

Hydraulic Dinghy Platform

Rising Dawn's hydraulic platform is a convenient way to launch and recover the dinghy. The platform can also be used as an adjustable step for people to more easily enter or exit the dinghy once it is in the water.

The platform has a maximum lifting capacity of 400 lbs which is just enough to lift the dinghy with its motor. Here's a few DOs and DON'Ts while using the platform.

DO:

- Keep the platform at the highest position except when launching or recovering the dinghy.
- Strap the dinghy onto the platform before sailing or motoring.
- Use the platform as a convenient step or seat to enter or exit the dinghy.
- Walk, stand, or sit on the platform when it is resting at its highest position.

DO NOT

- Leave the platform underwater for longer than is needed to launch or recover the dinghy. The up and down motion of the platform underwater can dislodge the wood slats from the platform.
- Stay in the dinghy when it is on its cradles: It will likely fall off.
- Raise or lower the platform with excessive weight in the dinghy. The platform's capacity is 400lbs which is approximately the weight of the dinghy. Any additional weight on the platform may break the hydraulic system.
- **Stand or sit on the platform while raising or lowering the platform when the dinghy is mounted on its cradles.**
- Raise the platform with the dinghy on the cradles if it is full of water. The platform may be raised slightly above sea level to allow water to drain from the dinghy's stern drain hole. Raise the platform only when the dinghy is fully drained and emptied of water.

Dinghy Recovery

1. Raise the dinghy motor out of the water.
2. Lower the dinghy platform to its lowest position.
3. Pull the dinghy bow towards the port side of the platform using the painter.
4. Pull the dinghy stern towards the starboard side of the platform using the security cable.



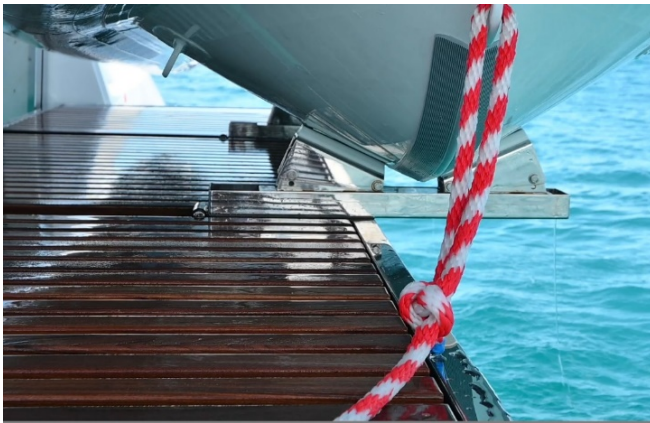
5. Align the dinghy bow and the motor to the outside edge of the platform to position the dinghy above the cradles



The dinghy stern (the end with motor) must be on the starboard side of Rising Dawn and the bow must be pointed to the port side. The stern cradle (starboard side) is angled differently from the bow cradle to better accommodate the shape of the dinghy's rigid hull.



6. Once aligned to the cradles, raise the platform making sure the dinghy rests securely on its cradles as it is lifted out of the water.



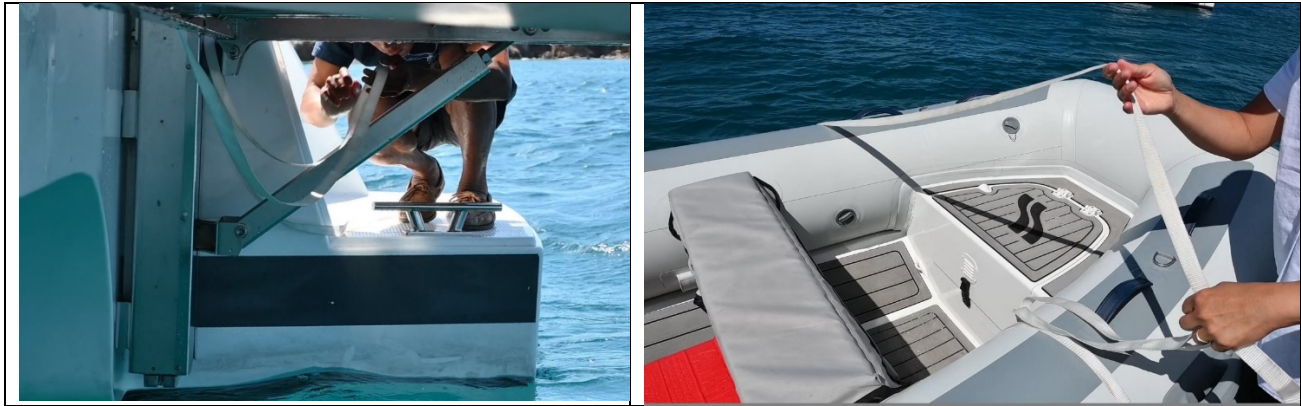
7. Once the platform is at its highest position, place the ratchet mechanism of one strap inside bow-end of the dinghy just behind the front handles.



8. Wrap the strap around the dinghy's near-side and thread it through the metal loop on port side of the platform. This will ensure that the strap and dinghy are secured to the platform.



9. Lead the strap under the platform and over the far-side of the dinghy.



10. Thread the strap through the ratchet mechanism and pull the strap tight. Use the ratchet to make tighten and secure the strap.



11. Repeat steps 7-10 for the 2nd strap at the rear of the dinghy.

12. Coil the security cable and place it inside one of the handles on the dinghy.



13. Tie the bow painter to the cleat on outside port hull of Rising Dawn and coil any excess to ensure that it does not fall into the water.



14. Remove the drain plug from the drain hole at the back-end of the dinghy's rigid hull to allow any water to drain. This also drains water that splashes into the dinghy during transit or from rain.



DONE!

Launching the Dinghy

1. Insert the drain plug. Seawater will flood the dinghy without the plug.



2. Remove the fore and aft ratchet straps.



3. Keep the painter secured to a cleat.



4. Lower the platform until the dinghy floats away from the platform.
5. Raise the platform to its highest position.



DONE!