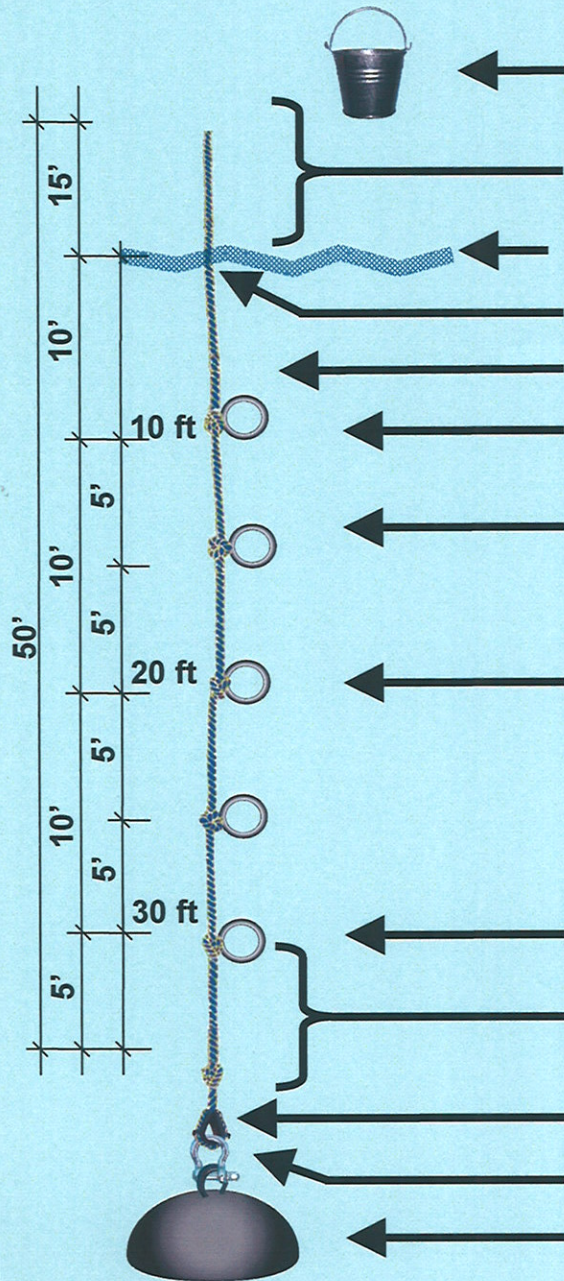


GEAR LINE



Bucket or canvas bag to carry & contain gear line

- Non-skid & non-marring to decks

Provide enough length to tie gear line on boats with different deck heights.

Water level

Water level indicator / reference on gear line (opt)

5 ft stop not normally practical in rough seas (so it's opt)

10 ft stop

Gear line ring (no snaps) (typical)

- Allows you to pre-connect gear
- Allows you to hang gear when finished with it
- Allows you to clip on with your jon line

20 ft stop

30 ft stop allows you to get off a crowded anchor line

Min. distance to keep "bobbing" weight from you while on gear line

Thimble – if going to change weights

Shackle – if going to change weights

Weight – 10 to 25 pounds – depending on use

- Hydro-dynamically shaped to reduce drag

Notes

Line Color

- Use a high contrast color if possible. Pink stands out best. In high current you need to be able to find your line fast.

Line Type

- 3-strand nylon (used for anchor lines) provides the best “shock” absorption when in rough seas.
- High stretch braided line provides the best strength plus best wear resistance (the line will rub against the boat).

Line Size

- The smaller its diameter, the less drag
- The larger its diameter, the more strength
- The larger its diameter, the longer it will last
- The larger its diameter, the easier it is on your hands to pull in with gear on it
- 5/16 to 1/2” are typically used

Note: size = investment (Scooter = \$3,500, 3 deco bottles \$1,000, etc)

Notes

Weight

- The heavier, the more your gear line will hang straight down
- The heavier, the less chance your line, empty or loaded, will “drift” back on your buddies’ line
- 15 to 25 pounds are usual sizes

Water Level Indicator

- Allows you to have all stops (10, 20 & 30ft) set at proper depths
- Allows pre-hung deco bottles to be set at proper depths

Marked Stops

- Marking the 10, 20 & 30ft levels is a good backup safety precaution.

Make it Unique

- Make your gear line unique so that others will know it’s not theirs and so that you will know it’s yours.
- Putting your name on your gear line also allows others to see that you are safely back.

Notes

Remember

- It's "your" gear line, so build it / modify it to suit what best works for you!
- Having no gear line is better than having one that breaks with you and/or your gear on it or that "sails" around on other divers decoing after a long dive.
- Test it before you use it.
- All gear lines work well in no current and calm seas; few gear lines work well in high current and/or rough seas.
- Don't clip on anything that can't take the "jolts" that a violently bobbing gear line is going to create.
- Think about where you are going to attach your gear line to the boat before you actually do it.
- Then work fast to grab best spot.