

ANCHORING

Removable Rode Locker Divider

My 42-foot Pearson ketch, *Silverheels*, was originally built with a shallow anchor well on the foredeck that could not accommodate the long anchor rodes

needed for serious cruising. While converting the shallow well to a deeper chain locker, I decided I wanted a fore-and-aft partition so I could carry two separate rodes. I couldn't permanently fiberglass it in, however, as that would block future access to my windlass and other equipment housed in that tight space.

The solution was a removable rode locker divider. It had to fit through the forward bulkhead access hatch, which wasn't very big, and then around several obstacles inside the locker, including the bulky windlass motor. What ultimately evolved was an odd-looking two-piece divider that sets into cheek blocks glued inside the chain locker. Made of glassed-over 1/2in plywood, the two halves when mounted in place are held together with simple bar latches. My removable rode locker divider functions perfectly, solidly separates my anchor rodes, yet comes out easily for periodic maintenance access. -TOR PINNEY



This rode locker partition breaks down into two pieces and can be quickly removed to improve access to the windlass motor and other vital items inside

Photos by Tor Pinney (left); Connie McBride (right)

SYSTEMS

Protecting Wires On Deck

We have an extra solar panel we keep unmounted on deck so we can move it where the sun is brightest. This leaves us with two loose wires running across the deck that are easy to trip over. My husband, Dave, found this unacceptable and decided to sheath the wires with an old piece of doublebraid rope.


Dave first cut the rope to the length of the wires and then removed the rope core. After disconnecting the wires from the panel, he pushed them through the line cover and reconnected the panel. At each end he doubled-back the cover and secured it with light line. The single nylon line is less of a tripping hazard, and the rope cover protects the wires from sun damage. This little trick should also work well to protect wiring for panels and other equipment that is permanently mounted.

-CONNIE MCBRIDE

Sheathing exterior wiring in old rope covers looks quite tidy and helps protect the wires



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