

JOWI Sailboat Support Systems

A boat is a major investment, and when it comes time to store a boat, it should be done with an eye toward protecting that investment. No method of boat storage will support the hull as well as the water; making any other means a compromise - to some degree.

Keels can generally support up to 95% of a boat's displacement. The sides and bottoms of most modern laminated hulls should never be required to accept concentrated loads, i.e. a large amount of weight on a few pads. If possible, supporting means used against the hull should be located at bulkheads and/or stringers. Never store a boat with the mast stepped unless the masthead is secured to the ground to prevent the boat from tipping. The side area of a mast is more than sufficient to turn a boat over in high winds.

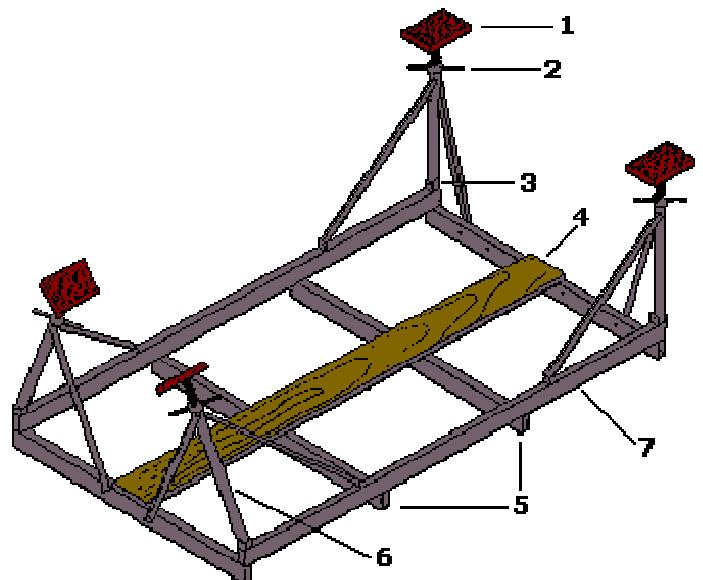
Boat stands, on the surface at least, seem to be an economical means of storing a boat. The problem with stands is that each one transfers its load to a separate patch of ground, and the ground is not a stable platform. When the ground cycles from wet to dry, freeze to thaw, etc., it moves in relation to itself. If stands are not constantly adjusted to compensate for this, they can loosen and spill the boat. Typically in today's tightly packed commercial boat yards, this has meant that whole rows of boats go over like dominoes. There have been several instances of this, even in yards staffed with people with years of boat handling experience - just think about the responsibility involved in storing your boat at home on boat stands. For these reasons, among others, some insurance companies refuse to cover boats or yards that use stands for boat storage. Before putting your boat on stands, it might be wise to check with your agent or boat yard.

Cross stands off the list of options and that leaves you with cradles, both wood and steel. The problem with wood cradles, besides rotting and thereby losing strength, is that they will eventually sag and permanently warp. Once this has happened, the cradle will no longer fit the hull it was built for, and therefore can no longer properly support it. Serious damage can be caused by an ill-fitting cradle.

This leaves us with the proven best and safest means of storing a boat - the JOWI ADJUSTABLE FOLDING STEEL CRADLE. The boat rests on a sturdy steel tube frame with integral vertical steel tubes and screw/pads that can be adjusted to exactly the right angle and pressure for the hull. When the earth moves, the boat and steel frame move as one with it. The steel frame will not twist or rot, nor will it sag and take a set. Every time your boat is cradled it will fit perfectly. JOWI cradles also fold flat when not in use to conserve space. And, surprisingly, considering its many advantages, a JOWI adjustable, folding steel cradle is competitive with wood in cost.

Features:

1. Pressure treated wood with outdoor carpeting will not rot.
2. Large- diameter screws have wing nuts for quick and easy vertical adjustment.
3. All fasteners are zinc-plated to resist corrosion.
4. Pressure treated keel board will not rot.
5. Cross members are positioned so the cradle may be lifted with slings or forks without additional blocking.
6. Unique vertical assemblies quickly adjust inward to fit varying hull widths or fold flat for storage.
7. Extra heavy rectangular steel tube frame provides greater rigidity.





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Gaskins Designs builds six sizes of cradles - their individual specifications are listed below. The right cradle for your boat is generally determined by displacement. The cradle can be adjusted to any hull shape, and the vertical tubes can be sized for any draft.

At one time or another, Gaskins has cradled most of the modern sailboats and has all of the dimensions on file, so they can help with the exact tube lengths for your boat. There are a few exceptions, such as some of the light-weight high performance sport boats that can have a rather deep draft in relation to displacement and length. An example of picking which cradle: Say your boat is 29 feet long, displaces 7,200 pounds with a 4 and a half foot draft, the Model 1 is the obvious choice. It has a capacity of 10,000 pounds and can accommodate 30 feet of hull length. Now, say your boat is 40 feet long, 7,200 pounds in displacement and 7 and a half feet in draft. The Model 1 is clearly too short, so we may suggest a Model 1.5 or 2.

Models and Cost

	Model .5	Model 1	Model 1.5	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Capacity	5,000 lbs	10,000 lbs	15,000 lbs	20,000 lbs	30,000 lbs	40,000 lbs
Boat Length	25'	30'	35'	40'	50'	60'
Cradle Length	105"	120"	144"	160"	192"	240"
Cradle Width	60"	68"	68"	94"	96"	96"
Screws/Pads	4	4	6	6	6	8
Folded Height	9"	11"	11"	16"	19"	27"
Empty Weight	250 lbs	452 lbs	700 lbs	900 lbs	1,850 lbs	3,000 lbs
With Painted Finish	\$889.00	\$1,289.00	\$1,749.00	\$2,389.00	\$4,306.00	\$5,222.00
With Galvanized Finish**	\$1,086.00	\$1,638.00	\$2,560.00	\$3,325.00	\$6,136.00	\$8,227.00

****Adds 4 to 6 weeks to delivery time**

REPLACEMENT PARTS: Screw/pad assembly - each (1-1/2" dia. X 24" w/pad) \$107.86 each

Custom cradles and modifications: Call or e-mail for a quote. We can design, fabricate, and deliver cradles for all boats, anywhere. All prices are FOB Grifton, NC. We ship to any destination. Freight will be quoted upon order or request (Destination City and Zip or Postal Code required).

Payment accepted by VISA, MasterCard American Express, Discover Card, check, or money order for USA orders. Cradle shipping outside of the USA require payment via Wire Transfer, prior to shipment. All JOWI cradles are patented. Most stock cradles can be delivered in 1-2 weeks (times may be longer during the peak season of October through November), call or e-mail us for more details.

All models have flat black enamel finish and 2" X 8" pressure treated keel boards as standard equipment. Hot dipped galvanized finishes are available optionally. Custom cradles, wheels, and modifications are available.

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Power Boat Cradle



Sail Boat Cradle



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