



P. Plisson ©

Anchors



A good anchor is your best insurance policy.

What is a good anchor ?

An anchor that enables you to face all situations safely : open berth in a nice calm weather, or "emergency" berth when the boat drifts towards the rocks.

The basic rules of a good anchoring system

Do not overlook the importance of every element in your anchoring system : it is only by selecting top quality elements and assembling them correctly together that one obtains a perfectly reliable anchoring.

- **Chain** : diameter must be generous and length at least 5 times the boat length (see table).
- **Rope** : opt for polyamide, which provides good abrasion and tension resistance, with a good stretching capacity (18 to 25%) to absorb the surges that waves impact on the anchor.

Numerous tests carried out throughout the world have demonstrated that **the geometric proportions of the anchor are more important than its actual weight.**

Anchors of recent construction, such as the Kobra, bites into the seabed within seconds due to its weighted tip and holds very well thanks to its broad shoulders. Tests carried by French magazines Voile Magazine and Moteur Boat Magazine gave clear evidence that "a 6 kg Kobra anchor held a 600 kg traction load, in a mixed sand-mud seabed", which corresponds approx. to the traction exerted by a 42-knot wind on a 9 m boat, where a 12 kg anchor is traditionally recommended.

When the local regulation imposes a minimum anchor weight for a given size of boat, it is imperative to follow strictly the regulation. In the absence of a specific regulation, we suggest that you use our table as a guide, to select your primary and secondary anchors.

Which anchor for which boat and use ?

Max. boat length	Boat displacement	Min. anchor weight	Ø schackle	Ø chain	Nylon rope Ø
Dinghy, tender, Optimist	-	2 kg 4,4 lb	8 mm	6 mm	6 mm
Dinghy, inflatable boat Small catamaran up to 4 m	300 kg	3.5 kg 7.7 lb	8 mm	6 mm	6 - 8 mm
Boat up to 5.50 m	800 kg	6 kg 13 lb	8 mm	6 mm	10 mm
6.50 m	1000 kg	8 kg 17 lb	8 mm	6 - 7 mm	10 mm
7.50 m	2000 kg	10 kg 22 lb	10 mm	8 mm	14 mm
9 m	3000 kg	12 kg 26 lb	10 mm	8 mm	14 mm
10.50 m	4500 kg	14 kg 31 lb	10 mm	8 mm	14 mm
12.50 m	8000 kg	16 kg 35 lb	12 mm	10 mm	18 mm
16 m	12000 kg	20 kg 44 lb	12 mm	10 mm	18 mm
18 m	16000 kg	24 kg 50 lb	16 mm	12 mm	22 mm
20 m	20000 kg	34 kg 75 lb	16 mm	14 mm	24 mm
25 m	30000 kg	40 kg 88 lb	16 mm	14 mm	24 mm
+ 25 m	+ 30000 kg	60 kg 140 lb	18 mm	16 mm	28 mm

The anchor weight is only given as an indication, per length of boat. However, this criterion alone is not sufficient, and your anchor selection should also recognise the specific construction of your vessel.