

Bowducer Installation Instructions



THANK YOU for ordering our Bowducer assembly! If you need assistance or clarification during assembly, please give us a call at 719-640-4948

Typical parts in a Bowducer kit include:



Baseplate Assembly



Index Piece



Clamping Mount Bracket



Subplate



Pedestal



or Rail Mount bracket

Downrod with cone assembly: Solid or Telescoping 1" OD, 1.25 OD or 1.5 OD



Downrod Ends



Transducer to downrod adapter for your transducer (Style may vary)

Installation of Baseplate:

When selecting the baseplate location there are several things to consider:

- 1. Ensure that the downrod will be over the edge of the boat. Do not place it directly behind the trolling motor propwash as this may interfere with the sonar return.
- 2. After selecting your location outline it with tape or some other temporary marking. Check to be sure that the baseplate assembly will not cause interference with stowage of trolling motor or other items. Holding the baseplate to the boat, place the downrod in the cup and place it into position to be sure that the downrod clears the edge of the boat.
- 3. Use the baseplate or sub plate as a mounting hole location guide. Predrill 9/64 inch holes and secure with the stainless steel screws.



Tether Kit

Baseplates with removable sub plates, track and rail mounts, and pedestal mounts are supplied with a tether. The nylon thumbscrews will tend to snap when an obstacle is accidentally hit. Baseplates will flip into the water. The tether will hold it to the boat and prevent you fishing the baseplate from deep or murky water. One end of the tether cable is uncrimped so you can decide what length may be best for your boat. To crimp the

ferrule simply slide it on and crimp use your fishing pliers or flatten the ferrule with a hammer!

Installation of Rail mount (Tracker/Lund) and Pedestals:

Rail mounted Bowducer assemblies use appropriate hardware/plates to secure to the rail of your particular boats. Two sets of nuts are supplied (locknuts for permanent installation or wing nuts for a removable installation).

Lund Boats utilize ExtremeMax plates (see instructions in the package for these plates. As these mounting systems utilize the ¼-20 Nylon Thumbscrew to hold the baseplate to the angle, we <u>strongly recommend using the included tether</u> to hold the baseplate to the boat.



Special note: 15 inch Marine Board baseplates are also supplied with small rubber standoffs as there will likely be some flex in the baseplate assembly. The rubber standoffs are to protect the boat gunwale.

Installation of the Transducer onto the Downrod:

WHEN ASSEMBLING DOWNROD PARTS, ALWAYS REMOVE ALL SCREWS SO YOU CAN EASILY LOCATE SCREW HOLES

The downrod comes in several styles. You may have a solid or telescoping version which is between 36 to 60 inches long. There are also 2 diameters: 1" or 1.25" OD and this is dependent on the depth finder which was specified on your order. There are also a couple options which may have been ordered: A second downrod cone or perhaps a handle assembly.



Typical Downrod Ends



Standard Puck Humminbird Mega



Lowrance LSS, Totalscan, SS

General Instructions:

- 1. Place all items (cones, strain relief, handles, etc.) onto the downrod do not secure them. This includes the transducer mounting end, the cone, handles, and spare cone if ordered and the heat shrink strain relief
- 2. Remove the retaining screw for the downrod cone so it will not interfere with the cable connector.
- 3. Feed the cable through the transducer mounting end.

Lowrance users, see special note below:

4. Secure the transducer to the downrod end using the general instructions on the following pages.

Lowrance: If you have a Lowrance transducer with the blue or black connector, it is possible to use it with a 1 inch OD downrod with a bit of modification. You will need to sand the nubs of the connectors in order to get it through the downrod as shown.



Connecting the transducer to the downrod end.





For "conventional" transducers from Humminbird or Lowrance, the Mounting disk shown is supplied.

"Conventional" are defined as those using the following mounting methods:

Lowrance: U shaped metal bracket

Humminbird, 2 - piece transom mounting assembly

Lowrance, Lowrance HDI, Garmin and Eagle:

Lowrance users need only secure the U-shaped transom bracket to the appropriate holes and connect the transducer to the metal bracket as recommended by the manufacturer.

Humminbird:

Humminbird users need to modify the lower transom mount plate by drilling out the little tab shown in the photo to the right

This tab allows for the proper span to the mounting hole

If the tab is not on the Humminbird

backing plate, you will need to create your own mounting holes to secure the plate to the disk.

To secure the transducer it will be necessary to follow the steps shown on the next page. Similar assembly for all transducers using this Humminbird transom mounting kit.





Humminbird XHS XHS & XTM 9 HDSI series

- 1. Lock washers are included to be inserted between the tabs of the transducer and the tab on the mounting puck (only need to use if transducer remains loose after tightening the bolt).
- 2. Transducer should be mounted so its body is under the mounting puck and downrod.
- 3. Mount the assembly to the downrod.

Humminbird Mega Series

- 1. Run the cable through the downrod
- 2. Ensure the cable feeds through the cable slot in the disk.
- 3. Install the aluminum plate to the transducer (note forward direction on the plate (longest distance from mounting hole to edge of plate is forward).
- 4. Secure the transducer to the bottom of the aluminum plate with the screws.
- 5. Mount the assembly to the downrod.

Garmin GT2x, 4x, 5x, Series Transducers:

- 1. Run the transducer cable through the plate and the disk.
- 2. Mount the transducer directly to the plate so that the cable at the top of the transducer runs straight into the disk hole. Use only the forward 4 mounting screws.
- 3. Mount the assembly to the downrod.

Alternative mount:

Secure the transducer to the disk by rotating the GT transom mount bracket end above the transducer and mount horizontally

Garmin Livescope

- 1. Run the cable through the disk, downrod, and handle if supplied.
- Install Garmin Transom bracket to the disk and ensure that the bracket is forward (away from the wire channel) to allow for as much clearance near the wire channel as possible.

Tighten to the disk.

- 3. Mount the metal transducer bracket to the Livescope and mount that bracket/transducer assembly to the transom bracket on the disk. Dress the cable to make it as short as possible.
- 4. Align the transducer and tighten the bolts.





Lowrance LSS, TotalScan and Structure Scan

- 1. Remove the 2 screws from the plate.
- 2. On the plate, center, mark and predrill the holes for the transducer (do not yet mount the transducer).
- 3. Run the cable through the plate, disk and the downrod (make sure cones are on the downrod).
- 4. Reattach the plate to the puck. Be sure to not pinch the cable and that it goes through the channel.
- 5. Secure the transducer to the plate. Make sure that the transducer cable is tight to the assembly, so it does not catch underwater obstacles.
- 6. Finally secure the finished assembly to the downrod.

Index Piece (do not use with SI or Livescope):

The index piece is the cutout portion of the cup (the slot). If you mount it on the cone (on the downrod), then the downrod can only go into the cup in one way - thus providing a means of indexing the downrod to have it aligned to the boat - no matter how the base is mounted to the boat.



If you are using Down Imaging transducer, you may want the index to be mounted to the cone/downrod. With the downrod in the baseplate, simply align the transducer with the boat and then screw the index piece into the cone. Then you can only deploy the downrod in the proper direction.

If you are using side imaging, then I suggest not using the index piece as it is very handy to be able to turn the transducer to look for schools of crappie or other structures. In this case, with the downrod in the baseplate, align the transducer with the boat. Then on the top drill a small divot (1/4 in drill) in the top of the cone, and a corresponding divot in the top of the cup (do this from inside the boat so you can see them) and then fill the divot with a bit of white paint. Then when the dots are aligned, the transducer is in line with the boat. And, if you are scanning, you will know the transducer direction based on the direction of the dot.

SPECIAL ACCESSORIES

Heat Shrink Strain Relief:

To protect the cable exiting from the downrod, we supply a heat shrink strain relief. Install as shown in the photo using a hair dryer or other heat source.

There are no readily available strain relief systems for the tubing sizes of the downrod. However, this does a good job of preventing the cable from hitting the downrod edges. It may be necessary to use a bit of



tape, double sided tape, or superglue to hold the strain relief on the downrod.

Extra Downrod Cone

IMPORTANT: Place cone on the downrod prior to running cables through the downrod

The Extra Downrod cone is generally mounted near the bottom of the downrod. Due to different weights of transducers, we leave it to the user to determine a proper location. Install the cone so that the downrod is bottom heavy or balanced. Remove the screw, locate the cone, drill 1/8 in hole thru the downrod, reinstall the screw.

Handle Assemblies

Handle assemblies slip over the downrod and are held in place with a set screw. It is recommended that you set the screw onto the downrod only after using it a bit to find the proper orientation/direction for the handle.

Warranty

This Limited Warranty covers any defects in material or workmanship under normal use during the Warranty Period.

During the Warranty Period, Fishing Specialties will repair or replace, at no charge, products or parts of our product that prove defective under normal use due to bad material or workmanship.

What will we do to correct problems?

Fishing Specialties will either repair or replace the Product(s) at no charge.

How long does the coverage last?

The Warranty Period for products purchased from Fishing Specialties is 30 days from the date of purchase.

What does this limited warranty not cover?

This Limited Warranty does not cover any problem that is caused by impact, improper mounting, or other damage due to external forces.