

Murrays Cat Righting Bag

#01-3282

Installation

Tie the short line from your block and tackle (or uphaul) system (Part #01-3273) to the dolphin striker post. Attach the two enclosed hook and loop straps to the trampoline lacing line (there is a small loop sewn into both of the straps) so that each one will grip the righting bag one third of the way in from the ends. Attach the free D-ring on the Murrays Cat Righting Bag to the free shackle on your uphaul system. Roll the bag up with the lines and blocks inside. The hook and loop straps will allow you to fasten the righting bag either above or below the trampoline. A good place is in the center of the trampoline, near the mast. The Murrays Cat Righting Bag is now installed and ready for use. Before using the righting bag on the water be sure to read the instructions several times so that the system may be used safely and effectively.

WARNING: ALWAYS undeat your main and jib sheets before attempting to right your boat to prevent the boat from sailing away without you, or with you still in the bag. ALWAYS wear your life jacket and use good boating safety and seamanship. ALWAYS hold onto the boat.

Righting a Capsized Catamaran

1. After a capsize, take the righting bag from its storage place and remove the lines and blocks. Drape the line over the hull that's out of the water. Lengthen the uphaul line so that the bag is able to hang in the water. Scoop water into the bag and when the desired level is reached close it to prevent the water from spilling out. Keep the water level below the point of attachment of the 2-inch nylon strap to help prevent the water from forcing open the hook and loop closure.

2. Hoist the bag into position. The bag's bottom edge should be slightly above the water and resting on the lower hull. Lock the uphaul line in the cleat or V-jam.

3. Position the bag so that the strap is over your shoulder, or you can place the strap over your head and across your chest. Be sure that the hook and loop strap is across your chest so that you can pull it apart to quickly free yourself from the bag if necessary.

4. Extend both legs and move your feet out to the bottom edge of the hull. Be sure to have the free end of the uphaul line in hand since it will be used to right the boat. At this point the boat should begin to come up, provided there is enough water in the bag (some experimentation of water level may be needed). When the boat begins to come up, pull in the uphaul line quickly enough to keep the righting bag just above the water's surface, thereby maintaining the constant force needed to right the boat.

5. When the boat is at the point where it begins to come over on its own, quickly slide through the straps supporting the righting bag to free yourself. This should be easy since there is no longer any tension on the strap, but if needed, you can pull the hook and loop strap apart and the bag will fall away. Remember to keep your head clear of the descending hull and hold onto the boat to prevent it from sailing away. You should end up between the two hulls and underneath the trampoline. Never try to go outside of a hull while the boat is coming over.

6. Once the boat is righted, climb back onto the boat and resume sailing. As the boat moves through the water the bag will be aft where it can be grabbed at the bottom, lifted, and the water released. When using the righting bag on boats with daggerboards, it may be necessary to pull up a daggerboard to allow for removal of the bag from the water. The Murrays Cat Righting Bag can now be stored for use at another time.



Righting a Turtled Catamaran

1. Remove the Murrays Cat Righting Bag from its storage location.

2. Drape the bag over the leeward hull, fill it with water and close it as specified in step 1 of "Righting a Capsized Catamaran."

3. Hoist the top of the bag over the edge of the leeward hull so that the bag is slightly above the surface of the water.

4. Stand on the leeward hull's edge and lean back while holding onto the line from the block and tackle system.

5. When the mast starts to come up, pull the bag up slightly to help facilitate the righting.

6. Once the turtled boat's mast is at the surface of the water, right the boat as instructed in "Righting a Capsized Catamaran."

Helpful Hints

1. Make sure the main and jib sheets are undeat. This will make it easier to right the boat and prevent the boat from sailing away.

2. Use the wind to your advantage by directing it into the top side of the tramp. You can hang or stand on one end of the downed hull to help speed the process of pushing the boat into the wind.

3. Stand on the bottom edge of the downed hull when you are about to right the boat. Standing near the top of the hull will hinder the process.

4. Make sure that the hook and loop strap is across your chest so that you can easily pull it apart.

5. At all steps of righting the boat, keep the bottom of the bag above the surface of the water.

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