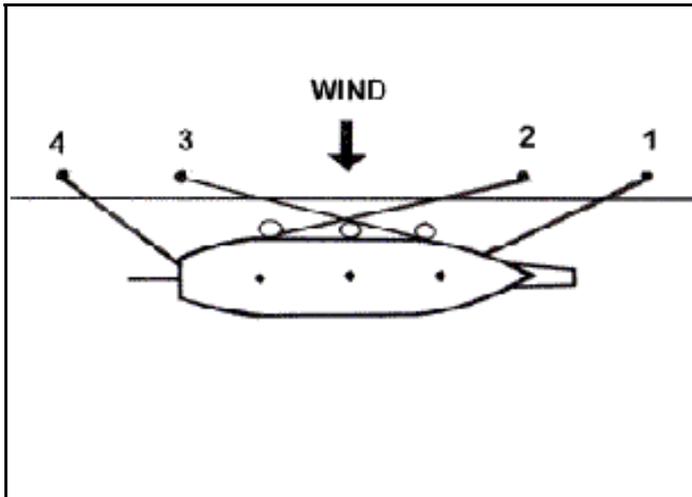


Learn To Sail A Schooner No 3

Docking and Undocking Using A Spring

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Box 1

Lines 1, the bow line and line 4, the stern line, hold the boat into the quay. Line 3 is the head spring and 2 is the back spring. The head spring stops the boat from going ahead and the back spring stops it going back.

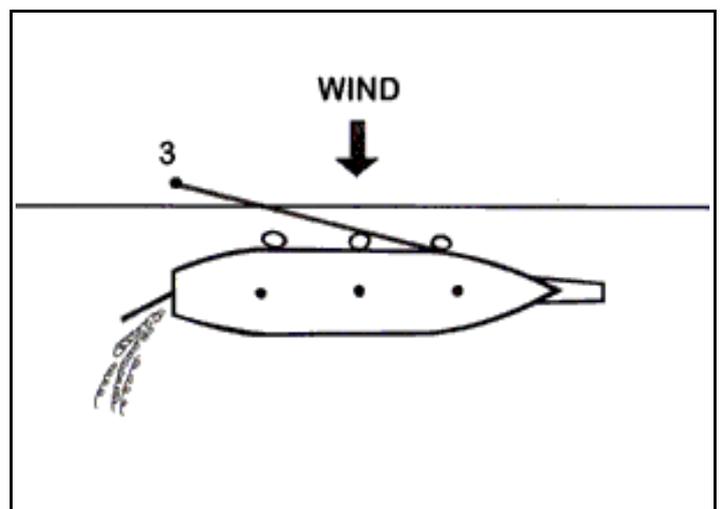
Together they prevent Trinovante from surging ahead and astern in the berth. Individually they are invaluable in close quarters manoeuvring.

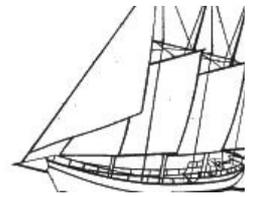
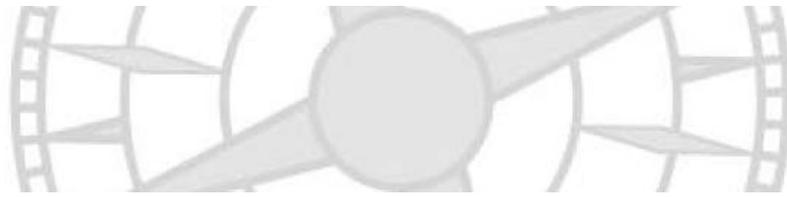
Box 2

All the lines have been taken in except the head spring No 3.

In slow ahead with starboard rudder applied the ship is in a stable position held into the quay by the tension on the head spring and the prop wash deflected from the rudder.

Now only one line is left for the crew to cast off.

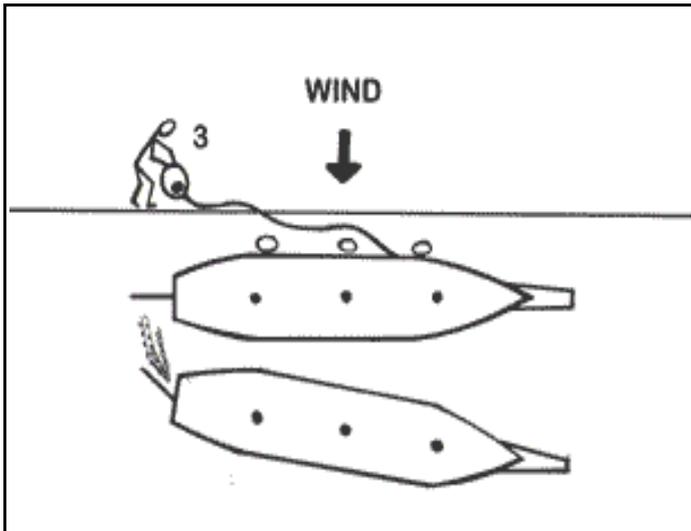




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Box 3

The engine is then taken out of gear and the crew ease some slack in the head spring so that it may be cast off from ashore. We can also use a slip line if there is no handy passer-by.

The line is then hauled in by the crew.

The ship will now blow sideways away from the quay with the bows tending to fall off the wind first. This can be corrected if necessary with a short burst of ahead with full port rudder.

Box 4

We return to the same berth but with vessels moored either side. We can get close enough to pass a head spring ashore.

With starboard rudder and steady power applied the ship will be bowsed in to the quay. The spring is surged as necessary to exactly position the vessel in the berth. This line will be heavily loaded and in the charge of an experienced crew member.

