

Mast Tabernacle Detail

These notes are primarily from the Weekender plans, but will give a Pocket Cruiser builder the information required to set up a folding rig. Keep in mind that the dimensions you use to cut your mast will need to be set by your own boat and its rig. Finish the rig before you cut the mast. This way you will have the boom, mainsail, and gaff in place to measure. Make the cut at a point high enough to allow the mast to fold down over the dropped rig. This will let you leave the sails and stays all ready to go.

The instructions below are from the Weekender plans:

To rig the Tabernacle to enable the Mast to fold down for quick set-up time, we simply cut the Mast in two, 47" up from the bottom end. (Pocket Cruiser builders remember the note above: ignore the 47" dimension) Then we cut 3/8"x3/8" Notches across both the upper and lower Mast portions on their front and rear sides to clear the Hinge Pins that will face toward the Mast Center, so the Mast Hoops can slide down over the Hinges, as seen in Fig.#23-A. We positioned a 12" Gate-Hinge with 3" Hinge Pin on the rear side of the Mast, with its outer face (the side with the counter sinking of the screw-holes) facing the Mast, with the Hinge Pin recessed into the slots cut across the upper and lower Mast portions, and the 1-1/4", #10 Screws entering the Holes through the Hinge from the wrong side, away from the countersinking. Next we used a hacksaw or grinder to cut off the flattened end of the Hinge Pin of a second Gate Hinge, removed the pin with a hammer and centerpunch, then mounted it on the front side of the mast with its Pin receivers recessed in the slots the same way. This way a Bolt can be slipped into the empty Pin receivers to temporarily lock the Mast in the upright position long enough to hook up the Forestay to hold the Mast up securely.

