

# Safe anchoring

The “universal” anchor still does not exist : the variety of seabeds and the length of the anchor rode impact the anchor holding power enormously. It is therefore recommended to have systematically 2 anchoring systems, regardless of boat size and regulation.

- **Bower and secondary anchor**

Use for example a plough anchor Kobra-type, efficient on 80 % of seabeds, and a flat Britany-type anchor, ideal for soft grounds.

- **A third anchoring rode**

Is also advisable : aluminium anchor with a weighted rope. Easy to handle by the whole crew and ideally suitable for a “lunch-hook”, it can also be used as an extra emergency anchor.

- **Scope of anchor line**

Should be determined according to the water depth below the keel and the wind conditions :

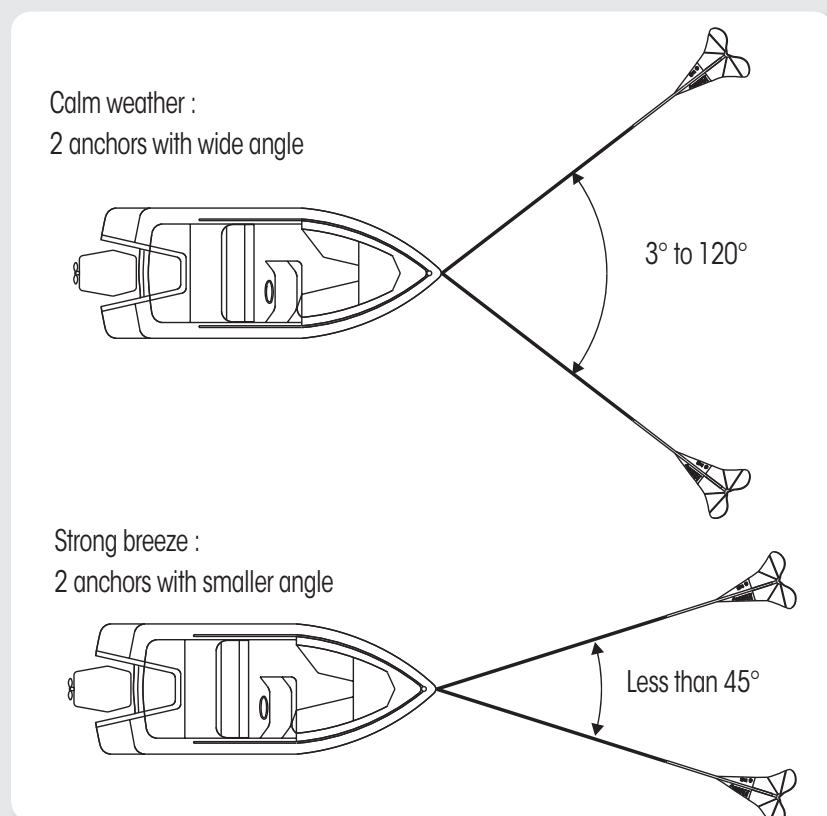
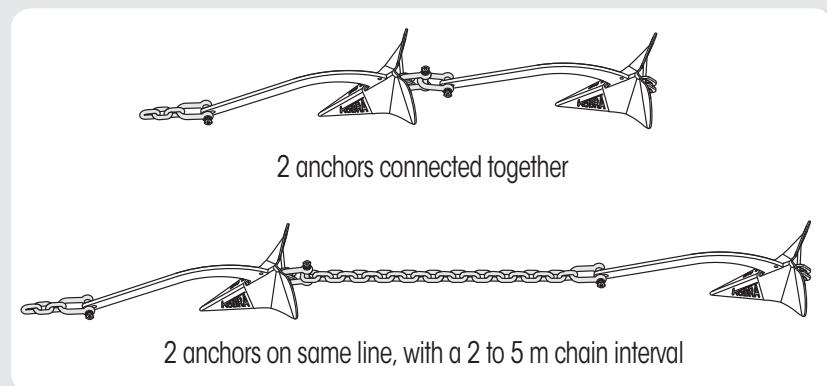
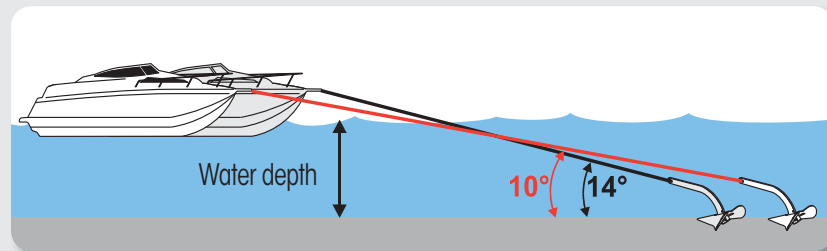
- less than 10 m : 3 times the water depth, up to Force 3  
5 times the water depth, up to Force 6  
7 times the water depth, up to Force 9 ;
- more than 10 m : no more than 5 times the water depth ;
- beyond Force 9 : you should set 2 anchors, either each on its own line, or both anchors on the same line.

- **Select a sheltered anchorage**

Whenever possible, taking into consideration the weather forecast and the evolution of currents and tides. In very busy mooring anchorages, it may be safer to shorten the anchor rode.

If the wind pipes up or in case of emergency conditions, do not hesitate to veer some extra length of chain or rope, in order to increase the anchor holding capacity.

**A paint colour-coding every metre** on both rope and chain facilitates manœuvres immensely.



## Pull-out ratio, in relation to wind force and boat size

Boat length	15 knots	30 knots	42 knots	60 knots	120 knots
4.50 m	25 kg	100 kg	220 kg	450 kg	1800 kg
6 m	40 kg	160 kg	320 kg	650 kg	2600 kg
7.50 m	55 kg	220 kg	440 kg	880 kg	3550 kg
9 m	80 kg	300 kg	620 kg	1260 kg	5080 kg
10.50 m	100 kg	400 kg	800 kg	1630 kg	6540 kg
12 m	130 kg	540 kg	1000 kg	2180 kg	8720 kg
15 m	180 kg	710 kg	1450 kg	2900 kg	11620 kg
18 m	220 kg	900 kg	1800 kg	3620 kg	14530 kg
21 m	300 kg	1200 kg	2450 kg	4850 kg	19620 kg

The longer the scope, the smaller the pulling angle, and the stronger the holding power.