

# Mooring - things to remember

Gaps between boats are wasteful so please share rings or posts where possible and do not leave long spaces.

Water levels on Anglian waterways can change rapidly so leave enough slack in your shore-lines to allow for this. (The lines between boats should remain tight.)

You should always attach your own mooring lines to the bank to avoid excessive strain on the lines of the boat moored nearest the bank. At times, after discussion with the owners of the other moored boats it can be safer to attach further lines to 'trots' astern or ahead.

Long narrowboats, wide beam barges and large cruisers occupy a considerable length of visitor moorings. If a site is likely to be busy, go alongside a boat similar to your own rather than fill up any remaining mooring space.

Moor so your windows are not level with the other boat - respect their privacy and peace.

If you are moored up and see another boater looking for a mooring and if there isn't room, invite them to moor alongside.

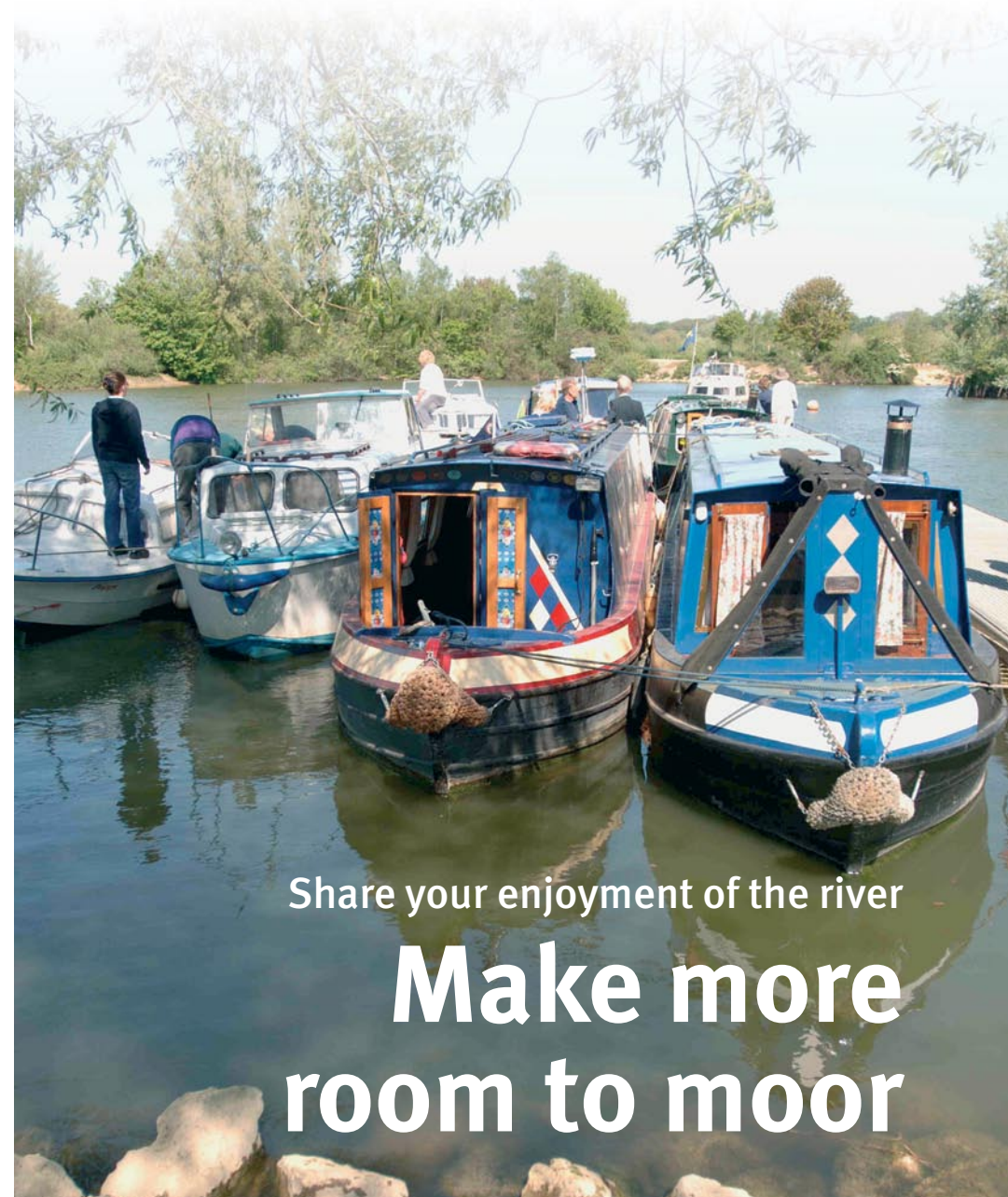
If we can make this common practice on the Anglian waterways, then everyone will have more room to moor.

**Display the stickers  
- help make the Anglian  
waterways a friendlier  
place to moor!**

The initiative is supported by



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Share your enjoyment of the river

**Make more  
room to moor**

# Better use of moorings on the Anglian waterways

At busy times, particularly in the height of the season, visitor moorings can fill up quickly. We are launching a scheme whereby boaters can make best use of moorings on Environment Agency navigations across the Anglian region.



We are inviting all those that cruise our rivers to follow a new mooring code. Also known as 'rafting out', 'trotting out', 'breasting up' or 'mooring alongside' this method increases the capacity of all moorings on the river.

Around the coast, and particularly on public moorings in Europe, it is the custom for boats to moor alongside each other. Friends travelling together often moor alongside each other, and it's a great way to make new friends. It works with the co-operation of all parties and there is an accepted code of conduct on how to go about making the most of moorings.

## How does this scheme work?

Mooring alongside is not currently common practice on Anglian waterways so we are introducing a pair of welcome stickers for boat owners to display in the windows on each side of their boat. Visible from a distance, the aim of the stickers is to encourage other boaters to moor alongside as long as it is safe and practicable to do so. Boaters should feel comfortable mooring alongside a vessel that is displaying the 'Moor alongside' stickers even if there is no-one on board. If a boat is not displaying a sticker it is still worth enquiring but we hope that boaters will feel they are particularly welcome if a moored boat is displaying stickers in their windows.

# How to moor alongside

It is normal for boats of a similar construction and size to moor alongside each other so where possible approach a similar boat to your own.

When approaching a mooring it is best to turn into the flow or prevailing wind. Make sure your fenders are in the correct position and move gently alongside.

Place your mooring lines (ropes) around cleats on the host boat to hold your boat steady alongside.

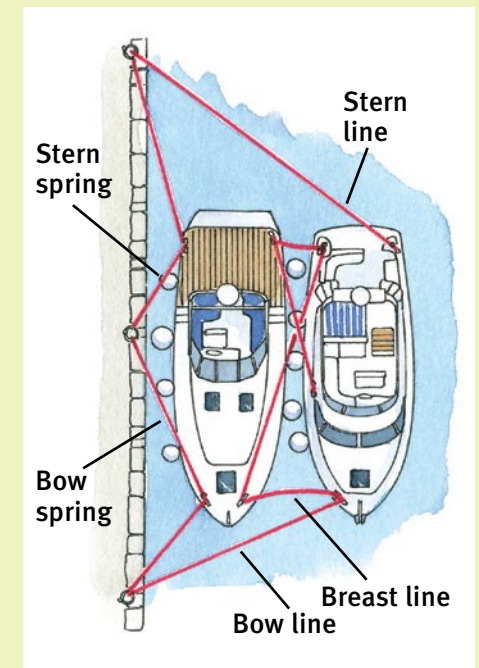
If possible, ask the host which way to cross the boat to take your line to the bank. Generally, you should always cross at the bow (very front) of the boat. Never walk across the coachroof. Never unzip a canopy or walk through the cockpit unless invited to do so.

Fasten your own line to any rings or posts provided, or if using mooring stakes or pins, position your own to avoid the host's mooring line.

Tie another line diagonally across from your boat to the host boat to stop it moving independently of the host boat (sometimes two are needed). The direction of the current will decide which way to tie this line – discuss this with the host boat. If

the 'trot' is made of all narrowboats, this line might not be required.

Discuss practical issues with the other crew. You should know when host boat(s) wish to leave and be prepared to allow them out easily and be able to adjust your mooring lines accordingly.



Courtesy of the Royal Yachting Association