



CoolBoat

Sleep better on a cool boat.

HOW TO CONFIGURE, SET-UP AND
USE YOUR PORTABLE, STOWABLE
COOBOAT AC ADAPTER.

Relax, you'll soon have a cool boat.

What is all this stuff?

Please find included in your Cool Boat package:

- The CoolBoat Base, with Hinged tTop
- The left and right Side pPieces
- The cool/warm Return Divider piece
- The canvas "Rain Hat"
- The strut location measuring piece
- Miscellaneous Stop and Guide pieces
- White Waterproofing Fabric

What about the Air Conditioner*?

The opening of an assembled CoolBoat is 16-1/4 inches wide by 12-1/4 inches high. A typical 5000 BTU window unit (without the side slide-outs and top slide bracket) is 16 inches wide by 12 inches high. A snug fit. That's why it's important to buy a compatible AC unit.*

CoolBoat has a notch on the Port side vertical to accommodate the power cord, though unnecessary if the power cord is routed down inside hatch. (assuming the "front" end of the AC faces aft)

It is also necessary that the AC Unit used has the cool air vent horizontal across the top on the face of the air conditioner.

** A large percentage of 5K BTU /115V AC units seem to fall into the 12H x 16W x 15D dimensions. But beyond the major brands, there are hundreds of sub-brands and even then, some of the major brands have a few odd-ball configurations in the mix. It is way harder than it should be to shop online for a 5Kk BTU window unit.*

The Height and Width regularly refer to measurements that include the side expander/adjuster hardware. Not helpful. Some oddball units don't have vertical facings and/or put the controls on top. Not good.

Setting up your CoolBoat

- Slide your CoolBoat out of its vinyl storage bag and remove the storage strap.
- Set the triangular side pieces and the thin, angled flow divider aside and grab the CoolBoat base by the hand hole and slide it under the raised hatch and over the hatch opening.
- Slide the beveled front edge up as far as it will go under the raised hatch opening.
- Take a few moments to check hatch base overlap, fit under the raised hatch hinge and anything that interferes with good overlapping.

Before you Start

I can't stress enough how challenging it has been to design this product so that it hopefully can work well on nearly every boat hatch that will be encountered. .

Measuring for hatch Lift Struts.



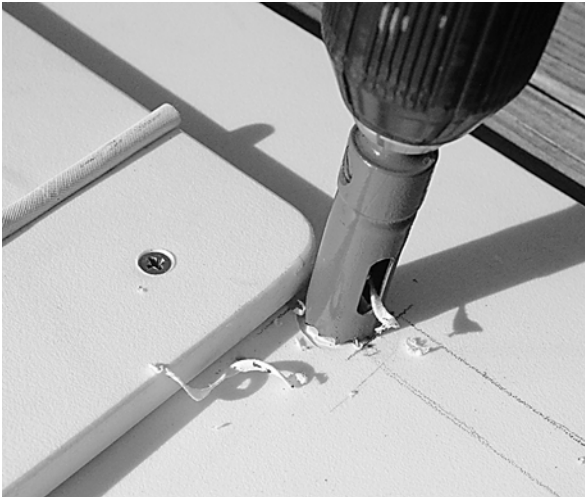
- With the beveled front edge up as far as it will go under the raised hatch opening, use a pencil to mark the width of the hatch strut on the flat top of the CoolBoat base piece.
- Next, find the long, thin plastic strip with one beveled end in the Misc. parts bag.
- With the hatch raised to the same approximate angle of the CoolBoat front panel, position the "pointy" end of the plastic strip snugly up under the hinge-end of the raised hatch.



- Mark the side of the plastic strip to indicate the strut position with the hatch raised.
- Lay the plastic strip flat on top of the flat CoolBoat with the "pointy" end lined up with the front beveled edge of the base. Mark the parallel lines of the strut width to indicate the strut penetration farthest from the hatch hinge. The width of the lines and the "back" line indicate where you will drill a hole.

Customizing your CoolBoat for hatch lifts

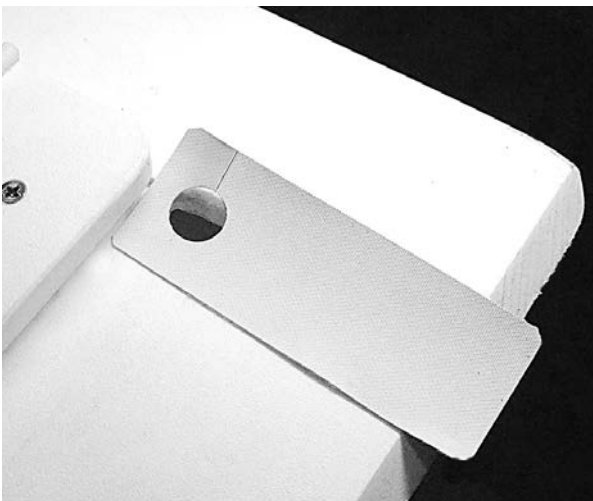
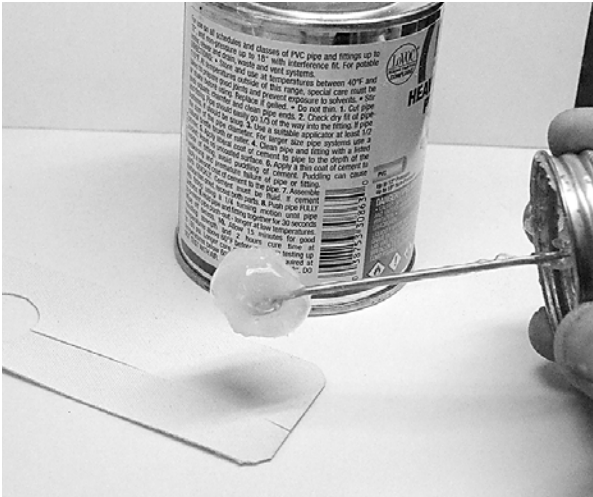
Drilling & Cutting



- You'll need a drill bit the approximate diameter of the strut. Wood-type bits like a Forstner bit, or a very sharp Spade bit or a hole cutter. Spiral bits don't cut as cleanly and tend to dance around before they start. If you wind up using a spiral bit drill a quarter-in pilot hole first.
- Drill a hole through the CoolBoat base per your measurement. If the hole interferes with the hinge base piece, there's more than an inch of overlap before it would cause any leak problems.
- Cut along the lines you created for the Strut entry. Pretty much any sharp, thin saw that will cut straight will work: hacksaw, carpenter's saw, sabre saw, or oscillating saw with an appropriate blade will work.
- When you've made your cut, check it for fit and possible interference.
- Use a utility knife, medium sandpaper or similar to clean up the edges.

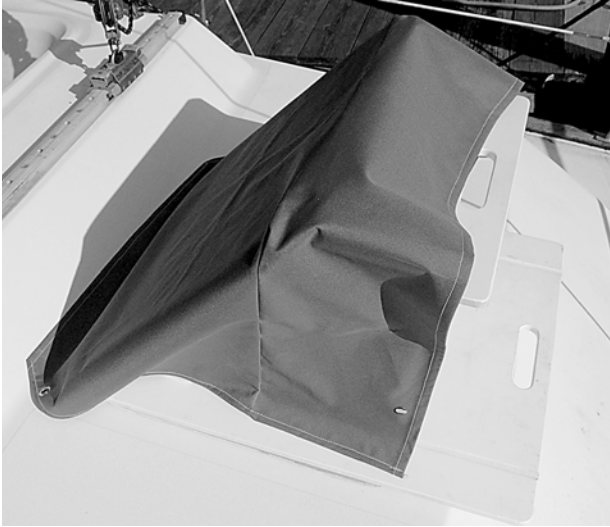
Keeping the weather out and the cool in.

Gaskets, flaps and rain hats



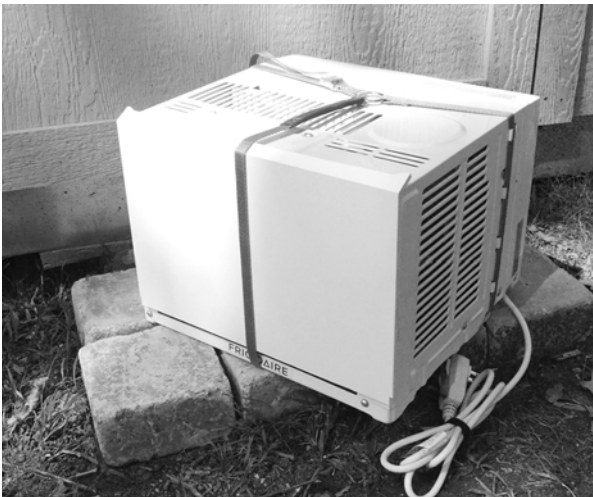
- There is a good sized piece of white weatherproof fabric included in the kit. It is the same weatherproofing that covers the stainless steel piano hinges. It is fierce stuff. I will not tear or rot and it can be glued anywhere on the CoolBoat PVC body.
- There are probably 200 different strut and lift arrangement on boat hatches. The next step is to come up with a workable solution for your particular setup. There are a couple of ways you can go about this.
- Probably the most straightforward approach is to use clear or white silicon caulk as your means of fastening. Upside is that silicon caulk is easy to find and, if you are carefull, not too messy. It takes a while to dry and with a bit of force, be removed.
- The second approach is to use a small can of CLEAR vinyl cement (like used on PVC pumbing) you can find in hardware or "big box" building stores. You don't need the purple primer, and you don't want to use the orange or grey cement. That can get ugly real quick. Careful application will result in a strong bond that will not never come off.
- In the bag with the instructions are a couple of thin, square PVC pieces. These can be used to create "stops" to keep things from moving. Boats are kinda rocky-rolly, especially around busy docks. When you get your CoolBoat setup to your satisfaction, it is wise to screw down a piece on the bottom of your CoolBoat at the latching end to keep it snug up under the hatch. Depending on the AC units configuration, you should also be able to put a stop on the bottom next to the reinforcemnet where the unit would rest on a window sill.

The Rain Hat



- The Rain Hat can be snapped onto the base to limit water intrusion when it rains. It fits loosely due to the limitless possibilities that exist with hatch sizes and configurations. It has a pair of large grommets near the hatch hinge area which can be secured by bungees or line to keep it from lifting or the whole thing blowing away.
- This isn't a guarantee that water can't occur during really nasty wind and heavy rain. But with good strut gasketing and attention to details it should keep things dry.

The AC unit carrying strap



- The carrying strap is fairly straightforward. Position the Lift Ring on the top about 3 inches right of center (looking from the rear). Guide the 1/2" blue strap on the ring to the right side and down to the bottom. Bring it under the bottom and over to the left side. Continue to bring the blue strap up to the top and over the spring gripper. Feed the loose end up through the bottom of the gripper and loosely tighten it some. Make sure the strap is running flat across the bottom and up the sides. Now secure the strap into the into the metal "notches" on both sides. You should be able to push one side of the strap and then the other. Once all this is done, pull UP on the strap through the gripper while while rotating the free end of the strap in an arc to the left. Repeat a couple of times to get it nice and tight.
- The strap material is rated @ 700 lbs
- The lifting ring can be used to attach a "safety line" or for lifting with a halyard.