

H2 PRODDER ASSEMBLY GUIDE

A conventional kicking strap is installed at approximately 45 degrees to the vertical. Thus there is a forward component to the force applied, which exerts a bending force on the mast. The principle of the prodder is to remove the mast bending element of the kicking strap and use it purely to manage the leach tension.

Below is a guide to fitting the parts and why they are set up the way they are.

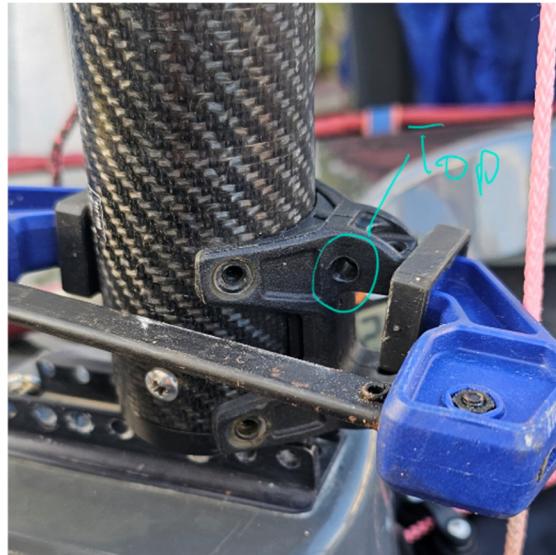
Stage 1: Fit the additional gooseneck

This needs to be fitted as low down the mast as possible as this takes the compressional load off the boom gooseneck. See Photos 1 and 2

Photo 1



Photo 2



Place the gooseneck on the rear face of the mast in line with the boom gooseneck and mark where the holes need to go on the mast. Drill a 3mm hole in those 4 places as per Photo 1 and then, using the supplied self-tapping screws, drive them into the Mast. Remove the screws then add Tefgel or Duralac as a barrier for the screws and finally fasten the gooseneck with the hole at the top (photo 2). Note that there is a black plastic insert between gooseneck and mast.

Stage 2: Fit the prodder

Fit the gooseneck toggle with the straight edge down (see Photo 3 - again this is to keep the load path as low as possible. Then fit the prodder to the gooseneck using the fast pin (for easy rigging).

You then need to add the supplied short Dyneema strop to the end of the prodder and loop it over the existing boom strap plus the shorter strap supplied. (The latter fits over the boom, forward of the original boom strap). See Photo 4.

It is important to understand that the further aft you attach the shorter strap the more bending force you have so it is essential to use the additional strap along with the current strap as this spreads the load across the boom. Alternatively, a saddle is available (at an additional cost) which is purpose-made for the prodder.

Photo 3



Photo 4



Stage 3: Fit your existing purchase

Take your existing purchase system (see **Photos 5 & 6**) and attach to the end of the prodder. You will need to re-tie the Dyneema loop fitted between the primary purchase and the hull kicking strap U bolt so that when the mast is fully raked forwards the kicking strap system is just loose.

Further set-up tips

The above is the starting point, and we strongly recommend that you sail with the set-up and the readjust to your liking as you will feel quite a difference in how the kicking strap now works.

With careful set-up you can manage the mast bend to suit your style of sailing along with the power you require from the leach. To increase the bending thrust on the mast, move the strop attachment point on the boom further aft. Play with this shoreside until you are happy, as this dramatically changes the bend in the mast for a given kicking strap tension.

Photos 5 & 6

Note: the boom saddle shown is an optional extra.

