



## TESTIMONIALS

Comments from Spade Anchor owners at the Newport International Boat Show (Sept. '10)

### Comment

Ted	Massachusetts	Sail	It is the best anchor in 60 yrs of sailing.
Art	Rhode Island	Sail	Best anchor I ever owned!
Bob	California	Sail	Great reliable anchor.
Bob	Connecticut	Sail	Great S80, holds in 45 knots, holds every time.
Jordan	Rhode Island	Sail	Never dragged in 19,000lb HC 41, easy to set and digs deep!
Sly	United Kingdom	Sail	Fantastic anchor, have lived at anchor for last six months. No problems.
Luc	Canada	Power	55 lb model, great anchor.
Bruce	Rhode Island	Sail & Power	Used on Tartan 4100 & Grand Banks; Excellent!
Frank	Maine	Sail	Used for six years in Mediterranean, holds every time.
Jack	Maine	Sail	Used in Bahamas and Caribbean for five years excellent holding.
Corinne	New York	Sail	The best anchor I ever had!
Michael & Jeri	Massachusetts	Sail	Norseman 447 – In any condition, on any bottom, our spade anchor has never slipped. We sleep well at night under anchor because of our spade.





John	Rhode Island	Sail	Had it for four years, very happy. Sets well, holds securely, has never let go.
Greg	Maryland	Sail	Valiant 50 – Seven year circumnavigation. Great anchor. Always performed as advertised.

### Other Testimonials

John California Sail

In a lifetime of sailing, I can only recall one other time when I've written a letter to endorse a marine product, and anchors are the one topic that will get a heated argument going in any cruiser bar, but here goes:

I initially bought my Spade 100s 10 years ago because the design just made sense to me. It didn't hurt that it also fit snugly under my bowsprit.

My cruising area has been the Pacific coast, where it's not unusual to have to anchor at times in up to 100' of water. Before the Spade I had plough and fluke type anchors, which seemed to only like certain bottom types, would break loose with changes in conditions, or would take 2 or more tries to set. When I lower the Spade, I know I'll be hooked securely to the bottom on the first drop. It seems to always set immediately and stay set, even during wind and tide changes. This in turn allows for a good night's rest. What more could you ask for?

Many thanks for making a great anchor.

M. Baars North Carolina Sail

I just sat out some 30-35 knot winds for several days from Hurricane Thomas in the Bahamas on the new A100 you mailed me a few months ago, and it did not budge an inch. You sure have a great product!

Scott Kuhner Connecticut Sail Valiant 40 Tamure

First of all, my wife and I have been sailing since the mid sixties. All told we have logged more than 100 thousand miles. Up until 2001, we used many different anchors including a Fortress, a Danforth and on both circumnavigations a CQR. We have sailed to the Caribbean and then back to our home port in Connecticut. During those cruises we encountered many, many different anchoring conditions. To my immense pleasure it has always held hard the first time. Then I know I can go to sleep without worrying if the wind pipes up during the night. Do you know how valuable that confidence is? I will never own a different anchor than the SPADE.







Stuart Young          Sail

I was impressed with the small galvanized SPADE, in particular the "spade" shape which is designed to penetrate and lock into the soil, compared with the "plow" shape of the \*\*\* and \*\*\*\*\* anchors which are designed to move through the ground. I have nothing but praise for this 20 kg Spade anchor. It has almost invariably penetrated immediately (I motor back very slowly at first to give the point to go down into increasingly harder seabed).

Paul          Lagoon 410 #78          Sail          Punta Gorda, FL

I wanted to drop you a quick note of thanks. On Friday the 13th of August our little piece of paradise here in Punta Gorda Florida had a visitor from the south. Hurricane Charley came to town as a Cat 4 with sustained winds of over 145 mph and gusts to 200! I had prepared our boat ( Lagoon 410 cruising catamaran) by putting out our Model 100 Spade anchor forward, one more line off the bow to a dock across the canal, one off starboard side to a neighboring dock, a 35# \*\*\* aft and 4 lines to my dock standing off about 30 feet. Just before the eye got to us, to my amazement my 4 pilings we gone !!! The only thing that kept our boat from being a complete loss was your great anchor! To give you an idea of how strong the wind was, about 300 feet in front of us a Manta 40 cruising cat was lifted and did a 360 degree roll over the bow and landed on a 26 foot power boat on a lift. They both later sank when blown off by cradle with the wind shift. Thank you for designing such a great product!!!

Craig Johnston          Canada          Sail

We have a new Outbound 44 which we cruised for three months last summer around Vancouver Is., BC. We have a Spade 140 (66lb), a \*\*\*\* 45. We used the \*\*\*\* several times and it worked well-quick set and hold. But once we put the Spade on the roller we never wanted to change. It always set on the first try, and held fine in up to 30 knots of wind. Most of the ground was mud. Not only does the Spade set quickly, it holds like a bear — on several occasions we had to winch the chain (5/16" HT) vertical and let the boat ride to the chop for a few minutes to break it out.

Rich H.          Sail          Pennsylvania

Last year I replaced a CQR with a steel Spade Anchor. Holding is better, faster (even in loose shells!); doesn't require as much scope to initially set; resets MUCH faster than a CQR. Best damned anchor I've ever used.





Ken Anderson                  Sail                  Florida

I've been a member of Cruisers Forum since 2007; however this is my first post. My father and I purchased our 1983 Pearson 303 in 1997. It didn't take long to realize that the previous owner had chosen an inadequate anchor. Perhaps most of us are content with our equipment until it lets us down. The anchor is the last piece of equipment that I want to see fail. When selecting equipment I ask fellow boaters their opinion based upon experience. In that regards Cruisers Forum and Practical Sailor have been a tremendous help in choosing the best equipment the first time around.

In the February 1998 issue of Practical Sailor, a prototype anchor by a Frenchman tested very well although the Bruce set the best. By February 2000 I was ready for a new anchor. I remembered that Practical Sailor had done a follow-up anchor test in the January 1999 issue, this time featuring holding power in sand. By now the prototype had a name and West Marine was selling it as the French Spade. In this test the **Spade far out-performed all the others.** I immediately bought the Spade and never regretted the decision.

Over the years the Spade has never failed to set and stay set. I believe that its unique ability to dig-in comes not only from its concave shape that scoops rather than plows but also from the weight of lead at the anchors' tip. Last July 4th while awaiting the fireworks a strong squall swept through the anchorage. This is the first time I've experienced wind that pivoted the boat 360 degrees in less than 20 seconds. Not only did the Spade hold if anything it just dug itself deeper. The next day it required a lot of effort even with a windlass to bring the anchor up. Another boat in the anchorage dragged, almost going aground, before the skipper was able to retrieve his anchor and motor away.

#### **From 2011 Miami International Boat Show**

Bob                  Florida                  Sail

The best anchor I have ever had – Never Drags!

Dan Kunz                  Florida Keys                  Sail                  36' Tangaroo

Never failed to set – I have 2 on a Catamaran. Great design.

Jerry Templer                  S/V The Saint                  582 Catana

I love my Spade anchor. It's the best anchor for all types of bottoms.





Jim Catos                      OUPV Captain

We have an 80 Spade anchor and it is wonderful. Fortunately, we used it while anchored at Block Island when a 40 mph squall passed and we were secure and safe. Thank you.

Ron Elkind                      Voyager                      Valient 40

I used a CQR for many years until I started dragging in the Caribbean. I then switched to the Spade S140 and never dragged again!

Harry                      Tiki Catamaran

I used a Spade 80 model on my Tiki Catamaran. I have never dragged, always secure and I sleep well at night with this anchor.

R. Shelby                      S/Y Viper

I have been through two tropical storms in a poor anchorage. I did not move 6 inches. Great anchor!

Gus                      "Floridian"                      40 Caliber LRC

I have used a Spade S100 for approximately 15 years and it has never failed me, from Miane to Bahamas, Bermuda and Mexico. NEVER FAILED!

Sid Reichman                      Florida                      30' Moody

My boat came with a 25# CQR. I used it with problems from eastern Long Island, Block Island, etc. Always have problems setting in mud, sand and grass, etc. Then I switched to Spade 80 while in Florida. I have never had a problem setting or dragging in many squalls and storms. I am selling my CQR!





Frank Vital                      Joiede Vie III                      Miami, FL

I have a 45' Hardin and after 27 years of cruising, 6 of them in the Lesser Antilles and the rest in Florida and the Bahamas, I have finally found an anchor with which I can sleep soundly at night! I now have two Spades and will never use another anchor.

Aaron                      Sail                      Seattle, WA                      S/V BellaStar

We've been very happy with our Spade anchor and especially liked that no bow roller modification was required for it to fit well on the bowsprit of our Hans Christian. It has set quickly on the first attempt every time we've used it and we've never dragged anchor. The set happens a lot faster than it did with our old CQR. We're leaving next month for a multi-year cruise and I'm looking forward to using it on a daily basis.

Tim & Sarah                      Sail                      Ellicottville, NY                      May 2011

In 4 months of travelling- Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala we hung on the S100 every night. Our boat is a J-40 sailboat, about 17,000#. The anchor set every time! Sand, coral, mud, grass, and weeds, it stuck in every case. Winds were up to 35.

Jack & Chrissi                      Sail                      Trimaran S/V Naga                      July 2011

The Spade anchor works great in our experience, just like the tests indicate. We have been using our aluminum A80 version of the Spade Anchor for 7 years, since 2004 in New Zealand.

It's been our primary anchor since Chrissi flew in with it from the States - ah the advantages and pleasures of lightness! At only 7 kilos, it's been perfect for our 3 ton, low windage high-performance trimaran. We've loved it for its quick sure sets, good holding, easy storage and general ease of use.

### **2011 Newport International Boat Show**

Sail Vicarious – Spencer Bailey – “A great anchor that sets fast!”

Mark & Judy Handley – S/V Windbird – Used the S120 55# Spade on our Tayana 42 for our circumnavigation.

Al & Beatris on Mauyva, from the Netherlands. We sail a 50' aluminum sloop and we carry three Spade anchors. We love the anchors for their problem free use. Even the 7kg aluminum anchor holds our 17 metric ton boat! We are circumnavigating and even the hard bottom of the Med. Is no problem for the Spade!

39' Jeanneau with A100 anchor. I only used it one summer so far in New England, but it sets immediately, even in grass. I power set it hard and I've never been able to drag it or pop it out. 40 knots at 5:1 with no problems!





Freedom 30/32 with A80 Spade anchor; Hurricane Irene, peak gusts were 82, 50 -60 for 12 hours. DID NOT BUDGE!

Spade 200 - Sailing yacht Saliardo – Tayava 55'. These Spade anchors are just great. They keep holding the deeper they get. I found a slow set approach to setting this anchor. Just a great anchor. I do sleep well at night! Cheers Pete.

“A Lady” Oyster 56 – Having had many sleepless nights over a lifetime of sailing, we bought a Spade S200 in 2009 prior to our circumnavigation with World Arc 2010.... 36,280 miles later, we never dragged 1millimeter, even in Hurricane Irene. Stephen and Aileen Hyde

Tom Burgess – S120 Spade Anchor; 48' Atlantic 48 sailing catamaran. Cruised from Newport to Aukland, NZ. NEVER did I lose sleep on this anchor. One special example of the security of the Spade. While anchored in Fatu Hiva, Marquesas, 50+ knots of wind. The boat in front of us dragged down onto us. Our anchor held two 50ish catamarans in more than 90' of water for hours, until we could get the mess untangled. [www.sailingzen.com](http://www.sailingzen.com)

Spade S80: Having used this anchor on our Tartan 3800 for over 5 years of cruising in Buzzards Bay, Narragansett Bay and Penobscot Bay. If I were to sell my boat, I would take the anchor with me! I have never had this anchor drag when using the proper scope. Mike Ide

Spade A100; On our Tartan 37C is the BEST anchor we have on board. Always holds on any ground. Piece of mind with it as a kedging anchor. Sailed throughout the Caribbean, used it without worry everytime!! L. Crown, D. Skinner

### **U.S. Sailboat Show in Annapolis 2011**

Our Spade S140 holds our very heavy displacement Dickerson 41 just “peachy”. Anchored in St. Davids Bay of Grenada. We anticipated 25-30 mph tropical winds. We put out 5:1 scope, left the dink w/outboard along side. The storm changed to hurricane status with 60+ knot winds. It did not make any difference, as our Spade S140 held us just fine! D & Don Wogzman, S/V Southern Cross. PS; its an exposed anchorage & the waves were coming in @ 4' +/- . Several other boats without Spade anchors dragged!

Pearson 424 – Our Spade is the best thing on our boat! Sets first time, everytime. In all situations. We love it! We have the S120 55# model anchor.

Pearson 33 – We sleep much better now with our Spade. We rode out 70 knot winds in Key West 2 years ago. We have the A80 Aluminum Spade anchor.

Carolyn Shearlock – The Boat Galley – S/V Que Tal Tayana 37 with a S140 Spade Anchor. Our spade anchor saved our boat in 2 occasions, both times nearby boats went on the rocks in a thunderstorm and our Spade held 50 knots, open roadstead & 5' breakers. Near Loreto in the Sea of Cortez.





Pearson 424 – S/V Blue Pelican: We are more than a little delighted with our Spade – We love it! On stormy nights and questionable seabeds, our Spade just digs in. The answer to our dockside question of which is the best anchor? The 'Spade' period! Stephen Parry

Anne & Dick Anderson – A80 & A100; This anchor without a doubt sets quickly and locks in! We own a 33' Trimaran and therefore weight to holding power was hugh for us! We live on board our boat and have held in BIG wind in the Bahamas! Thank you Spade! F33 #007 "Grey Hound"



FEB 2011 – Double Breasted Cay, Bahamas





Island Packet 380 with S200 Spade anchor – S/V Drake’s Passage: We rode out hurricane Irene in Oyster Bay, NY. Deployed our S200 Steel Spade anchor. We attached 275’ of HT 5/16 chain to 2 16’ mooring pendants and deployed the whole setup in a muddy bottom. When Irene hit, we slept like babies. My phone rang at 2am and I stuck my head out the companionway. It was blowing 45 knots. No big deal. We went back to sleep. Next day it blew 65 knots. We played games in the cockpit and laughed at the storm. Our Spade, which we named “Shock & Awe” was more than up to the challenge. We have always slept well with our Spade. Never dragged and well worth every penny.

Mom’s comments: When Bob went back to work and left the girls(3) and I to sail alone, we always felt secure anchoring ourselves, especially in Cranberry Island, Maine. Thank you, the Drakes.

Ortho Martin – I live full time on my boat, 50,000 + sea miles. Spade – I love by far the best with multiple bottom types.

S120 – I’ve owned a number of different anchors and the Spade is the best anchor I have ever owned.

48’ Tayana Sailboat & Home: Sailed in the Caribbean & Bahamas for 7 years. There is NO BETTER anchor than this for down island. Grabs every time, on every bottom. I’ve got the 66# er and wouldn’t cruise without it! Chris Kellogg, S/V Endorphins.

Capt. Jim Vermer – This anchor has set 1<sup>st</sup> time, every time for me and has never dragged.

### **Strictly Sail Miami 2012**

A100 & A80

I bought my first Spade anchor after I dragged anchor and scared the heck out of my family. The Spade anchor sets quickly and stronger set. When I dive on the anchor I can see that it has set in 6 to 10 feet. When I bought my new boat, I just put a new Spade anchor on it. If you want to sleep well at night and know you’ll wake up in the same place in the morning, this is the anchor to use.

36’ - 22,00lb Jacuar Catamaran

This is the best anchor we have ever had. Our Spade has held us in 45+ knot winds at Block Island as we sat and watched other boats breaking anchor. We have weathered many storms with our Spade anchor and we always able to sleep peacefully. Jim & Candy Catsos, Marco Island, Fl

Caduceus Amel 54

Having upgraded to a Spade S120, we have never failed to set and stay put, when others have dragged. I would not use anything else as my main bow anchor.





Oasis Catalina 42

Owned the Spade anchor for the past 7 years. Love it! I replaced a Danforth.

Joie De Vie III Hardin 45

After years of sailing the Bahamas and the Caribbean, I've finally found an anchor which set right away & doesn't drag. I now have 2 of them.

S/V Bulimundu

I have a Spade anchor on a 42' Jeanneau. Anchored in West Africa, as well as, South America. It held well in winds above 35 knots. My next anchor will also be a Spade.

S/V Iritis 36' Aluminum Sailboat

I have two Spade 100 anchors. We hold through 50 knots of wind at anchorage and no trouble. We trust Spade only! Good anchor! Iritis Team!

S/V Rachel 37' Tayana

After slowly plowing a furrow the length of Mill Creek at Solomans, MD over the course of a 3 day blow, we have moved to a 66lb Spade. We have never looked back. Throughout the western Caribbean, Panama and up to Maine. Knock on wood, we've never dragged. It's an awesome hook. Mark & Julie Kaynor

### **Southwest International Boat Show – Houston, Tx**

The A80 held through a 40 knot blow last summer at Army Hole (Port O'Connor) with no issues. I have now replaced my Fortress with the Spade as my main anchor. Tony Townsend, League City, Tx.

The Spade digs in and holds as well or better than a CQR. Gary Powers Kemah, Tx.

You can't do better than a Spade. They will not stop digging until it hits rock. I have one on an Island packet 370. Jim Morin, Port Isabel, Tx.





### 2012 Newport International Boat Show

The best anchor ever! Used it for the last 12 months; easy set, never dragged. Jack Desmond Swan 48

We have never dragged! A marvelous anchor. Robert Montreal

Sabre 42' – *Boring anchor. No drama, no excitement, just works every time.* Mike Caplette

34 Sea Ray – Spade S-80 is the best dam anchor I have ever used.

Tayana 48' Our Spade anchor was our primary anchor Maine to Bahamas, 2003 to 2012. The CQR rode along for a second, but was NEVER used. We could write a book, but the Spade anchor is wonderful. John & Judy McQuire

I anchored in great salt pond, Block Island with a Spade A100 on a 3:1 scope. On August 10, 2012 the wind increased to 30 knots. Boats all around me started dragging. I held fast – didn't move a foot. I love my Spade Anchor! Tom Braisted – Hood Sailmakers

### U.S. Sailboat Show - Annapolis 2012

32' Dreadknight Ketch – Amazed by the performance, after using a CQR for years, the first set with the Spade was immediate and felt like we were nailed to the bottom. Haved laid on our 44lb Spade with a 6' harbor swell in 30 knots with 3:1 scope and never had a problem. Brian Cole S/V Jennie B.

PDQ 36 – Spade A100. Used since late 1990's. Holds great! Spent three days off a lee shore in Cape May, NJ, 30+ knots of winds and 4' seas. The anchor buried itself 3' in to the sand. Took us a while to get it out. Won't use another anchor! Eric Epstein

CS-36T 36' & 20,000lbs. (A80 & S80) Anchors set and hold better than any other old generation anchor. I have owned Deltas, CQR, Danforth, Supermax and Bruce. R.C. Collins

S/V Nono Moria 58' Tayona I have cruised with this anchor for 7 years and would not buy any other anchor.

S/V Windrush 36' Hallberg Rassy I have used this anchor for 6 years. You can launch and forget, holds everytime!

I have a Hallberg Rassy 43 and approximately 6 years ago I replaced my Delta with a Spade, after dragging a couple of times. I have anchored extensively in Chesapeake Bay, Bahamas, Virgin Islands, windward, and leeward islands and the boat is now in Trinidad. We have been extremely pleased, to the point that we now have an aluminum Spade as a back up anchor. Mary Bunslow S/V Smidge

We have a 44' PDG sailing catamaran. We have used the Spade anchor for the past 6 years and it is, in our opinion, the BEST! Sets well and ALWAYS stays set. Kenny & Kathy Walker S/V Mer Soleil





Chessie, our Passport 47, sports a 33lb S80 Spade anchor. Purchased in 2003, it is the only anchor we use, although, we carry several other name brand anchors. In bad storms, it buries itself so well, we can sleep at night. Retrieving in the morning may take a while, but we are entirely comfortable with it. It's also the only anchor that comes up over the bow roller. GREAT ANCHOR! Jack, Lorraine & Beverly Mack – Hampton, Va.

Winterlude – Our 1985 Passport 37, has a single bow roller, so it was imperative for us to select the best anchor. We've cruised from Annapolis to Florida, down the western Caribbean, all the way to Cartagena and back, over 11,000 miles. Our 44lb steel Spade anchor has never let us down, staying set with major storm wind switches. We sleep soundly knowing our Spade anchor is watching out for us! Jan & David Irons [www.commutercruiser.com](http://www.commutercruiser.com)

Last year we bought the X120 at the Annapolis boat show. Our new Stainless steel anchor works very well. We sold our Rocna, which was a good anchor too, but we greatly prefer our Spade. Capt Kevin Quade S/V Bristol Star

Valiant 42 S/V Minx Jay & Tanya Ankers – We have a 66lb S140 Spade anchor and swear by it! It has never let us down. 0 – 60 knot winds. It typically comes up with a pile of “bottom” on it, so we know its working. Our secondary anchor will be a Spade.

