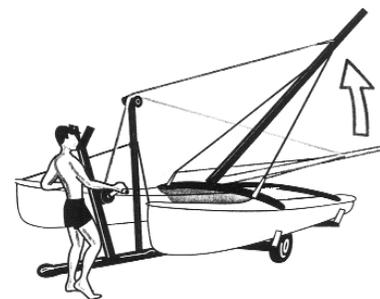


The most important consideration in using the MAST STEPPER is proper initial installation. Please follow the instructions carefully.

Initial Installation

A. It is easiest to do this installation with the mast up. Position the boat on the trailer in its normal "secured for trailering" position. Tie downs must be attached any time the mast stepper is going to be used. The boat must not move.

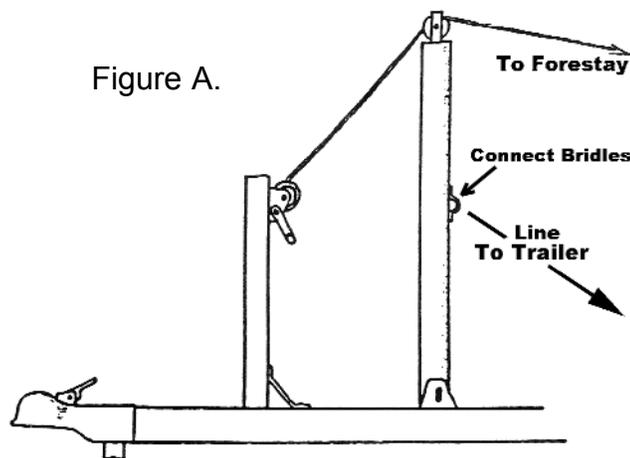


B. Place the gin pole in the stainless gin pole step fitting and set on trailer tongue as shown in Figure A. The eye strap and open "luff" track face aft and towards the bridle wires. Hold the gin pole up and perpendicular to the trailer tongue. Slide the gin pole assembly fore or aft until the track or eye strap on the gin pole nearly touches the bridle wires center connection point (*Hobie 17 standard rig: position the gin pole 5'6" in front of the boat's front cross bar*). Mark the trailer tongue at the front and back of the gin pole step fitting.

C. Remove the gin pole assembly from the trailer tongue. Remove the gin pole step fitting from the gin pole. Place the gin pole step fitting back onto the trailer tongue, position (slot opening forward) then drill (3/16" drill bit) and rivet it in place using the rivits provided.

D. Mount gin pole onto step fitting once again. Loosen the screws holding the eye strap in the gin pole enough to reposition it. Position at the bridle connection point and re-tighten the eye strap. Shackle the bridle(s) to the eye strap with the shackle provided in the kit. (*H-17 standard rig disregard*).

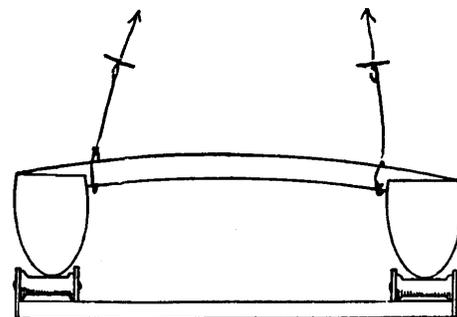
Figure A.



Using the Mast Stepper (With gin pole assembly in place as above)

1. Attach the 10' "gin pole restraining line" (provided with kit) to the gin pole bridle eye strap. Tie the other end to the trailer at the center, near your boats front crossbar. This will hold the gin pole in place while completing preparations (when mast is down) and while raising or lowering the mast. (*H-17 standard: attach the center of the 10' line to the pole eye strap and the other ends as outboard as possible on the trailer one to each side. Attach another line [not provided] to the eye strap and then forward to the trailer mast support*).

2. Tie the mast "anti-swing" lines (2 each 5 foot lines provided with kit) to one trap wire on each side of the mast, using a bowline knot through the trapeze wire thimbles. Bring the mast "anti-swing lines" to the outer edges of the front crossbar and tie off (*H-14 and 16 tie to pylon posts*) leaving very little slack. These lines will loosen when bringing a mast down. (*They will tighten when raising a mast, so leave a little more slack to allow mast to rotate to upright position.*)



Caution: Obviously the mast will topple if it is not held up during this next procedure so... Have someone hold a trapeze wire or halyard at either bow (or tie to bow tang). This will keep the mast up while the bridles are disconnected from the forestay.

3. Using one of the trapeze wires or a halyard line, pull the mast forward and hold / tie off to keep mast upright while disconnecting the forestay from the bridles and hooking it onto the winch line. *(have one shroud placed in the top hole of it's adjuster to allow enough slack in the rig to pin or unpin the forestay when the mast is stepped on Hobie Getaway, 17, 18, 20 models.)* Connect the forestay to the winch using the other shackle provided with the kit then route the rope/wire over the roller on the gin pole (H-17: attach to end of one bridle wire). The winch should be as high up on the forward mast trailing support as possible to reduce the strain on the rope/wire/pole. That strain can inhibit the gin pole roller from turning.

Note: The gin pole, as shipped, may be so tall that it is difficult to route the rope/wire over the roller. The gin pole can be cut shorter, however, it should extend at least 3'6" higher than the boat's front crossbar. (The higher the better for leverage on the mast)

4. Getaway, H-17 and H-20 : Attach an 8' line to rotater arm (H-17 Sport: to end of base casting) and tie off to gin pole to force mast to 90 degree rotation for stepping. Place the 8" x 8" carpet pad onto cross bar under rotater arm next to mast.

5. Use the winch to lower the mast for the first time. If the mast begins to swing left or right more than 3 feet (at the tip) in either direction as it is lowered, stop and re-tie the anti-swing lines. *(When raising the mast, do not over-tighten as they will become more tight as the mast goes up. Be sure all wires are clear and do not catch on boat or trailer as the mast goes up.)*

6. Turn the winch until the mast is in the fully down position. Be sure mast is properly supported and not left resting on the rear crossbar or tiller crossbar.

7. Remove the gin pole and lines prior to trailering.

Mast Stepping (position mast to step and mast base pin / link as normal)

S1. Support mast at rear of boat. Tie trap wires "anti-swing lines" per **Instruction #2** but with a little slack.

S2. Install gin pole. Attach bridles to eye strap. (except H-17 standard)

S3. Getaway, H-17 and H-20 : Attach an 8' line to rotater arm (H-17 Sport: to end of base casting) and tie off to gin pole to force mast to 90 degree rotation for stepping. Place the 8" x 8" carpet pad onto cross bar under rotater arm next to mast.

S4. Attach winch rope to forestay then reverse the procedure followed in **Instruction #6, then 5 and 4** until mast is up. *(Raise the mast with the winch. Be sure the rope/wire comes over the gin pole roller.)*

S5. Reverse procedure followed in **Instruction #3**, support mast while forestay is connected to bridles.

(revised 10/21/2003 mm)

