



ANCHORING

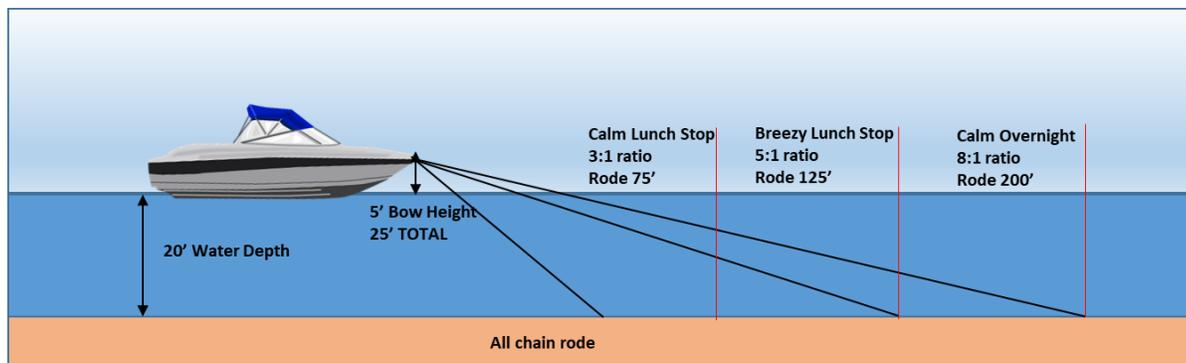
ANCHOR SCOPE CALCULATION

Scope is the amount of rode (chain or nylon or a combination of both) you deploy from your vessel to the anchor resting on the seabed.

Using a depth sounder, chartplotter or paper navigational charts determine the depth of the water. Add the height of the bow roller above water. For an all chain rode multiply by 3 for a day stop in light to moderate winds. This is a 3:1 SCOPE RATIO. For a chain/nylon combined rode consider a 5:1 SCOPE RATIO for a day stop in light to moderate winds. For overnight visits consider increasing scope to 8:1 SCOPE RATIO.

Example: You plan to anchor in 20 feet of water, and your bow roller height is 5 feet above the water for a total of 25 feet. Multiply by 3 to calculate you need 75 feet of rode to anchor.

Nearly all anchor dragging or inability to set the anchor is because of too little scope. Knowing the maximum length of your rode will determine the maximum depth you can anchor.



DETERMINE BOTTOM TYPE

Different anchors perform better in different bottom types. Most chartplotters and navigational charts will denote the bottom type. Sand, mud and clay are generally good. Rocks and seaweed can prove challenging.

ANCHORING TIPS & ETIQUETTE

Observe other anchored vessels – When entering an anchorage observe the direction other vessels on anchor and position your boat in the same manner before deploying anchor

Avoid anchoring on a lee shore – where the wind is pushing you onto the beach and the seas have fetch to build.

Avoid anchoring too close to someone – allow for ample space to avoid laying your anchor on top of someone else and to allow sufficient space between vessels. The first vessel to anchor has rights. It is up to every other vessel that arrives later to avoid collisions.

Look aft before deploying anchor – your final anchoring spot will be several boat lengths aft of where you initially deploy the anchor. Ensure you have sufficient space behind you before deploying.



ANCHORING SCENARIO

You are planning to anchor in 20 feet of water in a crowded anchorage and your anchor roller is 5 feet above the water. You plan to deploy a 5:1 SCOPE RATIO. $(20+5) * 5 = 125$ feet of rode will be deployed

1. Slowly cruise around until you find your spot. A good general technique to pick a spot is to place the bow of your vessel in alignment with the stern of another anchored vessel with sufficient space between both vessels to ensure no risk of collision.
2. Look aft approximately 100-120' to ensure no vessels are at risk of collision when you start to back down.
3. While remaining stationary position deploy 25 feet of rode to place your anchor on the bottom.
4. Then put your engines in reverse. As soon as you start to gather sternway continue deploying your anchor. Return the engines to neutral and apply intermittent reverse power to keep the vessel moving aft as you deploy rode
5. Once the calculated rode amount has been deployed observe the rode for signs of coming tight. When you observe the rode coming taught apply additional reverse throttle to set the anchor.
6. Look off your beam at the shoreline and identify a fixed object. Observe this fixed object for several minutes for signs of movement relative to your position; indicating you are dragging the anchor and not stationary.
7. Once confirmed you are maintaining position you are done. Check your position occasionally during your stay at anchor.

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