

Simple Cabin Mods

by John Standing, Shrimper 503 (1998)

A few simple suggestions for customizing the cabin on a Mk 1 Shrimper were offered in the Spring 1998 issue of *The Shrimper* by John Standing (then owner of Shrimper 503). These would equally well apply to the Mk2 Classic accommodation layout. A composite sketch showing his cabin mods is included.

1. Inside the cabin I have altered the starboard forward stowage bin cover by cutting it across and fitting two stainless steel hinges. This was at the request of my wife who had got a bit fed up with having to lift everything off the locker cover before she could get anything out.
2. Although we have a table fitted, for just a small snack I made a table about 12 inches by 18 inches to fit on the top of the plate case (see drawing). I covered this with decktread material to stop cups and plates sliding about. It also helps our small dog cross from one side of the cabin to the other as she tends to slip off the bare plastic finish.
3. To enable cooking to be a little less basic I made up a double burner stove to fit into the same place as the single burner stove supplied. I found that a double burner Camping Gas Tramp 2000 stove fitted into the space and mounted it on plywood rectangle with a shaped piece of ply underneath that clipped into the oval in the locker top after taking out the fittings for the original gimbals. I use a 6lb camping gas bottle contained in a plastic storage box that fits under the hatch, in the space previously occupied by the gimbaled stove, where it can easily be turned on and off from the hinged lid. Refitting the gimbaled stove only takes about fifteen minutes, should it be required.
4. To supply the electrical power on the boat I use two gel aircraft batteries. Each battery is 18 amp hour and the two together, connected in parallel, gives me about ten days running for two berth lights, a vhf radio and a depth sounder. The batteries are fitted into a box with a X4 HIFI connector screwed on the side to plug everything into as this allows me to lift the box out to take home and recharge. The box fits under the step on the port side and is tied down to two large eyes screwed to the rear bulkhead. So far this arrangement has worked well.

