay / furler.
  - Connected to the two side-to-side bridles.

Check all lines and knots. Check the halyard to be sure it is hoisted and cleated securely to hold the left-right swing prevention bridles snug (Figure 10).

11) Caution: **Confirm that there are no overhead wires or obstructions above the boat that will cause danger during the stepping process.** Using the winch, hoist the mast to the vertical position. Watch the mast for left-right swing. Adjust lines if necessary. Never stand behind the boat and under the mast while stepping.

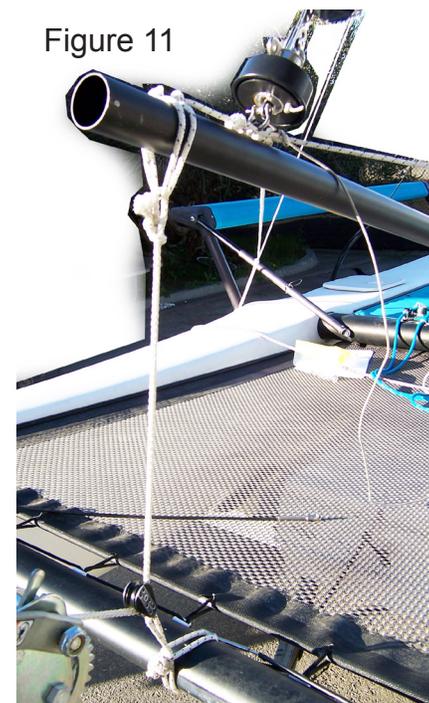


Figure 11



Figure 12

12) Tension winch to hold mast in the upright position. Attach the bridle wires to the furler drum.

This system will allow you to complete the mast wire tensioning at this point. If the boats wires are properly tensioned before the mast was lowered, the tension will be restored at this time. If not, refer to the boat manual for proper rig tensioning using the shroud adjustments.

Remove the pole system for sailing.

Stepping the mast down requires reversing the instructions.

**Cautions:** The boat must be held in position on the trailer so the winch line, when tensioned, does not pull the boat forward. Hobie Cat kit# 37650300 Bow Brace is designed to attach to the mast stand and hold the boat in position via two "V" blocks resting against the bow spreader.



# 3156 - Mast Stepper III (Lines)

RS5156BLK - (1) 3 FEET LOOP, HOG RING, SHRINK TUBE

- A) RH316WHT - (1) 34 INCHES LOOP WITH H082
- B) RH316WHT - (1) 38 INCHES TIED TO POLE END
- C) RH316WHT - (2) 22 FEET TIED TO POLE END / 11" LOOP ADDED AS BELOW

