

Stern Traveler System

The purpose of any traveler system is to control the shape of the main sail in changing wind conditions. In hard winds or puffs you want to be able to achieve a flatter sail. In light winds you want a fuller sail shape. A convenient traveler system makes these adjustments easy as winds fluctuate.

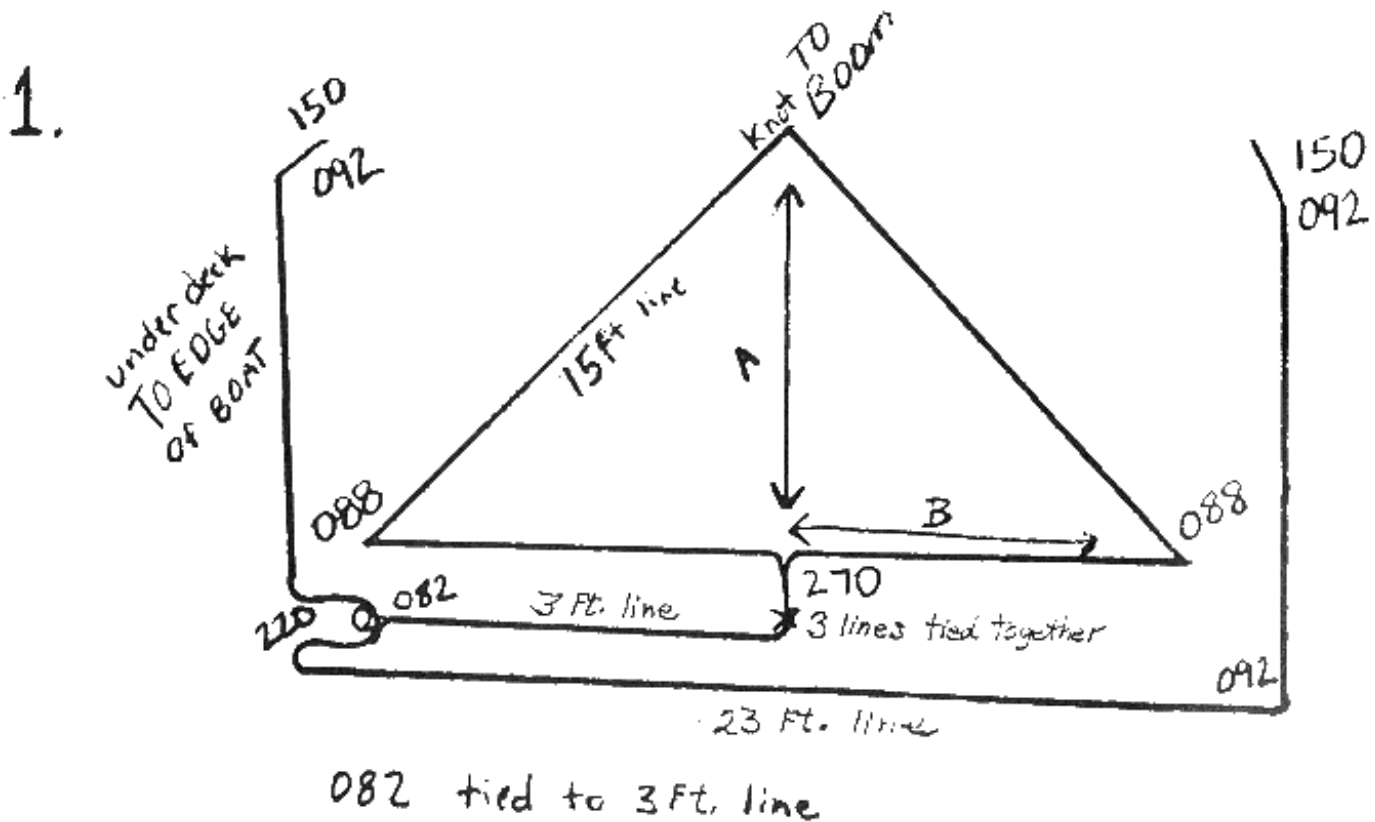
When a strong puff hits you normally let out the main sheet. The boom goes out and up, twisting the sail. With a traveler you can let the boom out and not up. By doing this you keep the main flatter, the boat leaning less, and the crew happier by not needing to hike as hard.

As the puff hits bring the main sheet in, traveler out, and make sure the vang is tight. The boom goes down and out, keeping the sail flat causing less heeling motion. In light wind keep the traveler at center and mainsheet looser and vang off. This will keep a fuller pocket in the main and the boat moving forward rather than stalling.

The most convenient traveler system I have used is the one that came with my new McLaughlin. There are two main sections to this traveler system. The first is a triangle adjusted to the height of the boom. The triangle should be as tall or as loose as possible, still being able to bring the boom downward to tighten the leach of the main in a stiff breeze. (See distance "A" on diagram 1.)

The second part of my traveler system is to allow the triangle to go a specific distance away from the center. (Distance "B" on diagram.) In order to effectively use the traveler, the controls must be very accessible. My cleats are between myself and my crew on the inside edge of the boat. This spot was picked so I would not need to twist around or trade hands to adjust for a puff and my crew can also help.

When installing this traveler system keep in mind convenience and ease of control. Here is a list of parts needed and a diagram (diagram 2) on how to make this traveler.



HARKEN PART NUMBERS:

- 1-150 cleat
- 3-092 cleat
- 2-088 cleat
- 1-082 cleat
- 1-220 cleat
- (2-092's may be substituted)

3/16 TO 5/16 LINE:

- 3 foot length
- 15 foot length
- 23 foot length
- _____
- 41 feet total

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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2.

Above Deck
(mounted sideways)
2 - 150, 2 - 092

Thru Deck
2 - 088

Under Deck
220, 092, 270

