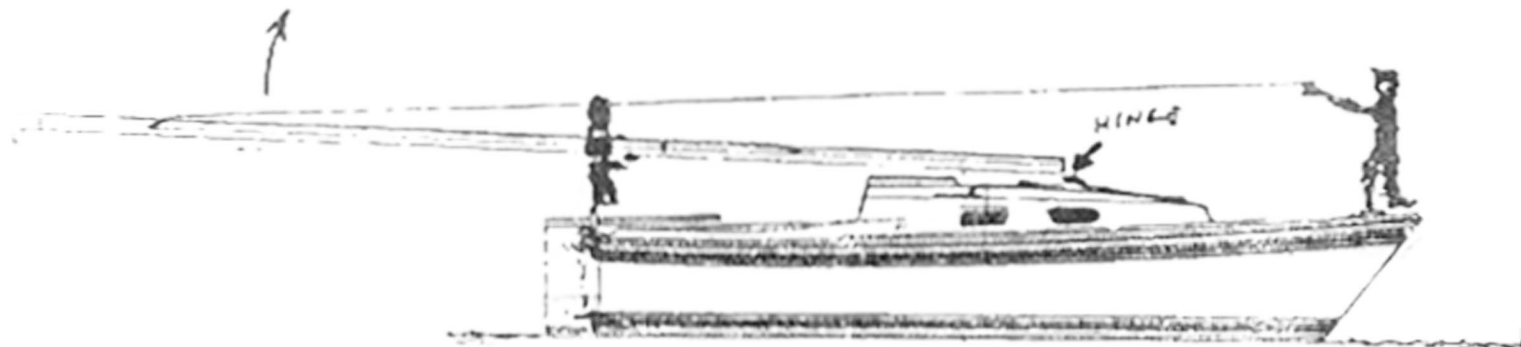


STEPPING THE MAST

BEFORE STEPPING THE MAST, BE SURE TO CHECK FOR OVERHEAD POWER LINES! Before raising the mast, be sure that both ends of the halyards are secured near the base of the mast and that both ends of the jib halyard and spinnaker halyard, if you have one, are forward of the main spreaders, and that the wire part of the main halyard is aft of the main spreaders and the rope part is forward of the spreaders. This will avoid having to straighten them up after the mast is up.



The mast should be approximately plumb to the waterline and should not lean over the bow or over the stern. The forestay and backstay should be carried quite snug. The tension between the upper and lower side stays, or shrouds, should be adjusted so the mast is straight athwartships when sailing in a good breeze. In general, the shrouds should always be kept rather taut, but they do not have to be exceptionally tight.

CAUTION: When your mast is up, check before moving the boat around, particularly when it is still on its trailer, to make certain there are no overhead power lines, or other wires which may come in contact with the mast or rigging. Each year fatalities occur due to electrocution caused by mast and power lines making contact.

To raise your mast, locate the mast on the cabin top with the masthead out over the stern, and the mast foot on the foredeck. Attach the backstay to the eye on the aft deck. Attach either both upper shrouds or both lower shrouds to the chainplates on the side deck. The uppers go to the outboard holes the lowers to the inboard holes. Standing in the stern, lift the mast and move it aft, having a second person hold the mast foot down. Mate the mast foot to the tabernacle on the deck by inserting the pin near the bottom of the mast into the slot in the tabernacle. Once engaged, push the mast forward and upward into a vertical position. The second person can then connect the forestay to the upper hole at the bow. Once this connection is made, the mast will be stable and will stand by itself, and the remaining shrouds can be attached to the hull at your leisure.