



## American Dock Manufacturing Inc.

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# Guide to Taking Water Depths for Your New Dock

American Dock Portable Sectional Docks are design to allow roughly 12 inches of clearance from the water surface to the top of the dock.

**CAUTION:** Portable sectional docks should not be installed in water depths of greater then 6 feet (72 inches) allowing for 1 foot (12 inches) above the waters surface for stability and safety.

### What you'll need:

- **A tape measure** (preferably one with a wide tape.)
- **(Optional) A long pole or stick.** This should be long enough to safely reach the deepest point of your intended dock yet extend beyond the water's surface for maneuvering the pole easily. Marking the pole or stick every 6 inches with electrical tape, thin strips of duct tape or waterproof marker can eliminate the need for the tape measure.
- **A Method to easily access the deepest point your dock will be installed** (such as swimming, waders or a boat).

When taking water depths for your new dock a standard tape measure may be sufficient, but it's best if you use it in conjunction with a pole of sufficient length to allow you to test the bottom for loose sediment sand, muck, mud or marl. The footing of your dock sections will settle to some degree depending on the consistency of the bottom before it stabilizes.

Pushing on the pole with light to moderate pressure until you feel some fair resistance will give you a more accurate assessment of the depth necessary to make your dock level and stable.

Footpads included with your dock are designed to distribute weight over a larger area, similar to a snowshoe in the snow. In extreme cases you may require a special oversized mud pad.

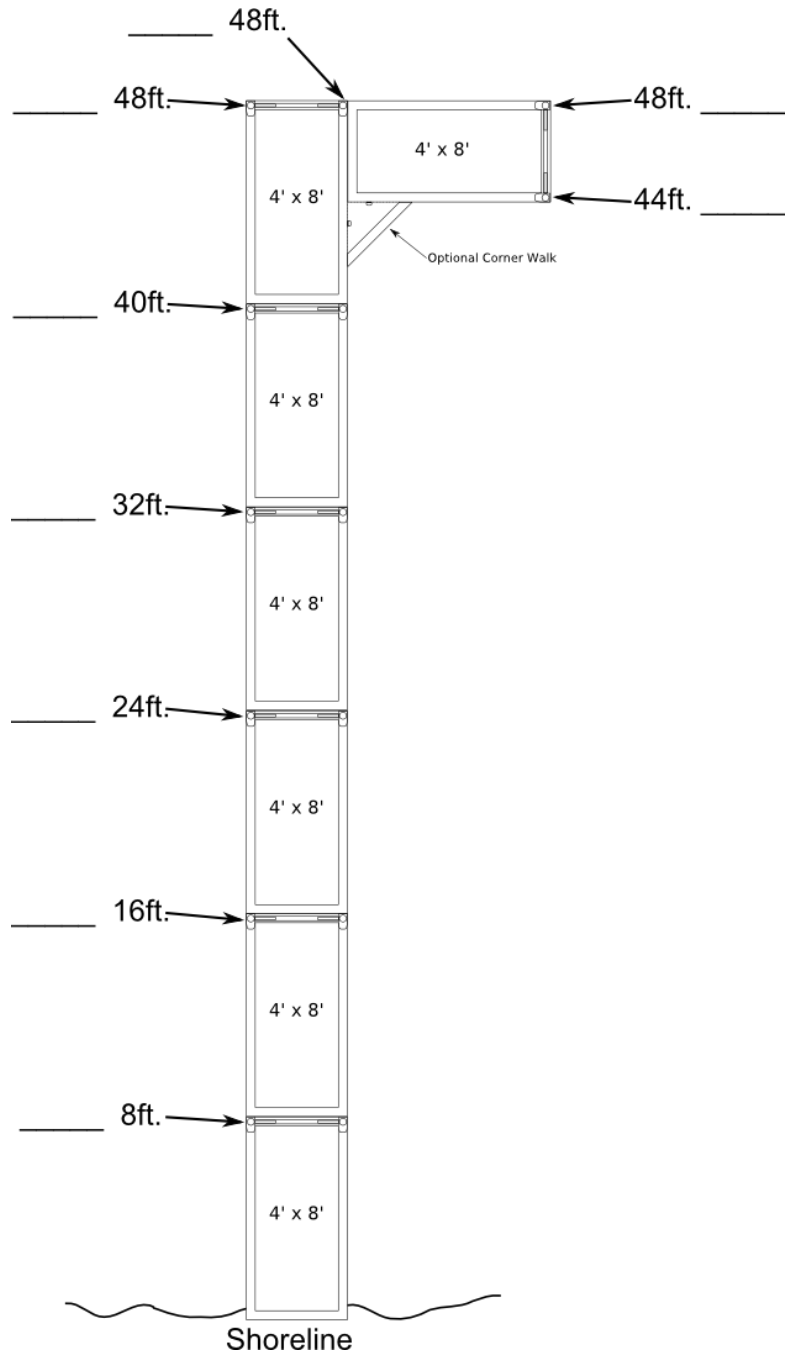
### What To Do:

 (Use the drawing to the right for reference.)

From the shoreline measure parallel to the waters surface out to 8 feet. This will determine the end of your first dock section. At this point measure and note the water depth.

From the point you just measured your water depth, measure out an additional 8 feet parallel to the waters surface to the end of the next dock section. Again measure and note the water depth. Continue this process for each additional section you require.

Should you want an "L" or a "T" on your dock, be sure to measure the water depth as it relates to each of the corners of the "L" or "T" and note the depth.



Portable Dock Leg Frame & Extension Guide.		
Measured Water Depth	Double or Single Leg Frame	Extension
6" to 16"	PD18 or PD18II	L18
16" to 20"	PD18 or PD18II	L24
20" to 26"	PD18 or PD18II	L30
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26" to 32"	PD36 or PD36II	L36
32" to 38"	PD36 or PD36II	L42
38" to 44"	PD36 or PD36II	L48
44" to 50"	PD36 or PD36II	L54
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50" to 56"	PD60 or PD60II	L60
56" to 62"	PD60 or PD60II	L66
62" to 68"	PD60 or PD60II	L72