



Bridle Plate Mooring System Guidelines

Congratulations on your purchase! You have purchased the finest mooring system available for your boat. We, at Colligo, have come up with some usage guidelines to ensure that you will be getting the most from your mooring system.

[Lines](#)

If you have not purchased the mooring lines available from us make sure that the lines you do have are suitable for your boat length and displacement. Also make sure that the lines are up to the weather conditions at your mooring, i.e. if your mooring location has wave conditions, large loads can be put on your mooring lines and these need to be considered when selecting lines. Nylon is the preferred material for mooring lines because of its superior stretch properties, absorbing some of the load before it gets to your boat. 3 strand nylon is good, double braid nylon is better. Your lines will be in the sun so they also need UV protection. You also need adequate Chafe protection at the chocks and/or anywhere else your tensioned lines come in contact with your boat.

Line length should allow for two connection points to your boat for each line. One should be at your primary cleats and another at either secondary cleats farther aft or to halyard winches. Our lines that we provide are 40 feet long to make this easy. The extra length also means that as the mooring ends get worn you can cut them and have them re-spliced and continue using them until they get too short.

Splicing should be professionally done with proper whipping of the splice. Make sure to use good quality stainless steel or hot dipped Galvanized thimbles. The provided 5/8 inch shackles can handle up to 1 inch line with thimbles. Our lines also have an eye splice on the boat end which makes it easy to place on the secondary cleat or halyard winch.

Make sure your cleats are sized to your line! Too small of a cleat will not hold the line adequately and will probably not hold the load and pull out.

[Setting up your system](#)

1. When setting up your system, begin by connecting the lines to the plate with the shackles thru the thimble eye splice. It is good practice to lubricate the threads on each shackle with some machine oil before assembly- you will appreciate this extra step when you take the system apart next time. The shackles are to be placed in the smaller 3/4 inch holes in the plate. Align the shackle pins such that

- the head of each pin is on the same side of the plate, facing upward. See picture provided. This alignment is to ensure the heads of each pin do not come in contact with the mooring ball and possibly loosening the pins (not probable but better to be safe here). Use a large screwdriver and a crescent wrench and tighten the shackles. Next, seize the shackle with monel seizing wire, being careful to route the wire so it will not get pinched between the shackle and plate and cause a fracture in the wire. If you have purchased our safety system, make sure to tighten the nut on the pin with a wrench and insert and bend over the cotter pin, once the nut is tightened. It is important to tighten the nut sufficiently, this locks it to the pin. The cotter pin is there as a safety measure in case the nut comes loose.
2. Attach the Swivel to the Bridle Plate such that the head of the pin is on the same side and the heads of the shackle pins, tighten and seize the pin. If you have purchased our safety system, make sure to tighten the nut on the pin with a wrench and insert and bend over the cotter pin, once the nut is tightened. It is important to tighten the nut sufficiently, this locks it to the pin. The cotter pin is there as a safety measure in case the nut comes loose. The swivel goes in the larger 1" hole in the plate. Oil the threads prior to attaching.
 3. Now cleat each line to your boat, allowing enough length to attach the swivel to the mooring system. Take care to run the lines around any hardware on the boat such that each tensioned line has a clear path to the mooring ball from the chock. Also make sure that the lines are attached such that the Bridle Plate has all of the heads of the pin facing upward. Again this will help to minimize any interference with the pins.
 4. Attach the swivel to the mooring and tighten the pin with a large screwdriver and crescent wrench-machine oil here is also a good idea. Once the pin is tight seize it with monel wire. If you have purchased our safety system, make sure to tighten the nut on the pin with a wrench and insert and bend over the cotter pin, once the nut is tightened. It is important to tighten the nut sufficiently, this locks it to the pin. The cotter pin is there as a safety measure in case the nut comes loose.
 5. Now, back on the boat, adjust each line until the mooring buoy is 4-5 feet in front of the center of the boat. This is a good general distance from the mooring ball, however you need to set the distance for your boat type and harbor conditions. Longer lines offer a greater chance of getting a line under the mooring ball and this can cause premature failure of the line. Shorter lines mean less scope from the ball, less line to absorb any shock loads and, the mooring float could potentially damage your boat. The line length from the mooring ball needs to be balanced with the conditions that exist in your mooring location. We suggest that you set the boat up with your best guess and monitor the system for a few days to make sure everything is working well for the given conditions and any future conditions.
 6. Adjust any Chafe guards per manufacturers recommendations.
 7. The Bridle Plate Mooring System weighs 10 -12 lbs depending on which system you purchase, make sure the buoyancy of your mooring float can accommodate this weight along with the weight of your Mooring chain.

8. Inspect your mooring system often.

We highly recommend that you attach the Bridle Plate System on your mooring, below the mooring ball, directly to the mooring chain. Any hardware on the top of your mooring ball runs the risk of damaging your boat.

Safe Working Loads

Swivel	8,000 lbs
Shackles	6,500 lbs
Galvanized Bridle Plate	12,000 lbs
Stainless Steel Bridle Plate	10,000 lbs

****Never exceed the safe working load of the system components!**



**Multihull system shown.

Again congratulations on the purchase of your new Bridle Plate Mooring System!

If you have any questions please visit our web site or contact us at jfranta@colligoengineering.com.

The information in this document is meant as a guideline only. The function of the Bridle Plate Mooring System is highly dependant on the methods of installation and Colligo Engineering and Design, LLC cannot be responsible for an improperly installed system. The Safe Working Load of the system must never be exceeded for proper function of the Bridle Plate Mooring System.

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