

PIRANHAMAX™ INSTALLATION GUIDE

532437-1_A

Overview

Follow the instructions in this installation guide to mount the control head and install the transducer. The transducer can either be installed inside the hull, on the transom of the boat, or onto a trolling motor, depending on your transducer type.

We encourage you to read this guide before starting the installation, so you may understand the installation requirements.

Supplies: In addition to the hardware supplied with your transducer, you will need a 1 Amp fuse, a powered hand drill and various drill bits, various hand tools, including a ruler or straightedge, a level, a 12" plumb line (weighted string or monofilament line), marker or pencil, safety glasses and dust mask, and marine-grade silicone sealant.

NOTE: If you cannot find a transom mount location that will work for your boat hull, a different mounting technique or transducer type should be considered. See the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section of our Web site at humminbird.com or call Humminbird® Customer Service at **1-800-633-1468**.

NOTE: Due to the wide variety of hulls, only general instructions are presented in this installation guide. Each boat hull represents a unique set of requirements that should be evaluated prior to installation.

NOTE: When drilling holes in fiberglass hulls, it is best to start with a smaller bit and use progressively larger drill bits to reduce the chance of chipping or flaking the outer coating.

Control Head Installation

1. Determine Where to Mount

It is important to review the following points when determining where to mount the control head:

- Cables:** Test run the cables for the power and transducer. See *Transom Transducer Installation* to plan the location of the transducer and cable route.
- Mounting Surface:** The mounting surface should be stable enough to protect the control head from excessive wave shock and vibration. The control head should be easy to see during operation.
- Clearance:** The mounting area should allow sufficient room for the unit to tilt and swivel freely, and for easy removal and installation (Figures 1 and 2).

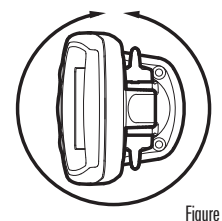


Figure 1

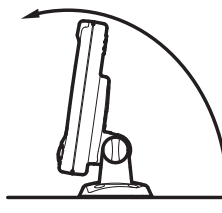


Figure 2

2. Connect the Power Cable to the Boat

It is important to review the following information before you start the power installation:

- Cable Length:** A 6' (2 m) long power cable is included. You may shorten or lengthen the cable using 18 gauge multi-stranded copper wire.
- Power Supply:** The control head must be connected to a 12 VDC power supply using a 1 Amp fuse.
- Fuse Panel or Battery:** The control head power cable can be connected to the electrical system of the boat at the fuse panel (usually located near the console), or directly to the battery. In order to minimize the potential for interference with other marine electronics, a separate power source (such as a second battery) may be necessary.

WARNING! Some boats have 24 or 36 Volt electric systems, but the control head MUST be connected to a 12 VDC power supply.

WARNING! Make sure that the power cable is not connected to the control head at the beginning of this procedure.

WARNING! Humminbird is not responsible for over-voltage or over-current failures. The control head must have adequate protection through the proper selection and installation of a 1 Amp fuse.

- Confirm that the power cable is disconnected from the control head.
- Connect the power cable wires to the fuse panel or battery as follows:

Fuse Terminal Connection: Use crimp-on type electrical connectors (not included) that match the terminal on the fuse panel. Attach the black wire to ground (-), and the red wire to positive (+) 12 VDC power (Figure 3). Install a 1 Amp fuse (not included) for protection of the unit.

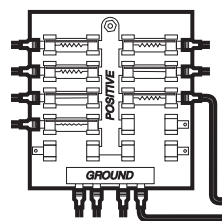


Figure 3

Or...

Battery Connection: Install an inline fuse holder and a 1 Amp fuse (not included) for the protection of the unit (Figure 4). Attach the black wire to ground (-), and the red wire to positive (+) 12 VDC power.

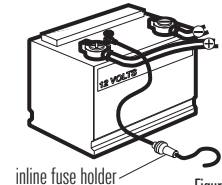


Figure 4

3. Assemble the Control Head Base

Your control head base will have a tilt and swivel mount. See the instructions below to assemble and mount the control head base.

- Insert the mount arms into the base. Then, hold the mount arms in place as you turn the base upside down.
- Insert the swivel ring into the base, with the countersink holes for the arm screws facing out.
- Secure the mount arms with the four #6 screws provided (Figure 5). **Hand tighten only!**
- Set the assembled control head base in place on the selected mounting surface. Mark the four mounting screw locations with a pencil or punch.
- Set the base aside, and drill the four mounting screw holes using a 9/64" (3.6 mm) bit.
- Proceed to *Route the Control Head Cables Under the Deck*.

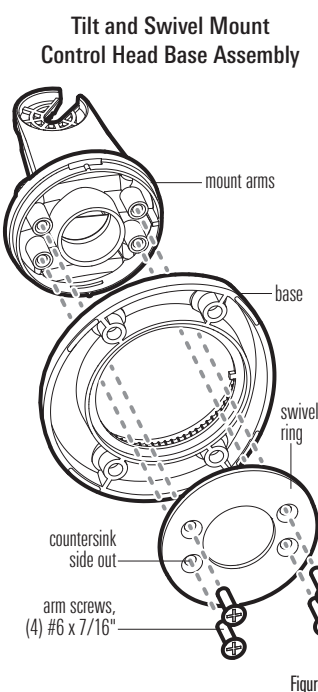


Figure 5

4. Route the Control Head Cables Under the Deck

Use the following steps to route the control head cables under the deck.

- If routing the cables under the deck is not an option, the cables should be routed and secured above deck.
- See *Transom Transducer Installation* to plan the location of the transducer and cable route.

1a. Mark and drill a 3/4" (19 mm) hole as shown in Figure 6. Route the cables through the hole. The cables will exit through the center hole on the control head base.

Or...

1b. If the cables cannot be routed directly beneath the control head base, mark and drill a 3/4" (19 mm) hole that will allow you to run the cables close to the control head base.

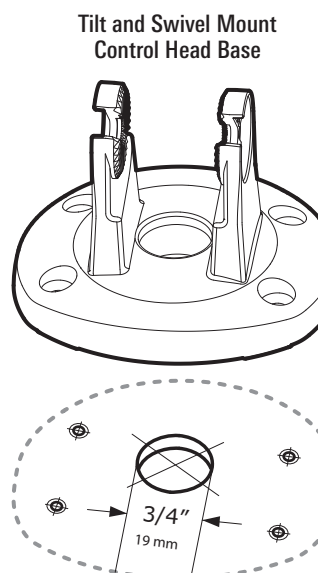


Figure 6

5. Attach the Control Head to the Base

Follow the steps below to attach the control head to the already-assembled base.

The transducer cable and power cable should be routed prior to securing the mounting bracket to the deck.

- Apply marine-grade silicone sealant to the drilled holes for the mounting bracket.
- Place the mounting bracket on the mounting surface, aligning with the drilled holes.
- Insert the four #8 Phillips countersink wood screws into the mounting holes. **Hand tighten only!**
- Insert the thumbknob bolt through the pivot knuckle on the control head (Figure 7).

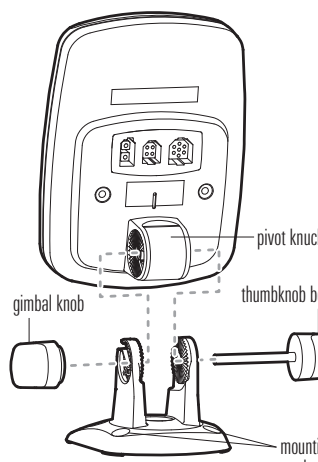


Figure 7

- Align the pivot knuckle with the mount base arms and slide into place, twisting slightly if necessary, until the unit is firmly seated.
- Rotate the control head to the desired angle and hand tighten the thumbknob bolt.
- Thread the gimbal knob onto the pivot bolt and tighten.

6. Attach the Cables to the Control Head

- Matching the cable plugs to the shape and orientation of the sockets, insert the transducer and power cables into the correct ports on the control head (Figure 8).

NOTE: The serial port is for authorized service personnel use only. Do not connect a cable to this port. The serial port does not require a port cover.

- With the control head in place, tilt and/or swivel the unit through its full range to make sure there is enough cable slack for the unit to move freely. Hand tighten the thumbknob bolt to secure the control head angle.

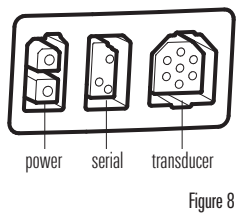


Figure 8

You are now ready to install the transducer. Proceed to *Transom Transducer Installation*.

Transom Transducer Installation

The transom mount installation provides the least loss of signal since the transducer is mounted outside the hull. This installation also allows adjustment of both running angle and depth after the transducer is mounted, which enables you to tune the installation for best results.

1. Locate the Transducer Mounting Position

Turbulence: You must first determine the best location on the transom to install the transducer. It is very important to locate the transducer in an area that is relatively free of turbulent water. Consider the following to find the best location with the least amount of turbulence:

- As the boat moves through the water, turbulence is generated by the weight of the boat and the thrust of the propeller(s) - either clockwise or counterclockwise. This turbulent water is normally confined to areas immediately aft of ribs, strakes or rows of rivets on the bottom of the boat, and in the immediate area of the propeller(s). Clockwise propellers create more turbulence on the port side. On outboard or inboard/outboard boats, it is best to locate the transducer at least 15" (38 cm) to the side of the propeller(s) (Figure 11).
- The best way to locate turbulence-free water is to view the transom while the boat is moving. This method is recommended if maximum high-speed operation is a high priority. If this is not possible, select a location on the transom where the hull forward of this location is smooth, flat and free of protrusions or ribs (Figure 9).
- On boats with stepped hulls, it may be possible to mount the transducer on the step. Do not mount the transducer on the transom behind a step to avoid popping the transducer out of the water at higher speeds. The transducer must remain in the water for the control head to maintain the sonar signal (Figure 10).
- If the transom is behind the propeller(s), it may be impossible to find an area clear from turbulence, and a different mounting technique or transducer type should be considered, such as an Inside the Hull Transducer.
- If you plan to trailer your boat, do not mount the transducer too close to trailer bunks or rollers to avoid moving or damaging the transducer during loading and unloading of the boat.
- If high speed operation is critical, you may want to consider using an In-Hull transducer instead of this Transom Mount transducer.
- Deadrise:** The hydrodynamic shape of your transducer allows it to point straight down without deadrise adjustment (Figure 12).

Areas of Possible Turbulence

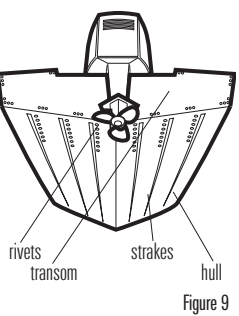


Figure 9

Stepped Hull

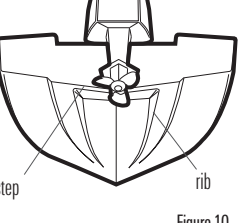
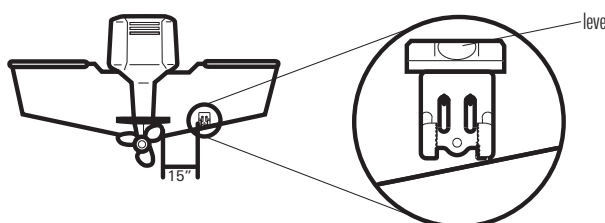


Figure 10



Find a turbulence-free location at least 15" from the propeller(s) and not in line with trailer bunks or rollers.

Figure 11

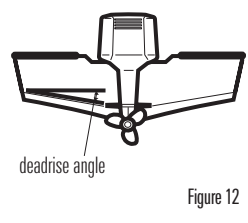


Figure 12

NOTE: If you cannot find a transom mount location that will work for your high-speed application, please visit the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section of our Web site at humminbird.com or contact Humminbird Customer Service.

2. Prepare the Mounting Location

After determining the mounting location for the transducer, follow the steps below to position and mount the transducer bracket.

- Make sure that the boat is level on the trailer, both from port to starboard and from bow to stern, by placing your level on the deck of the boat, first in one direction, then in the other.
- Hold the mounting bracket against the transom of the boat in the location you have selected (Figure 13). Align the bracket horizontally, using the level. Review the following clearance requirements to determine the mounting position:

- Make sure that the lower screw hole protrusion does not protrude past the bottom of the hull, and there is at least 1/4" (6 mm) clearance between the bottom of the bracket and the bottom of the transom for fiberglass boats, and 1/8" (3 mm) clearance for aluminum boats (Figure 14).
- If you have a flat-bottomed aluminum boat, some additional adjustment may be needed to accommodate the rivets on the bottom of the boat (i.e. the gap may need to be a little smaller than 1/8"). This will help you to avoid excessive turbulence at high speeds.
- If your propeller moves clockwise as the boat moves forward (as you're facing the stern of the boat from behind), mount the transducer on the starboard side, and align the bottom right corner of the mounting bracket with the bottom of the boat. If your propeller moves counterclockwise as the boat moves forward (as you're facing the stern of the boat from behind), mount the transducer on the port side, and align the bottom left corner of the mounting bracket with the bottom of the boat.

- Continue to hold the bracket on the transom of the boat, and use a pencil or marker to mark where to drill the two mounting holes. Mark the drill holes near the top of each slot, making sure that your mark is centered in the slot (Figure 15).

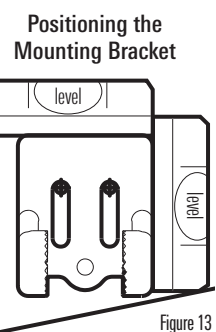


Figure 13

Boat Hull Types Require Different Mounting Positions

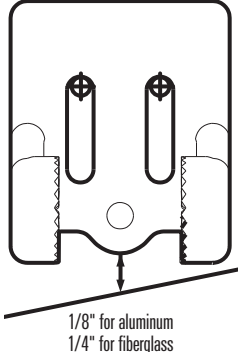


Figure 14

Using the Mounting Bracket to Mark the Initial Drill Holes

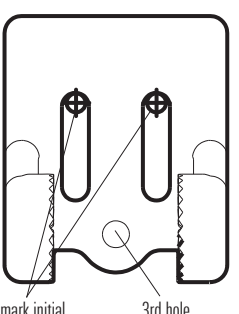


Figure 15

NOTE: The third hole should not be drilled until the angle and height of the transducer is finalized, which you will not do until a later procedure.

- Make sure that the drill bit is perpendicular to the actual surface of the transom, NOT parallel to the ground, before you drill. Using a 5/32" (4 mm) bit, drill the two holes only to a depth of approximately 1" (25 mm).

NOTE: On fiberglass hulls, it is best to use progressively larger drill bits to reduce the chance of chipping or flaking the outer coating.

3. Assemble and Mount the Transducer

In this procedure, you will assemble the transducer using the hardware provided, then mount it and make adjustments to its position without locking it in place.

NOTE: You will initially assemble the transducer and the mounting bracket by matching the two ratchets to a numbered position on the transducer knuckle. Further adjustments may be necessary.

- If you already know your transom angle, refer to the chart below for the initial position to use to set the ratchets (Figure 16). If your transom is angled at 14 degrees (a common transom angle for many boats) use position 1 for the ratchets. In either case, go to step 2.

Bead Alignment Number	1	4	2	5	3	1	4	2	5	3	1																				
Transom Angle (°)	-2	0	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Measured Distance (x)	0.0 cm	1.1 cm	2.5 cm	4.3 cm	5.9 cm	7.6 cm	9.3 cm	11.1 cm	12.8 cm	14.5 cm	16.3 cm	18.0 cm	19.8 cm	21.5 cm	23.3 cm	25.0 cm	26.8 cm	28.5 cm	30.3 cm	32.0 cm	33.8 cm	35.5 cm	37.3 cm	39.0 cm	40.8 cm	42.5 cm	44.3 cm	46.0 cm	47.8 cm	49.5 cm	51.3 cm
	0"	1/2"	1"	1 5/8"	2 3/8"	3"	3 5/8"	4 3/8"	5"	5 7/8"	6 5/8"	7 1/2"	8 1/4"	9 1/4"	10 1/4"	11 1/4"	12 1/4"	13 1/4"	14 1/4"	15 1/4"	16 1/4"	17 1/4"	18 1/4"	19 1/4"	20 1/4"	21 1/4"	22 1/4"	23 1/4"	24 1/4"	25 1/4"	26 1/4"

Figure 16

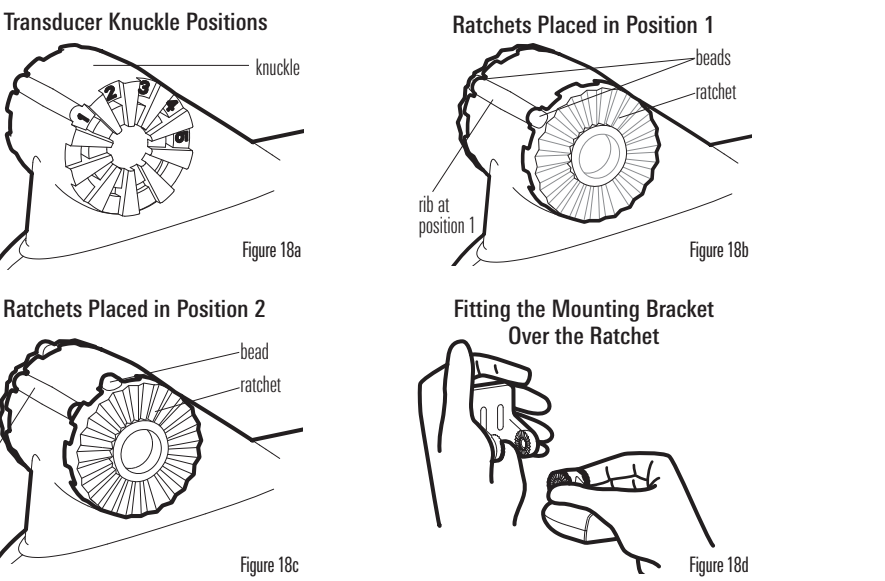
- If you do not know your transom angle, measure it using a plumb line (weighted nylon string or monofilament line) exactly 12" (30.48 cm) long. Hold the top of the plumb line against the top of the transom with your finger, and wait until the line hangs straight down (Figure 17). Using a ruler, measure the distance from the **bottom** of the plumb line to the back of the transom, then use the chart (Figure 16).

NOTE: It is important to take your measurement in the location shown in Figure 17, from exactly 12" (30.48 cm) down from the top of the transom.

- Place the two ratchets, one on either side of the transducer knuckle, so that the beads on each ratchet line up with the desired position number on the knuckle (Figure 18a). If you are setting the ratchets at position 1, the beads on each ratchet will line up with the rib on the transducer knuckle to form one continuous line on the assembly (Figure 18b).

The ratchets are keyed. Make sure that the square teeth on each ratchet face the square teeth on the transducer knuckle, and the triangular teeth face outward.

- Hold the ratchets on the transducer knuckle with one hand and fit the mounting bracket over them until it snaps into place with the other hand. Refer to Figure 18d.



Measuring the Transom Angle

Figure 17

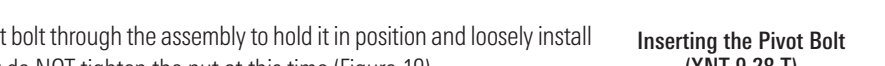


Figure 18a

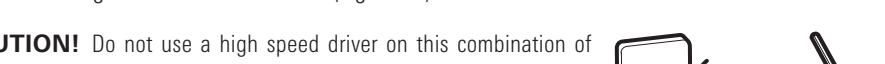


Figure 18b



Figure 18c

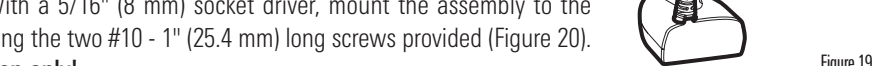


Figure 18d

- Put the pivot bolt through the assembly to hold it in position and loosely install the nut, but do NOT tighten the nut at this time (Figure 19).

CAUTION! Do not use a high speed driver on this combination of fasteners. Hand tighten only.

- Align the mounting bracket transducer assembly with the drilled holes in the transom. With a 5/16" (8 mm) socket driver, mount the assembly to the transom using the two #10 - 1" (25.4 mm) long screws provided (Figure 20). **Hand tighten only!**

NOTE: Make sure that the mounting screws are snug, but do not fully tighten the mounting screws at this time to allow the transducer assembly to slide for adjustment purposes.

- Adjust the initial angle of the transducer from back to front by rotating the transducer until the side seam on the transducer is almost parallel with the bottom of the boat, one click at a time in either direction (Figure 21 and 22).

Adjusting the Initial Transducer Angle (XNT 9 28 T)

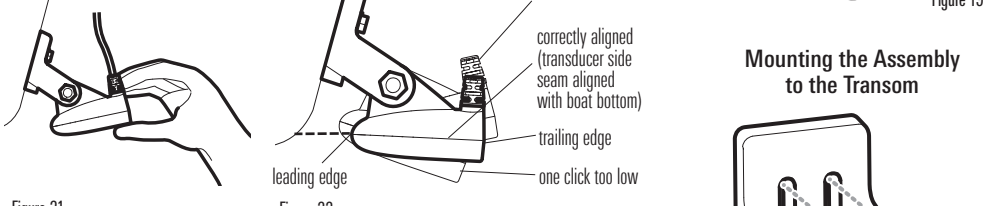


Figure 21

Figure 22

Adjusting the Initial Transducer Angle (XNT 9 DI T)

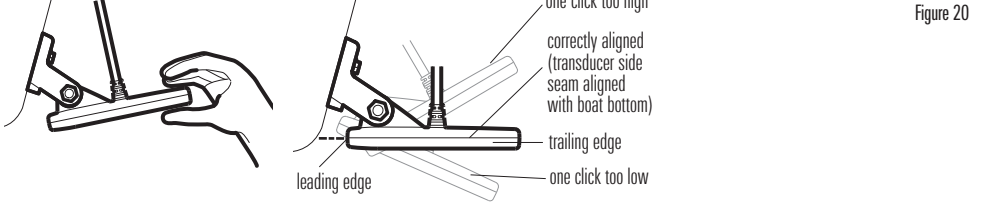


Figure 21

Figure 22

- Adjust the transducer assembly vertically, until the seam on the leading edge of the transducer (the edge closest to the transom of the boat) is level and just slightly below the hull (Figures 22 and 23).

- The XNT 9 28 T (Dual Beam transducer) has a natural downward slant of 4 to 5 degrees from leading edge (closest to the boat transom) to trailing edge (farthest away from the boat). Looking at the back of the transducer, the seam should be slightly below the bottom of the hull.
- A downward slant is not required for the XNT 9 DI T (Down Imaging® transducer). Adjust the running angle so that the transducer is parallel to the water, and submerged in the water, so that the beams point straight down during operation.

- Continue to adjust until the bracket is also level from port to starboard (horizontally level as you look at the transducer from behind the boat (Figure 24)).
- Mark the correct position on the transom by tracing the silhouette of the transducer mounting bracket with a pencil or marker.

- Tighten the pivot bolt, using the pivot screw and nut to lock the assembly. **Hand tighten only!**

CAUTION! Do not use a high speed driver on this combination of fasteners. Hand tighten only.

- Hand tighten the two mounting screws.

NOTE: You will drill the third mounting hole and finalize the installation after you route the cable and test and finish the installation in the following procedures.

4. Route the Cable

You can route the cable **over the transom** or **through a hole in the transom above the waterline**. Your boat may have a pre-existing wiring channel or conduit that you can use to route the cable. Select the routing method that is best for your boat configuration, and purchase any extension cables, cable clips, clamps, etc. as needed.

Also, keep in mind the following:

- It is best to route the cable to the side of the transducer so the transducer will not damage the cable during movement.
- Allow enough slack in the cable for slight movement at the pivot point.
- If you drill any holes, fill them with marine-grade silicone sealant.

CAUTION! Do not cut or shorten the transducer cable, and try not to damage the cable insulation. Route the cable as far as possible from any VHF radio antenna cables or tachometer cables to reduce the possibility of interference. If the cable is too short, extension cables are available to extend the transducer cable up to a total of 50'. For assistance, contact Humminbird Customer Service.

CAUTION! Do NOT mount the cables where the connectors could be submerged in water or flooded. If cables are installed in a splash-prone area, it may be helpful to apply dielectric grease to the inside of the connectors to prevent corrosion. Dielectric grease can be purchased separately from a general hardware or automotive store.

- Unplug the other end of the transducer cable from the control head. (The transducer cable was connected in the earlier section *Attach the Cables to the Control Head*).
- If you are routing the cable over the transom of the boat, secure the cable by attaching the cable clamp to the transom, drilling 9/64" (3.6 mm) diameter holes for #8 x 5/8" (16 mm) wood screws, then skip directly to step 5 to connect the cable.

Or...

- If you will be routing the cable through a hole in the transom, drill a 5/8" (16 mm) diameter hole above the waterline. Route the cable through this hole, then fill the hole with marine-grade silicone sealant and proceed to the next step immediately (Figure 25).

Routing the Cable

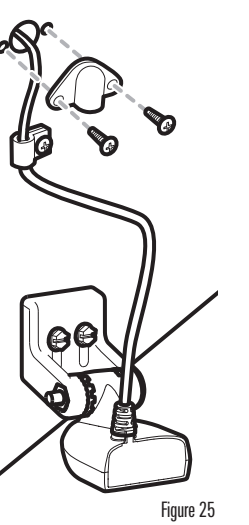


Figure 25

- Place the escutcheon plate over the cable hole and use it as a guide to mark the two escutcheon plate mounting holes. Remove the plate, drill two 9/64" diameter x 5/8" deep (3/5 mm diameter x 16 mm deep) holes, and then fill both holes with marine-grade silicone sealant. Place the escutcheon plate over the cable hole and attach with two #8 x 5/8" (16 mm) wood screws. **Hand tighten only!**

- Route and secure the cable by attaching the cable clamp to the transom. Drill one 9/64" diameter x 5/8" deep (3.5 mm diameter x 16 mm deep) hole, then fill hole with marine-grade silicone sealant, then attach the cable clamp using a #8 x 5/8" (16 mm) screw. **Hand tighten only!**

Excess Cable: If there is excess cable that needs to be gathered at one location (as shown in Figure 26), dress the cable routed from both directions so that a single loop is left extending from the storage location. Doubling the cable up from this point, form the cable into a coil. Storing excess cable using this method can reduce electronic interference.

Storing Excess Cable



Figure 26

- Plug the cable connector back into the control head. The ports are keyed to prevent reversed installation, so be careful not to force the connector into the port.

Your control head is now ready for operation.

5. Test and Finish the Installation

