



Happy Hooking - The Art of Anchoring

Capt Alex Blackwell, Capt Daria Blackwell

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This second edition of *Happy Hooking* is a very readable book on boat anchoring. It is loaded with valuable information on anchoring tackle, anchoring technique, tying up and rafting, anchoring etiquette, as well as the occasional anecdote - simply stated a must have for any boater or sailor!

The second expanded edition of *Happy Hooking - the Art of Anchoring* features:

- More gear
- More photos
- More illustrations
- More independent reviews
- Experience from both sides of the Atlantic
- Personal anecdotes based on thousands of miles of sailing and countless times anchoring

Unless you are far offshore, at some point or another you are going to need to park your boat. Just like knowing how to stop your car before you start is perhaps the most important part of driving, we feel that anchoring is perhaps the most important skill you can and should acquire in boating. Anchoring a boat can be a lovely dance in a harbor, or a painful and often embarrassing display of Homo sapiens' inability to plan or communicate. We will endeavor to help you find a combination of tackle and technique best suited for your circumstances when anchoring your vessel. By outlining how different anchors work, the pluses and minuses of different adjunctive pieces of equipment, the current thinking about how to deploy this equipment, and how to select an anchorage, we hope you will be armed with enough information to make some informed decisions about what might work best for you.

If you could take only one piece of advice from these pages with you on your travels, perhaps you will remember what Tommy Moran, an old salt in the West of Ireland, advised time and again:

"Anchor as though you plan to stay for weeks, even if you intend to leave in an hour."

Happy Hooking!

EDITORIAL REVIEWS:

Ocean Cruising Club

*"Happy Hooking is well written and makes a very pleasant, easy read, and is well illustrated with plenty of photographs and drawings. It should be essential reading for anyone fitting out a boat for cruising, and will be of interest to all cruising sailors. It may well become **the definitive textbook on the subject.**"*

Cruising Club of America

*"Happy Hooking is well organized, well illustrated, and easy to read. Much of the material will be familiar territory to CCA members. It should be mandatory reading for novice sailors and charter operators would do well to place copies throughout their fleet. This would be an **excellent gift to up-and-coming boaters.**"*

Irish Cruising Club

*"...in providing this database and in presenting the information in **such a readable and understandable manner**, the Blackwells have provided a most useful service for the cruising yachtsman."*

Captain John Jamieson, Author of Skipper Tips

*"Captains Alex and Daria Blackwell have written "Happy Hooking--The Art of Anchoring", which could become **the single most important guide to anchoring for the modern sailor** of the 21st century. The Blackwells have tested multiple anchors, anchoring systems, and equipment over tens of thousands of cruising miles and compiled it all into "Happy Hooking"--their easy-to-read guide, chock full of crystal clear illustrations. Easy to read and filled with super clear illustrations and drawings. Add "Happy Hooking--The Art of Anchoring" to your onboard list of "must have guides" for safe anchoring--wherever in the world you choose to cruise!"*

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