Catalina 350

C350 Association Technical Editor

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Inexpensive Rail Cushion

Here's another super inexpensive project. We really like our stern rail seats, but found them a little uncomfortable around the back when sitting for long periods of time.

I grabbed some pipe insulation from the hardware store - the foam type that is scored and ready to be placed around a pipe.



The railing is 1", but I believe I bought the stuff for 3/4" pipe so that it would fit tight. Decide how far around the seat you want the cushion to extend, and cut to length. Cut a little notch about in the middle to clear the vertical tube in the middle. Voila! A nice, cushioned cover to lean against.

Total cost: Less than $2. Projects don't come much less expensive than that. Good Luck! *–Tim Brogan, April IV C350 #68, Seattle*



Installing a Garhauer Lift on a Catalina 350

I got tired of straining my back lugging my four cycle outboard on to my dinghy so I purchased a Garhauer lift for around $230.00 at the Garhauer website. When I searched the 'net, I didn't find any 350 owners who had installed one so I made up my own method. The mounting system I chose makes it easy to remove the lift, disassemble it and stow it in a towel into which I have sewn sleeves. It takes less than five minutes to pull the lift out of storage and get it up ready for use. It also rides well when it's installed, even



Lift attached to outboard ready for hoisting



Lower pole section of lift being inserted through bracket to ball unit



Upper part of lift inserted through bracket to lower part of lift

in rough seas, which gives us the flexibility of whether to keep it in position or stow it. The downside of leaving it installed is that the port side locker is not accessible when the lift is up.

My installation included using stainless nuts and bolts (and lots of sealant) to attach the ball socket (which comes with the lift) to the top of the aft port side locker. This step isn't without complication since the backing bracket for the ball socket assembly needs some on site adjustment to fit snugly. I used my vice to bend it to the correct angle. The bracket which supports the upright section of the lift is attached permanently to the stern rail. When it's time to put the lift on, I simply slide the lower section of the lift through the bracket and into the ball socket. The top portion of the lift then slides through the bracket and onto the top of the lower lift section. *–Bill Welsch, Escapade*

Girasol Modifications

Stove top:

Very simple, cut a piece of oak or teak with the outside measurements of the stove top. Bring the measurements on the sides to within 1/4 inch of the counters. This will allow you to wrap it in stainless steel if you wish. The front and back edges can be as long as you like. Caution on the length of the back side as you do not want to loose the storage space back there. Remember this will serve as a table top for either decorations or temporary placement of plates, glasses while working in the galley. When not out sailing, we use our tea kettle to decorate the top. Take a router and cut a groove outlining the edge of the stove top on the underside. Make sure it fits making adjustments where and when necessary and sand down any edges. Take the finished piece of wood to a carpenter/cabinetry maker and ask them to get a specialist to wrap it with stainless steel. This will give you a match to the stove. If you decide to forego the extra cost, simply stain the wood on both sides.



Mirror, mirror on the wall....

We decided to place a mirror on the door to the head from the v-berth. It has become a great place to adjust your hair, tie and suit before going to work. It also gives the v-berth the appearance that it is roomier. Simply measure the indenture of the door. Make sure you measure all four sides just in case it is not a perfect square. Don't forget to measure the depth also. Take these measurements to a custom mirror manufacturer or retailer and tell them what you are looking to do. This is good as they will adjust your measurements to fit the groove.

When you receive the mirror, place it against the door to ensure it fits. If you did the right measuring job, all you will need to do is run some silicone along the back edges, all along the mirror and slip it into place. Use masking tape to hold the mirror in place while the silicone takes hold. Look in the mirror and ask who's the fairest of them all.

