



# RIVERGLEN *Marina*

## GUIDE TO TYING AND SECURING CRAFT AT RIVERGLEN MARINA

### Preparation

#### 1. **Inspect Equipment:**

- Check that ropes (dock lines) are in good condition and free of fraying.
- Ensure fenders are available, correctly inflated, and positioned to protect the boat from dock or neighbouring boats.

#### 2. **Determine Docking Layout:**

- Assess the assigned slip or berth for cleats, pilings, or mooring points.
- Confirm wind and current conditions to adjust your approach and docking strategy.

### Docking the Houseboat

#### 1. **Approach Slowly:**

- Approach the dock at a slow, controlled speed to maintain manoeuvrability and avoid damage.
- Align the houseboat parallel to the dock or position it for backing in if required.

#### 2. **Communicate with Crew:**

- Assign crew members to bow (front) and stern (rear) stations with dock lines ready.
- Use hand signals or radios to communicate effectively if needed.

#### 3. **Position Fenders:**

- Place fenders at appropriate heights along the side of the houseboat to prevent contact with the dock or adjacent boats.

#### 4. **Secure Temporarily:**

- Use a boat hook to grab the dock or cleat.
- Tie a temporary line to stabilise the houseboat while preparing for permanent securing.

## Securing the Houseboat

### 1. **Attach Dock Lines:**

- Use at least four lines to secure the houseboat:
  - **Bow Line:** Runs from the bow cleat to a forward dock cleat.
  - **Stern Line:** Runs from the stern cleat to a rear dock cleat.
  - **Spring Lines (Fore and Aft):** Prevent forward and backward movement by running diagonally from the houseboat to dock cleats.

### 2. **Choose Appropriate Knots:**

- Use **cleat hitches** for attaching lines to cleats.
- Ensure knots are secure but easy to release.

### 3. **Adjust Tension:**

- Make dock lines snug but not over tight. Allow some slack to accommodate water level changes, wind, and movement.

### 4. **Inspect and Test:**

- Tug gently on each line to ensure all are secure.
- Confirm the houseboat is positioned safely and evenly between fenders.

## Final Steps

### 1. **Check the Houseboat:**

- Verify that all lines are properly secured and not rubbing against sharp edges.
- Ensure fenders are correctly placed and providing protection.

### 2. **Shut Down Systems:**

- Turn off the engine, secure any loose items, and close hatches and windows.

### 3. **Regularly Monitor:**

- Periodically inspect the dock lines and adjust for changes in tide or weather conditions.

**There are several on line tutorials that can be of assistance to educate or demonstrate the above. It is your role to familiarise yourself and responsibility to ensure that the craft is safely secured and protected.**

By following these steps, you can safely and effectively tie up your houseboat, ensuring its protection and the safety of others in the marina. It is your responsibility to prevent your craft from hitting or damaging any of the marina infrastructure including but not limited to the embankments and jetties