

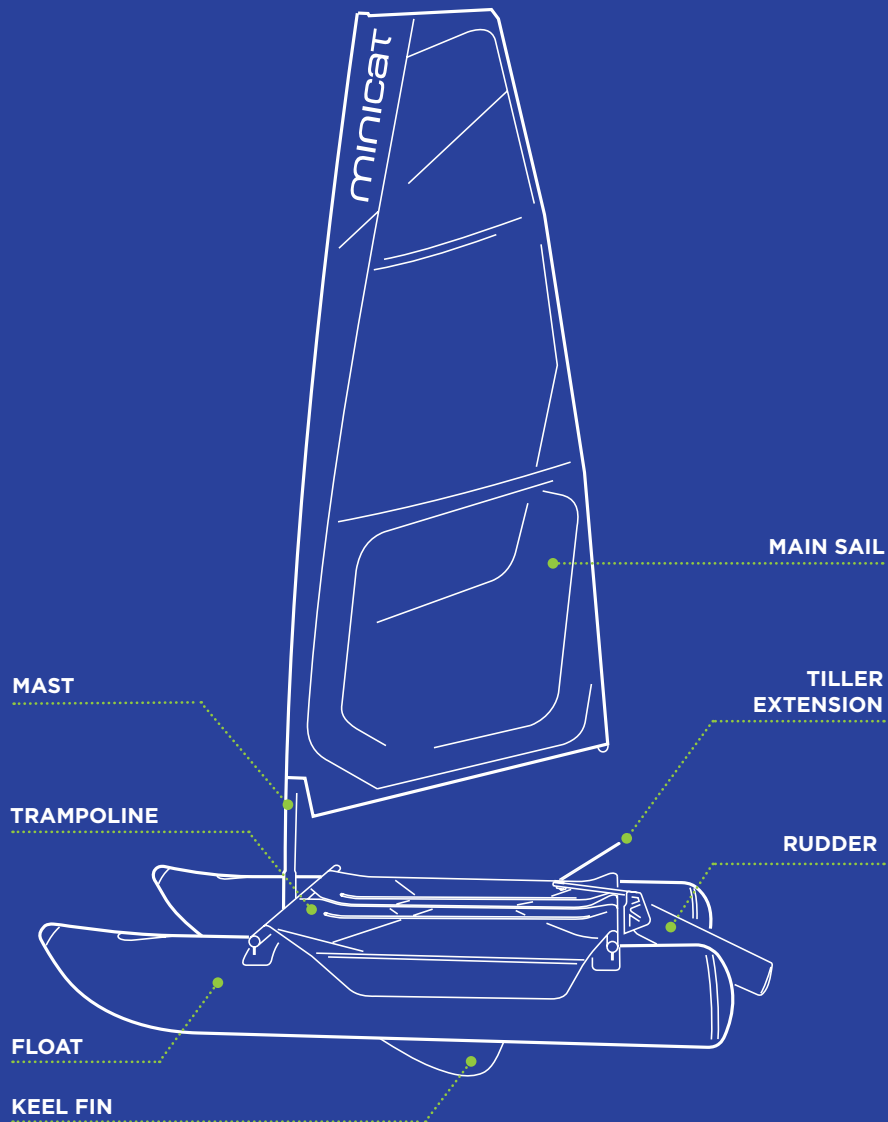
MINICAT GUPPY  
USER GUIDE

minicat

ULTRA LIGHT CATAMARAN



# INTRODUCTION TO YOUR NEW MINICAT



Thank you for purchasing your MINICAT.  
We hope that your new boat will give you many  
hours of fun, enjoyment and pleasure on the water.

**CAUTION!**

*Please remember  
when sailing:  
ALWAYS SAFETY FIRST*

Your MINICAT Team

**This Guide will help you to control your boat easily and safely. It contains a detailed description of the boat and information about its assembly, operation and maintenance. Please, read carefully, view the accompanying video and get fully acquainted with the boat before using it.**

This User's Guide is neither a training manual of sailing safety, nor a sailing course. If this is your first boat, to ensure your comfort and safety familiarise yourself with the operation of the boat before sailing it for the first time. Either your MINICAT retailer, the National Sailing Federation, or your local sailing club will be pleased to recommend you to an appropriate sailing course, or qualified sailing instructors.

Do not set sail if the expected sailing conditions (wind force, wave height) do not correspond to the design category of your boat.

Any changes to your MINICAT which could influence the safety characteristics of the boat, must be performed, verified and documented by a competent and authorised person. The boat manufacturer will not bear the responsibility for any unapproved changes

Always keep your MINICAT well maintained and take into account any deterioration of its condition, which may occur as a consequence of heavy usage or misuse. Despite its strength, your MINICAT may be seriously damaged if it is not used properly. This will jeopardise your safety when sailing.

Always ensure that your MINICAT is assembled precisely according to the instructions, it may be possible to assemble to boat with incorrect positioning, this can result in non-performance or even collapse when sailing.

Always adjust the speed and the heading of the boat according to the sailing conditions (wind force, wave height).

**All persons using any sailing craft must wear life jackets. ALWAYS - SAFETY FIRST**

**CAUTION!**

*Please pay special attention to the selection of your life jacket. It must be certified and equipped with a label containing the information about the carrying capacity and reference to the certificate of safety.*

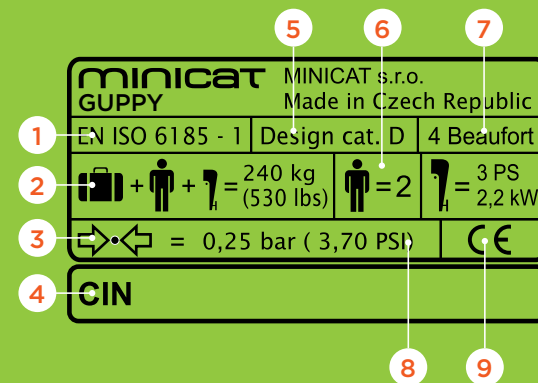
*Please keep this User Guide in a safe place and give it to the new owner when selling the boat.*

Manufacturer's name and adress: MINICAT s.r.o.  
Bilovice 43  
687 12 Bilovice  
Czech Republic

Manufacturer's code: HOC  
Name of the model: MINICAT GUPPY  
Design category of the boat: "D" - Wind max. 4 Beaufort !  
Empty weight of the boat: 27 kg (59,5 lbs)  
Maximum permitted load: 240 kg (530 lbs)  
(see the carrying capacity)  
Maximum weight of the loaded boat: 269 kg (593 lbs)

Drive: By sails  
Sails: Main sail  
Main sail area: 4,5 sq.m (42 sq.ft)  
Foresail area: 1,4 sq.m (9,8 sq.ft)  
Length of the boat: 3,0 m (9,8 ft)  
Width of the boat: 1,5m (4,9 ft)  
Height of the mast: 4,15 m (13 ft)  
Floats operation pressure: 0.025 MPa (3.7 psi)

1. Norm
2. Permitted loading capacity (Persons + luggage )
3. Suggested operational pressure
4. Serial number
5. EU design category
6. Permitted human capacity
7. Max. wind force
8. Permitted motor output
9. CE-declaration



**WARNING!**

**Do not exceed the determined maximum number of occupants.**

**Regardless of the number of occupants on the boat the total weight of occupants and equipment must not exceed the maximum permitted load.**

Maximum wind force:  
**4 Beaufort = 20-28 km/h**  
**13-17 mph**  
**11-15 kn**  
**5.5-7.9 m/s**

Maximum number of occupants:  
**2 adults**

Carrying capacity:  
**not exceeding 240 kg**  
**(Total weight 267 kg)**

## Always check your MINICAT before sailing!

Perform a visual check of all parts of the boat before each sailing.

### Protection against falling overboard and how to get back on the boat:

Sit only in the places made for sitting. These are the parts of the frame at the rear half of the floats. The stability of the boat will be reduced if you sit anywhere else.

It is necessary to protect the trampoline from damage, especially rupture by sharp objects, or from careless handling.

For ease of access onto the boat from the water, there are fabric handles on both sides of the floats.

#### CARRYING CAPACITY

***The maximum permitted load includes the weight of all persons onboard and any accessories, personal items, equipment or baggage.***

#### WARNING!

***Never exceed the maximum permitted load when loading the boat. Always load the boat carefully and allocate the individual weight according to the design of the boat. Avoid the location of heavy objects at the top. Disregarding these instructions may cause the boat to capsize and may result in damage and injury. When sailing always ensure that personal items are secured to the boat.***

# ASSEMBLY OF YOUR MINICAT



1

Take out all the parts from the bag and spread them on a flat surface, on grass is best.

Unfold the rolled floats and trampoline so that the bottom of the floats are facing upwards

2

Insert the keel fins into the pockets on the floats. On each float there is one keel fin. Be absolutely sure to insert the keel fins correctly, the front side to the front pocket and back side to the back pocket check the image carefully.



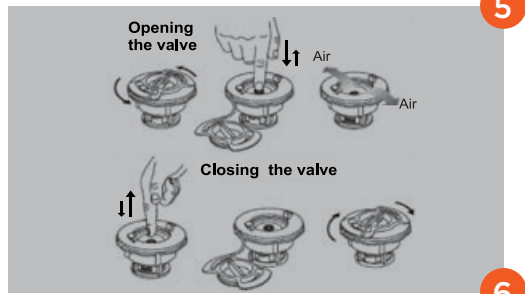
3

Fit the front central frame to the side metal tubes with trampoline. The frame is fitted with the stainless steel safety cotter pins. Make sure the front central frame is fitted in the right direction check image carefully



4





5

Before inflation, check the status of the valves. Set the valves to the closed position, slightly push on the centre pin and release the pressure on the pin to enable it to sit in the higher position.

Inflate the floats to the required pressure.



7

Turn the assembled frame with trampoline and floats upside down, so the keel fins are now beneath, touching the ground.

Fit the rudder to the back part of the central frame. The rudder is fixed by one vertical pintle and the retaining clip.



9

Fit the tiller extension to the rudder assembly.



10

Unpack the 3 parts of the mast from its bag and assemble the mast according to the attached diagram. The parts insert into each other easily.



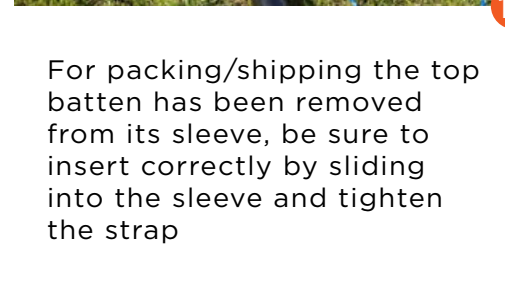
Unfold the sail onto the flat ground

11



12

Run the mast inside the tunnel on the sail



13

For packing/shipping the top batten has been removed from its sleeve, be sure to insert correctly by sliding into the sleeve and tighten the strap

Lift the mast with the sail and fit it into the front central frame



The bottom batten (boom/tube) with the fork on the mast tighten with the strap on the edge of the sail. The sleeve in which the batten sits must be completely smooth without any wrinkles.

Hook the tension rope which is on the bottom of the sail by a carabine into the frame. Then stretch out the sail and fasten the rope in the cleat



Mount the sheet pulley to the stainless steel ring using the carabine

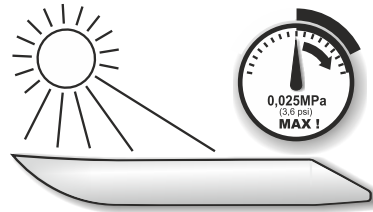
***Now your Guppy is ready to sail.  
Before you go on the water please double-check that your boat is assembled correctly, the floats have enough pressure (it is recommended to put little extra pressure in just before the boat goes on the water, as in the cold water the pressure will immediately reduce slightly).***

***When your MiniCat is out of the water, and in direct sunlight, remove some air from the floats as the pressure will increase with the heat from the sun.***

**WARNING !**

*It is recommended after each sailing, to treat the connections of the mast using silicone oil.*

*When exposed to the sun, the pressure in floats increases - let air out gradually!*



*Bright sunlight will eventually have a deteriorating effect on the rubber surface of the floats, therefore wherever possible when your MINICAT is not in use it is advisable to leave the boat out of direct strong sunlight. We recommend your purchase of the optional boat cover.*

**WARNING !**

*Water should never come inside of the tubes. In case this happens please empty as soon as possible and dry throughout*

*Water inside of the tubes can cause a damage to the inner rubber of the tube and this can cause I-beam damages as well.*

*If you experience a loss of pressure of 20% of operating pressure inside a 24 hour period when external temperature is constant it is considered to be completely normal and no reason for a complaint to the manufacturer or a warranty claim.*

**WARNING !**

*There is a possibility that the flat valve can become a little loose after the first few inflations, and that can result in a little air escaping around the valve (being a result of the stretching and contracting of the boat skin). In case this happens with your boat, it is sufficient to turn the valve with the valve key by about one quarter to one half a turn until the resistance becomes too great.*

*MINICAT is not intended to be towed behind a motorised craft. It must not be towed, slide moved, or otherwise extensively loaded.*

*Any sharp objects must be securely packaged.*

*Valuable items and personal effects must be placed in a waterproof package and placed in the pockets on the trampoline. We recommend your purchase of the additional front trampoline.*

*If the boat is standing still on a shore for a longer periods of time, please dismantle the keel fins or use the special stands (see our Spare Parts & Accessories Catalogue) under the floats which will prevent the pressure on the floats. You will avoid a possible damage of the keel fins and floats. We also recommend the purchase of the boat cover accessory to protect your boat whilst being left assembled*

*Maximum operating pressure in the floats (air chambers) is 0.025 MPa (3.6 psi). If there is an increase of the ambient air temperature (due to the heat of the sun) the air pressure inside the floats can increase. The air pressure of the floats should be checked and air released if necessary to avoid eventual damage.*

*Before setting sail it is advisable to familiarise yourself with any local regulations or restrictions for the piece of water in which you intend to operate.*

*If the boat is standing still on a shore for a longer periods of time, please dismantle the keel fins or use the special stands (see our Spare Parts & Accessories Catalogue) under the floats which will prevent the pressure on the floats. You will avoid a possible damage of the keel fins and floats..*

*When sailing on large open water (sea, lake) pay close attention to the wind directly from the coast. It is possible to be blown offshore.*

*MINICAT must not be used in bad conditions, for example, low visibility, night, fog, rain. ALWAYS SAFETY FIRST.*

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR DRYING, STORAGE, CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR MINICAT

**After sailing and before storing your MINICAT it is necessary to rinse the boat using water and a mild soap or detergent, and then allow the boat to dry out thoroughly. After sailing in salt water it is necessary to wash the boat thoroughly with fresh water. It is recommended to clean all parts from dirt, sand and other impurities using an absorbent cloth. Please note that oil, petrol, acetone, kerosene, paraffin and similar solvents and chemicals are not compatible with the rubber layer on the surface of the boat and must be avoided to prevent damage.**

Before storing your MINICAT and from time to time, we recommend that you clean the boat thoroughly and treat the surface of the rubber floats. The 'MINICAT Maintenance Kit' includes everything you need for the care of your MINICAT including cleaning and preserving fluid, lubricant and silicone oil.

Carefully pack the dry, deflated floats, cleaned from sand and dust, so that the number of folds will be as few as possible. The folds especially at the edges of the packed float have to be protected to prevent unnecessary wear. Care should also

be taken of the cover of the inflation valve, and to avoid any damage to the floats during packaging.

We recommend that you do not leave your boat packed for long periods of time. To prevent deterioration to the floats it is necessary to inflate them periodically.

Pay particular attention when putting single parts into the bag to prevent any damage.

**Store the packed boat in a dry space protected from direct sunlight and adverse temperatures (rec: 10-25 °C). Avoid any load or strain being placed on the boat during storage (putting any heavy objects on top of it, etc.)**

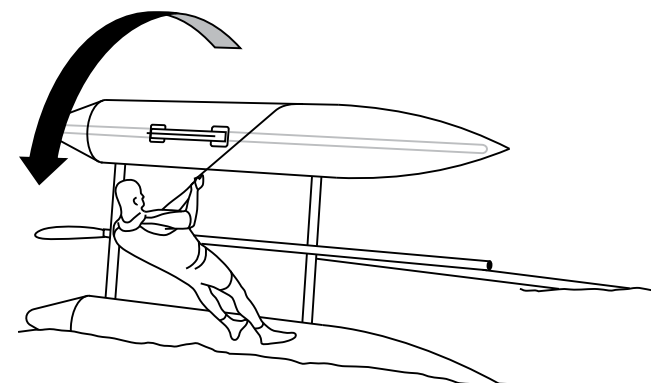
**Careful treatment and good maintenance will increase the life of your MINICAT.**

## Righting a capsized boat (Turning Turtle)

In case of overturning (capsizing) the MINICAT follow these instructions:

1. Release the jib and the main sail to the maximum to assure the least possible resistance of the sails when righting the boat.
2. Stand on the underside of one float then and pull on the mast line and the handle on the other float. Be careful to prevent damage to the keel fins. For added stability stand with your legs apart.

After righting the boat use the handles on both sides of the floats to get back on board.





# REPAIR OF YOUR MINICAT

Damage to the MINICAT floats can be easily repaired using the supplied **'MINICAT Repair Kit'**.

## Repair procedure:

1. Mark the damaged area on the boat and select the patch according to the size of the damage.
2. The surface of the patch and of the damaged area must be dry, clean, dust-free and without trace of previous adhesive.
3. De-grease both the patch and the damaged area using acetone or petrol.
4. Apply a thin layer of adhesive to both surfaces.
5. When the adhesive is dry to touch attach the patch to the damaged area and apply pressure.

After minor repairs (punctures), it is possible to re-inflate the boat and to continue sailing after just 60 minutes, with larger repairs it is recommended to wait for 24 hours. With more complicated repairs you are recommended to return your MiniCat to your supplier, to the manufacturer, or to an accredited repair-shop. Careful treatment and maintenance can extend the service life of your MINICAT.

## IMPORTANT !



**The manufacturer's warranty period is 24 months from the date of the sale. All warranty repairs are carried out by a designated, authorised repairer or by the manufacturer. Upon purchase of your MiniCat you must complete the WARRANTY REGISTRATION FORM on the MiniCat website: [www.minicatamaran.eu/warranty-registration](http://www.minicatamaran.eu/warranty-registration) Only when this registration is received will your warranty be validated.**

## Worldwide distributor:

**Moravian Exports, s.r.o.**  
Kaly 37  
594 55 Dolní Loučky  
Czech Republic  
Tel: +420 776 749 175  
Email: [info@minicatamaran.eu](mailto:info@minicatamaran.eu)

## Manufacturer:

**MINICAT s.r.o.**  
Bílovice 43  
687 12 Bílovice u Uh. Hradiště  
Czech Republic  
Tel: +420 739 669 330  
Email: [minicat@seznam.cz](mailto:minicat@seznam.cz)

# RECOMMENDED PACKING

To avoid unnecessary damage while storing or transporting your boat please follow the instructions on recommended packing below:



1. - 1x Mast
2. - 2x Keel fin
3. - 1x Frame with trampoline and floats
4. - 1x Central frame
5. - 1x Complete Rudder
6. - 1x Tiller extension
7. - 1x Sail
8. - 1x Inflation pump
9. - 1x Accessories  
( USB stick, Repair Kit, User guide...)

## PLEASE NOTE !

***The total weight of the assembled boat is 27 kg.***

***When counted together with the bags, inflation pump and spare parts to total weight comes to 30 kg.***

# CAUTION!

**Sailing can be very dangerous and personally exhausting. Therefore, the user of this product must realise, that not following safety precautions may result in serious injury, or even in death. Therefore when using this product pay close attention to following safety precautions:**

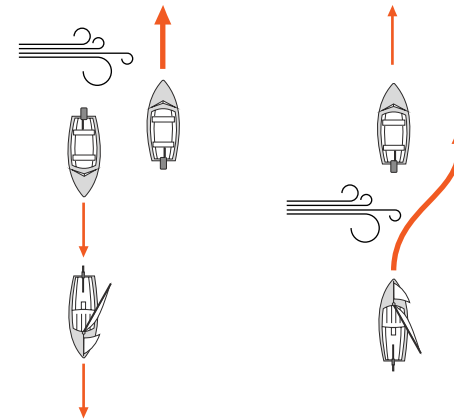
1. Get well acquainted with the operation of this design of boat.
2. Ensure that you have first aid training with certification and have emergency/first aid equipment with you when you sail.
3. Always use a quality certified life jacket.
4. Before each time you sail check your equipment for functionality and that it does not show any signs of damage.
5. Do not overestimate your abilities on the water; take care of yourself.
6. Ensure your state of health with a doctor before you go sailing.
7. Always observe the manufacturer's recommendations regarding the use of this product.
8. Never use this product after taking alcohol, drugs or medication or when tired.
9. Before using this product read the User's Guide carefully.
10. Always pay attention to sea winds and currents.
11. The user of this product must be familiar with the basic sailing skills and must be aware of the risks attached to this sport.

**ALWAYS - SAFETY FIRST**

# USEFULL KNOWLEDGE

## Giving Way in Sailing

All types of vessels on the water are governed by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, frequently abbreviated as COLREGS. The entire set of rules is highly complicated, however, when you start sailing, it is sufficient to be familiar with the basic rules that are listed here.



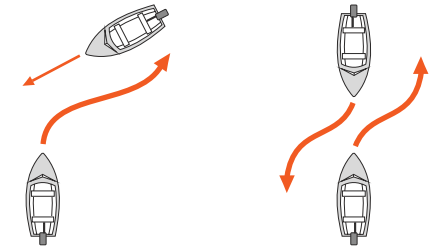
## The rules for navigation in a channel (or canal)

All vessels must stay to the right side in channels or canals, so that they meet on their port side.

## Overtaking rule

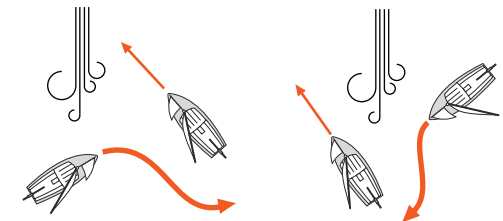
An overtaking vessel must keep out of the way of the vessel being overtaken, even in the case of a sailing vessel overtaking a power-driven vessel.

The port rule: A vessel sailing port side (with the boom on the port side) has the pass over a vessel sailing starboard side. The vessel sailing starboard side must give way to a vessel sailing port side.



A vessel that arrives from the right is given way in the same way as on the road.

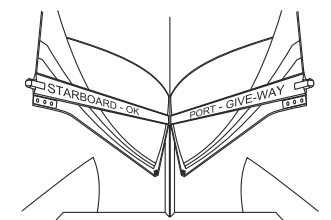
When power-driven vessels meet head-on, they turn their course to the right and meet on their port side.



The starboard side vessel alters her course in order to sail behind the stern of the port side vessel.

The windward vessel shall avoid the leeward vessel and navigate in order to sail behind her.

## GOOD TO KNOW!



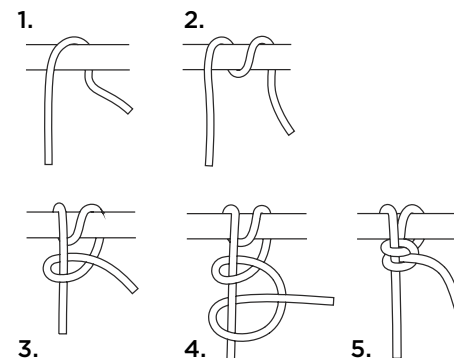
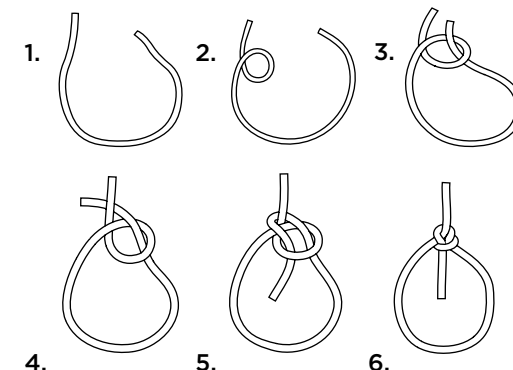
# BEAUFORT SCALE

| Beaufort no. | Description     | Wind speed   | Wave height             | Sea condition   | Land condition   |
|--------------|-----------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| 0            | Calm            | < 1 km/h<br>< 1 mph<br>< 1 kn<br>< 0.3 m/s                 | 0 m<br>0 ft             | Flat  | Calm. Smoke rises vertically   |
| 1            | Light air       | 1.1 - 5.5 km/h<br>1-3 mph<br>1-2 kn<br>0.3 - 1.5 m/s       | 0 - 0.2 m<br>0 - 1 ft   | Ripples without crests  | Smoke drift indicates wind direction, still wind vanes.              |
| 2            | Light breeze    | 5.6 - 11 km/h<br>4 - 7 mph<br>3 - 6 kn<br>1.6 - 3.4 m/s    | 0.2 - 0.5 m<br>1 - 2 ft | Small wavelets. Crests of glassy appearance, not breaking             | Wind felt on exposed skin. Leaves rustle, vanes begin to move.       |
| 3            | Gentle breeze   | 12 - 19 km/h<br>8 - 12 mph<br>7 - 10 kn<br>3.4 - 5.4 m/s   | 0.5 - 1 m<br>2 - 3.5 ft | Large wavelets. Crests begin to break; scattered whitecaps            | Leaves and small twigs constantly moving, light flags extended.      |
| 4            | Moderate breeze | 20 - 28 km/h<br>13 - 17 mph<br>11 - 15 kn<br>5.5 - 7.9 m/s | 1 - 2 m<br>3.5 - 6 ft   | Small waves with breaking crests. Fairly frequent whitecaps.          | Dust and loose paper raised. Small branches begin to move.           |
| 5            | Fresh breeze    | 29 - 38 km/h<br>18 - 24 mph<br>16 - 20 kn<br>8 - 10.7 m/s  | 2 - 3 m<br>6 - 9 ft     | Moderate waves of some length. Many whitecaps. Small amounts of spray | Branches of a moderate size move. Small trees in leaf begin to sway. |

# SAILOR KNOTS

## Bowline (also known occasionally as the Boiling knot)

The bowline creates a fixed loop at the end of a rope, making it useful for fastening a mooring line to a post or ring. It's also the knot most commonly used for rescue ropes, as a trapped person can tie the loop around them and then be hoisted up with the rope.

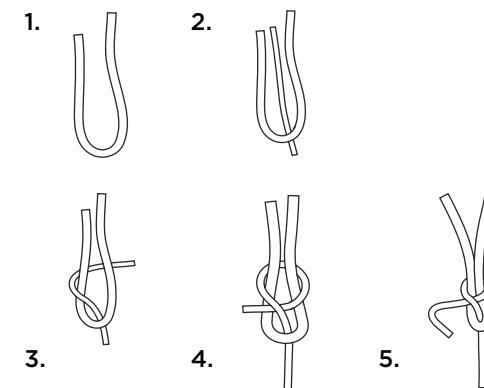


## Round Turn and Two Half Hitches

While a bit of a mouthful, this useful knot is used to secure a rope to a fixed object such as a pole. The tail of the rope is wrapped around an object (this is the 'round turn') and secured to the standing part with two hitches (the tail end is passed over and under the standing part, twice).

## Sheet Bend (also known as becket bend, weaver's knot and weaver's hitch)

The sheet bend is useful for joining together two different ropes. It's best to use this knot for ropes which are under load, as it can work loose on ropes which are not under any strain. This is the preferred knot instead of the Reef Knot.





# Certificate of Conformity

No. 04 - 2020

Manufacturer:

**MINICAT s.r.o.**

**Bilovice 43**

**687 12**

**Company Registration Number: 08178895**

Registered MIC (Manufacturer's Identity Code)

according to ČSN EN ISO 10087, Art. 42 - "HOC"

declares and certifies on its exclusive responsibility that the product:

## Recreational Craft - MINICAT Guppy

determined for sailing in protected offshore waters, large lakes, river mouths, bays, etc., is designed and produced in conformity with the requirements of **ČSN EN ISO 6185**, issued by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) on 10 November 2001 and is safe under the conditions of the above - stated use.

The manufacturer declares that all the products put on the market conform to the technical documentation and to the basic requirements.

Conformity assessment has been conducted according to:

**ČSN EN ISO 6185**

**ČSN EN ISO 10240**

**ČSN EN ISO 14945**

**ČSN EN ISO 10087**

**Directive 2013/53/EU**

The product meets all the requested values and parameters and all the required tests have been successfully carried out.

In Bilovice on 1.1.2023

**minicat** s.r.o.

IČ: 08178895, DIČ: CZ08178895  
687 12, Bilovice 43

**ENJOY YOUR  
NEW MINICAT  
AND PLEASE  
REMEMBER:  
ALWAYS  
SAFETY  
FIRST**

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[www.minicatamaran.eu](http://www.minicatamaran.eu)



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ULTRA LIGHT CATAMARAN

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