

HUNTER 290/306 OPTIONAL MAST RAISING KIT

BE SURE TO BE CLEAR OF ALL OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL CABLES DURING THIS PROCEDURE

MAST RAISING:

It is recommended that three people be involved in the mast raising procedure.

1. Begin with the mast fully rigged, the upper end resting in the mast crutch and the lower end connected to the aft end of the mast step with a clevis pin.
2. Confirm that all standing rigging and spreaders are connected to the spar as per the standing and running rigging drawings in the Hunter 290/306 owner's manual, and confirm that the turnbuckles are attached to the chainplates with the cotterpins located inboard.
3. Attach the two struts to the mast and to the aft holes on the strut mount brackets. Make sure bolts are secure but do not overtighten.
4. Attach mast raising poles to forward holes on strut mount brackets and bolt free ends together with eye hole plate between the two tangs.
5. Open the anchor locker and attach the lower end of the mast raising block and tackle to the u-bolt inside the locker and connect the upper block from the mast raising block and tackle to the lower eye fitting of eye hole plate.
6. Connect the jib halyard to the upper eye fitting of the eye hole plate
7. Tension the jib halyard by pulling it from the exit at the line stopper (make sure the jib halyard is being tensioned, not the main halyard) until the mast raising poles are perpendicular to the mast. Lock down the jib halyard line stopper and securely cleat the jib halyard to the primary winch cleat just outboard of the deck winches. **DO NOT** rely on the strength of the line stopper alone.
8. While still holding the mast-raising pole perpendicular to the mast, take up the slack through the jam cleat on the mast raising block and tackle.
9. Make sure that:
 - the forestay is not twisted around the jib halyard and is outside the spreaders
 - the upper and lower shrouds are not twisted around each other and the upper shrouds are outside the lifelines
 - the turnbuckles are vertical on the chainplates
 - **the spar is clear of all overhead electrical wiring** and will continue to be throughout the mast raising process.
 - All shrouds, mast raising bridles and forestay are properly attached to the spar
 - All shackles on the mainsheet and jib halyard are properly closed
 - The jib halyard is properly cleated by the line stopper and primary winch cleat
10. Ensure that two people are in the cockpit and have established firm footing. These two people need to begin the mast raising by pushing the

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mast up about one meter. During this part, the third person, attending the mast raising block and tackle at the bow, should pull the block and tackle line, keeping it within the jam cleat and keeping any slack out of the line.

11. From this point on, the mast can be raised by the person at the bow of the boat using the block and tackle. The person or persons in the cockpit should stand clear of the mast during the process. The struts will ensure that the mast does not move from side to side. **During this process, be careful to check the rigging to ensure that it does not catch on any part of the boat.** The load on the tackle will be at a maximum at the beginning of the mast raising procedure and will decrease progressively as the spar is raised. Be aware of the open anchor locker during this process, and watch your footing.
12. Connect forestay to stemhead fitting located at bow. Block and tackle can be disengaged and mast raising poles can be removed at this point.
13. Make sure all standing and running rigging is secured according to instructions in owners manual.
14. Connect mast wiring and coax cable plugs to deck fitting at the base of spar.

















