

HAND-EE-CLEAT

UNIQUE MOORING DEVICE DEVELOPED ON GREAT LAKES

Written by: Hand-ee-Cleat, www.handeecleat.com



HARV AND ALIN STEELE ARE MICHIGAN NATIVES WHO HAVE been boating together since they were high school sweet hearts over 30 years ago. Though they now live in Cape Coral, Florida, they spent many years experiencing the joys and challenges of cruising on the Great Lakes. While Toledo Beach Marina and North Cape Yacht Club in LaSalle, Michigan, was their home port, they frequently cruised to Ohio, Canada, and Lakes Huron and Michigan. It was during this time that Hand-ee-Cleat® was invented.

An engineer by training and perennial “tinkerer,” Alin is always making some doodad to resolve an issue on the boat. He saw a recurring group of related problems that did not have a ready solution.

Over the years, Harv and Alin kept finding themselves saying, “I wish there was a cleat right here,” “I wish there was a handle right here,” or “I wish I could hang this line/bag/bumper right here.” The key was to develop something that could be easily attached to any kind of piling—size, shape, or material, and could accommodate the human hand as well as providing a cleat for lines. Eventually, Alin came up with an “open cleat” design, easy-to-use attachment system, and Hand-ee-Cleat® was born. Hand-ee-Cleat® is a portable, temporary hand hold and cleat. It features a patented “open cleat” design that allows it to be both a functional cleat and a comfortable hand hold. The cleat can be attached to almost anything using the high-tenacity abrasion, UV resistant polypropylene straps with heavy duty CAM buckles. The straps have an integral loop, and the cleat has a sponge rubber backing that work together allowing the straps to be secured very tightly.

After developing Hand-ee-Cleat®, friends encouraged Alin & Harv to market it. Some of the many uses for Hand-ee-Cleat® are:

- Safety hand hold for getting on/off the boat.
- Primary or auxiliary cleat for your boat (based on size, weather).
- Placing a bumper exactly where you need it.
- A secure hand hold on your mast working on a halyard or changing a light bulb.
- Staging your lines for easier docking when you return from a trip.
- Secure your PWC, dinghy, or kayak to make getting on/off easier.
- Carry, maneuver an awkward load like a sail boat mast or kayak.

Hand-ee-Cleat® is fully made in the U.S.A. Check out Hand-ee-Cleat® at handeecleat.com, call (239) 671-8887 for more. ■



The versatile handle and auxiliary cleat!



1 Place a bumper where you want it

2 A secure hand hold to get on/off boat

3 Auxiliary cleat to secure your boat

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