

Dock Setup and Anchoring Checklist

Box to water, tied off and steady.

Setting up an inflatable dock is simple: unroll it, pump it to 7 PSI, carry it in and tie it off. The part people underestimate is the anchoring, which should match your water.

7 PSI on every POP dock	**2 or more** anchors, never one	**3 ft** minimum water depth	**10 to 15 min** AquaDock, electric pump

Before you launch

- [ ] Pick calm water at least 3 ft deep, away from boat lanes and strong current.
- [ ] Lay the dock flat and look over the seams and valves.
- [ ] Clear sharp objects from the ground.
- [ ] Pump to 7 PSI. Do not over-inflate.
- [ ] Carry it in and tie it off before anyone climbs on.

Bring with you

- [ ] Pump: electric is faster, the hand pump is in the box
- [ ] Repair kit, on the water and not in the garage
- [ ] Anchors and line for your conditions
- [ ] Carabiners or cleats for quick-release connections
- [ ] Life jackets for kids and weak swimmers

Anchor for your water

Conditions	What works
Calm lake, pond or cove	Two mushroom anchors at opposite corners, with about 5 ft of line for every 1 ft of depth.
Tide or mild current	Three to four anchors and longer lines for the depth change. Add a stern anchor to limit swing.
Strong current, exposed coast	Mushroom anchors will not hold. Use heavier deadweight or screw-in anchors, or pick a calmer spot.
Rock or hard bottom	Mushroom anchors drag. Use a grapnel or a deadweight anchor.



Behind the boat

- Tie off to several D-rings, not one, so the load is spread.
- Use carabiners or cleats. Avoid knots that are slow to release.
- Leave a short gap or use fenders so the dock does not rub the hull.
- Pull it in when wind or wake builds.
- Deflate and stow it before you get underway.

Anchoring tips

- Use more anchor points than you think you need. A dock catches more wind than a hull.
- Lines with some stretch are kinder to the D-rings.
- Check the setup after the first hour. Anchors can drag as they settle.

Safety

- Life jackets for kids, always, and one adult watching the water.
- No diving off a dock in shallow water.
- Check the forecast. Wind picks up fast and a dock acts like a sail.
- On hot days check the pressure. Air expands in the sun.
- Follow marina and local waterway rules, and stay out of navigation channels.

After use

- Rinse with fresh water, especially after salt water.
- Dry it completely before you roll it.
- Roll it, do not fold it, and store it out of direct sun.

PRODUCTS IN THIS GUIDE



14 ft AquaDock
See current price



8 x 7 ft POPUP Dock
See current price



Shark II Electric Pump
See current price

Read more: How to set up and anchor a floating dock · Anchoring in wind, current and deep water

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