



The Sideshift Advantage:

Bow Thruster Overview

Sideshift's family of Bow Thrusters are perfect for boats from 20' to 50' in length. They mount elegantly on the bows of cruisers, sport boats, sailboats, houseboats, pontoon boats, catamarans, trawlers and more. No expensive tunnel is required.

Mounted externally on a V-shaped bow, the forward-most location maximizes turning power and responsiveness for easy maneuvering of narrow waterways and tight corners. Back confidently into a slip with the simple touch of the joystick.

Offering an immediate response with its water cooled motors, the heavy-duty 8" aluminum propellers provide quiet and smooth operation. Saltwater proven, the rugged bow thrusters are anode protected to prevent corrosion. They are finished with anti-fouling paint over epoxy primer.

All mounting locations are above the waterline. No holes are required below the waterline. As a result, installation can occur with the boat in the water. Shipped as a complete kit with thruster, controller, hardware and single joystick, installation usually takes less than a day.

Selecting which thruster is right for you is as easy as determining your boat's length:

Model #	Bow or Stern	Boat Length
SS230	Bow	20 – 30 ft (6.1 – 9.1 m)
SS340	Bow	30 – 40 ft (9.1 – 12.2 m)
SS350	Bow	40 – 50 ft (12.2 – 15.2 m)



The Sideshift Advantage:

Sideshift Bow Thrusters vs Tunnel Thrusters

For boats up to 50 feet in length, Sideshift's external Bow Thruster mounted on the front of a V-shaped bow exhibits several advantages over traditional tunnel or through-hull thrusters.

- **Less than half the cost!** When compared to the installed cost of tunnel thrusters in the bow, Sideshift's Bow Thrusters are less than half the cost.
- **Responsiveness.** Since the propeller of the Bow Thruster is directly exposed to open water, it does not have to overcome the inertia of water in a tube. When it starts turning at 3000 rpm, it immediately cuts through the water like a corkscrew, pulling the boat in the direction desired. By contrast, tunnel thrusters push water through a tube to move the boat in the opposite direction. The difference in responsiveness and turning power will surprise you.
- **Further Forward.** Sideshift's Bow Thrusters are mounted further forward than tunnel thrusters. This maximizes the turning power of the bow thruster, and allows for easier maneuvering in narrow waterways and for tight corners. Back confidently into a slip with the simple touch of the joystick.
- **No large holes in the hull.** Tunnel thrusters require a large hole drilled through the hull near the bottom of the bow for installation of the tunnel. This can affect the hull's structural integrity and result in leakage. Sideshift's thrusters do not require the use of any intrusive tunnel nor any holes below the waterline.
- **No holes below the waterline.** All the mounting locations to attach the Bow Thruster to the hull are above the waterline. As a result, no holes are required below the waterline, which eliminates the risk of hull leakage due to the thruster. Installation of the Bow Thruster can even be done with the boat in the water.
- **No motor inside the hull.** Sideshift's Bow Thruster motors are located outside the hull. As a result, they can be installed on boats where hull geometry or outfitting do not permit through-hull thrusters. There is no need to move water tanks or inside furnishings inside the boat.



- **All-inclusive packaging.** Sideshift's Bow Thrusters are sold as a complete kit. Thruster, controller, joystick, wiring, hardware and even SikaFlex are all included. Simply open the box and get started. When finished, just connect to your boat's power source and enjoy amazing boating.
- **Easy selection.** No complex formulas are required to select motor size and options. Simply select the right thruster for your boat based on its length.
- **One day installation.** Tunnel thruster installation is normally the job of professionals, requiring several days out of the water to complete. By contrast, Sideshift's thrusters are typically installed in less than a day – and the boat can stay in the water!
- **DIY installation.** Sideshift's Bow Thrusters are designed for the handy boat owner to install themselves. Step by step easy to follow instructions are included. Thousands of people worldwide have successfully completed the installation time in less than a day. As well, professional installers also appreciate the installation simplicity.
- **Water cooled.** External bow thrusters have a longer duty cycle as they are cooled by open water. The 12V or 24V DC motor is not located in an unventilated confined space, as is the case for tunnel thruster motors.
- **Drag-free.** External bow thrusters do not contribute additional drag when the boat is planing as the thruster is lifted above the waterline. By contrast, tunnel thrusters always present some drag, and may also cause the boat to veer left or right if not installed properly.
- **Extremely quiet.** Tunnel thrusters are known for being rather noisy. Sideshift's Bow Thrusters operate silently, with the only noise being the sound of water moving.
- **Protects the hull.** In regions where logs are a risk to boaters, Sideshift's Bow Thrusters can protect the hull by acting like a bumper. Customers have commented that their Sideshift Bow Thruster saved their boat from extensive damage.
- **Removable.** Although Sideshift's thrusters increase the residual value of the boat, the external Bow Thruster can easily be removed and installed on a new boat.