

LAUNCHING YOUR BOAT

NOTE: These are suggestions from various sources and are not guaranteed to Protect you from "Driver Error".

Launch Preparations

1. Remove all tie-downs
2. Remove motor supports (if applicable).
3. Load and stow gear to be carried on the boat
4. Check boat systems (engine(s), blower, bilge pumps, etc.)
5. Make ready the dock lines, fenders, etc.
6. Don't forget to make sure the drain plug is installed.
7. Remove winch strap now or after you have the trailer in the water, your preference.

Launching

1. Check ramp for how far you can go back, slipperiness, etc.
2. If the boat has an I/O or straight inboard engine(s), turn on the engine compartment blower.
3. Try and back the trailer to the left, allowing visibility by the driver through the mirror and window. If you back to the right, you will be backing blind and may need assistance.
4. For Solo Launching (1 person only).
 - a. Suggested to leave winch strap attached and add dock lines before launching boat.
 - b. Back trailer into water until boat is level on water and free floating.
 - c. Hold a dock line, then disconnect winch strap and pull boat to docking area.
5. Pull tow vehicle forward and park your tow vehicle and trailer.
6. For two Person Launching (1 in boat, 1 in tow vehicle).
 - a. Disconnect winch strap.
 - b. Back down the ramp far enough to allow engine cooling water to be picked up and have the back bunks submerged as much as possible to obtain full boat buoyancy. You DO NOT want to power boat off dry bunks!
7. Start the boat's engine(s) and slowly back-up in a straight line until clear of the trailer.

Loading Your Boat Onto the Trailer

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1. Submerge the trailer at least 2/3's of the way and preferably until all the bunks are wet (if the launch conditions allow), to lubricate the bunks making it easy to drive on your boat.
2. Pull the trailer out of the water enough to see the bunks under the water (approximately 2'-3' of the very front center bunks of your "Loadmaster" trailer will be exposed and the front of the outside bunks should be just under the water)
3. Power your boat **straight in**, aiming towards exposed front bunks and the bow stop. By aiming straight, your trailer's center bunks will help guide the boat straight onto the trailer.
4. If wind or currents are very strong, you need to do this process quickly.
5. You can usually power the boat to within 1-2 feet of the bow stop, or even closer, assuming you properly wetted down the bunks. Once the boat does not easily power up the bunks, have the tow vehicle driver back the trailer deeper into the water until the boat reaches the bow stop. (In the event of very steep launch conditions, this may not be possible, especially with longer boats. If the trailer goes back too far, the back bunks can submerge too deep and the boat is no longer positioned over the center bunks).
6. Raise the engine(s) and stern drive(s).
7. Attach the winch strap and winch the final few inches if necessary.
8. Clear the ramp. Final travel preparations are done away from the ramp, freeing that area up for others.
9. Find a level area to do your cleaning, engine flushing (if applicable) and prepare your trailer for travel.