

Mast Step Problems

By Rodney Arnold, Shrimper 294 (*Morning Vicar*) (Winter 2003)

After reading about cracked moulding under the step of older boats, I remembered that mine had a crack that had been there from day one, so armed with your article, got someone in, and this additional info may help others.

The support bears down on the keel only and therefore the wood block to be fitted only needs to be keel width. With this thought, we cut no holes, using only the existing rectangular hole which accesses the mast step bolt. We lowered a piece of hardwood on two threads, taking it out several times to plane the depth to a snug fit, then tapped it in place and secured it with a screw or nail into the mast step before touching up the gel.

Total cost £30 using professional help!