



Anchoring Tips

1. **Suitable Location:** Choose a location to anchor where you will be sheltered from the wind, where the bottom composition is compatible with your anchor and where there is adequate room so as to not contact neighbouring vessels.
2. **Secure the Rode:** fasten the inboard end of the anchor line to a secure point on the vessel, and securely fasten the anchor line to the anchor.
3. **Slow Approach:** Approach your spot slowly while heading directly into the wind and put your vessel in reverse when you are over the desired location.
4. **Lower the Anchor:** Just as the boat begins to move in reverse, lower the anchor to the bottom and gradually pay out the rode (line/chain).
5. **Proper Scope:** After you have let out the rode to a minimum scope of 3:1 (rode length = $3 \times (\text{anchor depth} + \text{freeboard})$), secure the line to a cleat and allow the anchor to bite into the bottom. Once you have a bite, pay out more rode to allow a preferred scope of 5:1 or greater. Keep in mind that too much scope may cause you to contact neighbouring boats as the boat swings on anchor.
6. **Check the Set:** Check the set of the anchor by monitoring your position relative to two fixed objects abeam. Keep an eye out for any change in your bearing between these objects. If you are in doubt then back down against the anchor rode slowly to see if you slip out of position.
7. **Monitor your Position:** Turn off your engine and continue monitoring your position until you are satisfied it is safe to leave the boat unattended.

Tip: Consider using a trip line in areas where there are sunken logs or debris on the bottom.

Weighing Anchor

1. **Forward Slow:** Go forward slowly taking in the anchor rode to prevent fouling your propellers.
2. **Stow line as you go:** When you approach the spot directly over your anchor it will usually free itself from the bottom.
3. **Snub a sticky Anchor:** If the anchor refuses to break free then snub the line around a forward cleat and advance the boat a few feet or run the boat slowly in a wide circle.