

Rigid Boom Vangs

Rigid vang are great for convenience, sailing, and safety. They are quite common, but what is their purpose and what are their advantages? They replace two functions, taking the place of both the topping lift and the boom vang, but are much more convenient...

Like a topping lift, the rigid vang positions the boom up and out of the cockpit when moored or at the dock, allowing more room and freedom to move around the cockpit while not sailing. While sailing they prevent the boom from falling into the cockpit during a reef or when it's time to douse the mains'l at the end of the day. This not only prevents the boom from damaging your dodger, but also will help prevent injury to the crew.

Like a boom vang, they also help maintain sail shape by keeping the boom down at the proper angle. When sailing off the wind, when the mainsheet is no longer holding the boom down, the boom will rise, allowing the top half of the main to twist off, spilling air and reducing performance. The rigid vang, with far greater purchase than a standard vang, allows you to easily trim excessive twist out of the mains'l.

In some cases the topping lift can interfere with new contemporary sail designs that have greater roach. The greater roach adds sail area and performance but moves the leech further aft. A traditional topping lift interferes with and tends to chafe the leach of the mains'l.



With separate controls, it is typical to have to adjust both the topping lift and boom vang to change the trim of the main or height of the boom. The real beauty of the rigid vang is that a single line does both. You no longer have to ease the vang then haul on the topping lift to raise the boom. Just ease the rigid vang and its spring action raises the boom in one easy motion.

All of these are great reasons to install a rigid vang. We have a rigid vang solution for every Catalina.

Ordering

Since one never knows for certain which equipment the factory installed and which was installed by a previous owner, we always require photos of the mast and boom mounting locations.

There are three possible scenarios where one might be installing a new rigid vang.

A) A new install.

If your boat has never had a rigid vang and there are no fastener holes in the mast or boom for the brackets.

We know the size and purchase you require, but we need to ensure you have the correct shaped brackets for your spars. Some Catalina models have used more than one spar vendor and in some cases a previous owner without your knowledge has replaced spars.

a) Create templates of the aft surface of the mast and the underside of the boom. Use a piece of stiff soldering wire, #8 single strand bare copper wire, or a contour gauge available at a hardware store for less than \$10.00. Transfer the shape from your gauge by tracing onto a piece of stiff paper. Cut the paper shape out and hold against you mast to confirm you have the proper shape. **Remember, your new bracket can only fit as accurately as your template!**

Repeat the process for the underside of the boom.

b) Sign and label the templates as boom or mast and the bid number we gave you on the phone.

c) Mail your template to:

Catalina Direct
10210 Systems Parkway Suite 390
Sacramento, CA 95827

d) Email photos to orderforms@catalinadirect.com

B) A replacement installation using the currently installed brackets. A rigid vang has been installed previously, but the existing brackets are in good condition and are to be re-used. Since the OEM brackets have changed over time, connections to your existing brackets must be custom fabricated to match their dimensions.

We know the size and purchase you require, but we need to ensure your new rigid vang will fit your current brackets.

a) Use the measurement drawing below after obtaining the required information from your boat.

b) Complete the required dimensions in the spaces provided.

c) Sign the form.

d) Email the completed form and photos to: orderforms@catalinadirect.com

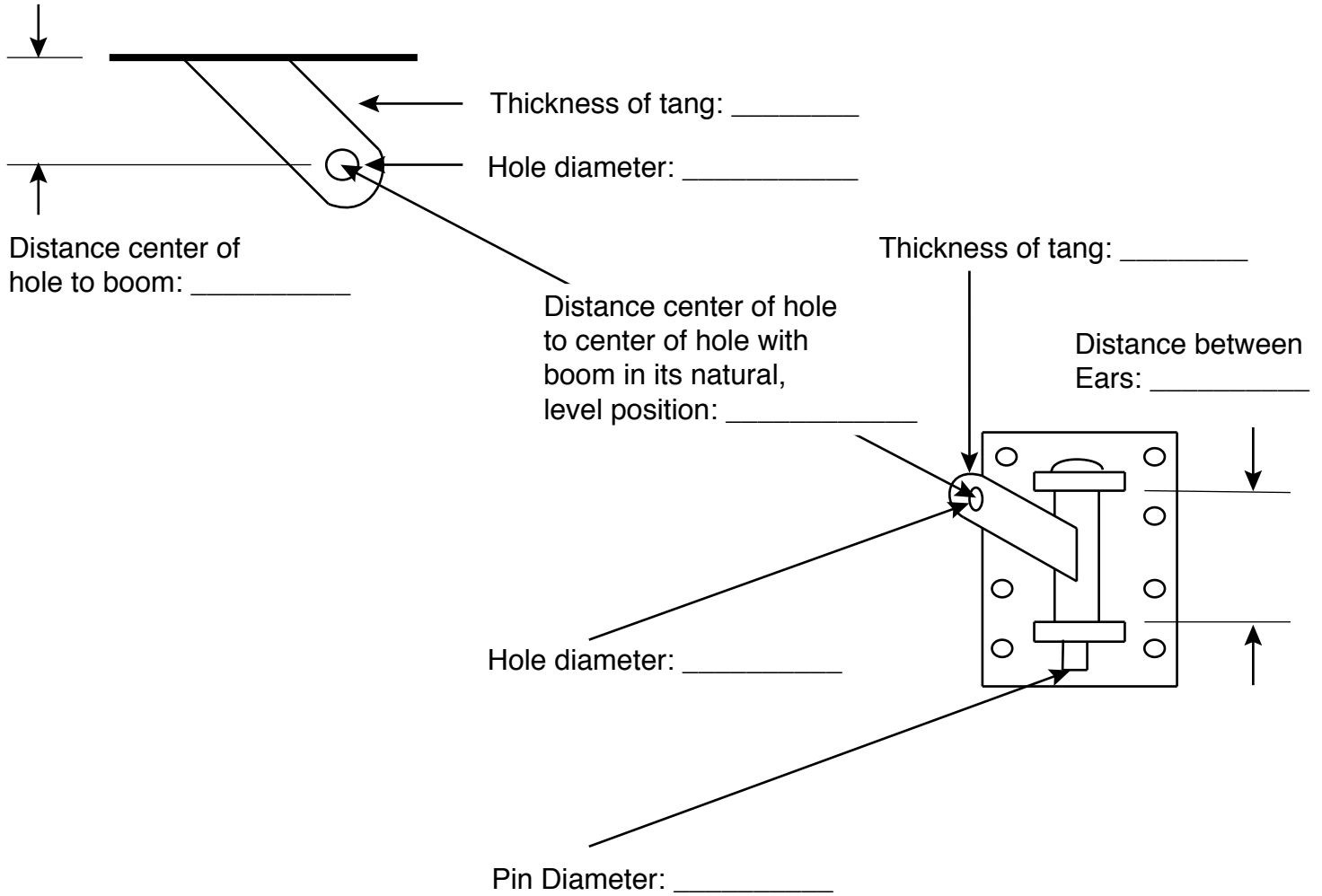
C) A replacement installation reusing the fastener holes in the mast and boom. A rigid vang has been installed previously, but you want to use new mast and boom brackets. We know the size and purchase you require, but we need to ensure the fastener hole pattern in your mast and boom matches the fastener hole pattern in new custom fabricated brackets.

a) Complete the measurement drawing below by measuring directly from your boat.

b) Sign the drawing

c) Mail your old brackets and the signed drawing and to:

Catalina Direct
10210 Systems Parkway Suite 390
Sacramento, CA 95827



This is a special order item; your order cannot be cancelled or returned once your order is accepted, so please choose and measure carefully. Complete your order by agreeing to these terms and signing below.

I, _____ certify that the dimensions of
printed name
 the brackets as shown in this drawing are correct.

X _____
signature and date

Bid # _____