

Series Drogue Selection

The Series Drogue was conceived by Don Jordan and designed in collaboration with U.S. Coast Guard researchers as a dependable sea anchor. Tests showed that conventional sea anchors were subject to fatigue failure as the single, large fabric parachute would fill with water and then collapse under the strains generated by storm waves. The Series Drogue, looking like a parade of jellyfish in single file, solves this problem by spreading out the load over 100 or more small, nylon sailcloth cones.

The design of the Series Drogue ensures the cones will fill and grab hold of water keeping the boat properly positioned for the next wave strike. It is steadier and ensures that the boat fittings are under a more constant load and less likely to get destroyed. A 15-50 lb. anchor attached to the end of the line keeps the drogue from popping out of the water. Use these US Coast Guard recommendations to create an effective Series Drogue for your vessel.

Coast Guard Recommendations:

Line Diameter:

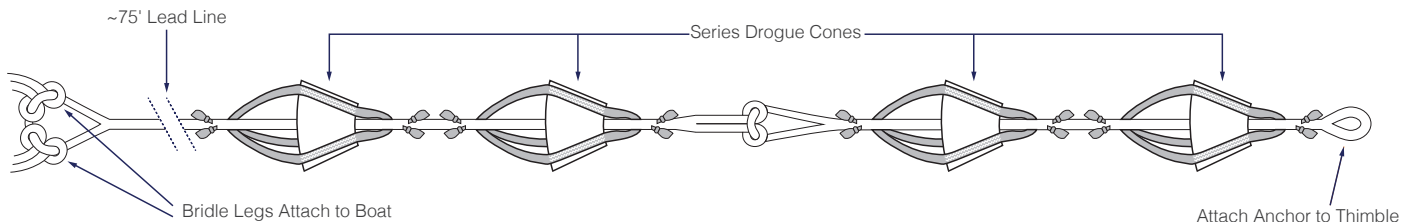
Line size may be decreased near the end of the drogue due to diminishing stress. If more than one size is used, make each section equal in length.

Bridle Specifications:

Make from 3-strand line, double-braided line, or wire. Each bridle leg should be: $2.5 \times \text{Transom Width} + 2 \text{ ft.}$ (allowance for splicing and attachment to boat). Often the bridle is a different color so it can be located quickly. Line for bridle should match the strength of the largest line used in the drogue.

Anchor Specifications:

Use lead shot, chain, or scuba weights in lieu of traditional mushroom anchors. See anchor weight recommendations in chart.



Specifications Based on Coast Guard Recommendations

MONOHULL				
DISPLACEMENT	CONES	LINE LENGTH ²	LINE DIAMETER ¹	ANCHOR WEIGHT
10,000 lb.	100	246 ft.	5/8"	15 lb.
15,000 lb.	107	258 ft.	5/8"	15 lb.
20,000 lb.	116	139 / 139 ft.	3/4", 5/8"	15 lb.
25,000 lb.	124	145 / 146 ft.	3/4", 5/8"	25 lb.
30,000 lb.	132	152 / 152 ft.	3/4", 5/8"	25 lb.
35,000 lb.	139	158 / 158 ft.	3/4", 5/8"	25 lb.
40,000 lb.	147	111 / 111 / 112 ft.	1", 3/4", 5/8"	30 lb.
45,000 lb.	156	116 / 116 / 117 ft.	1", 3/4", 5/8"	40 lb.
50,000 lb.	164	121 / 121 / 121 ft.	1", 3/4", 5/8"	50 lb.

MULTIHULL				
DISPLACEMENT	CONES	LINE LENGTH ²	LINE DIAMETER ¹	ANCHOR WEIGHT
6,000 lb.	130	296 ft.	5/8"	15 lb.
12,000 lb.	140	312 ft.	5/8"	15 lb.
18,000 lb.	150	167 / 167 ft.	3/4", 5/8"	15 lb.

¹ See Coast Guard Recommendations.

² Line length includes approximately 75 ft. lead line. Lines are not pre-spliced. Bridle line is not included in chart (refer to USCG recommendations).

*Complete USCG Series Drogue Findings & Recommendations available online under any Sailrite drogue kit or call The National Technical Information Service, US Dept. of Commerce (1-888-584-8332) to request Document #ADA 188 598.