

# Ultimate holding power

Which anchor holds best?  
We spent three days testing  
14 anchors using 5,000 lb-plus  
force - equivalent to storm-force  
winds on a 40ft yacht. The results  
may surprise you. Toby Hodges  
and Bill Springer report

Main photo: Onne Van Der Wal. All other photos: Abner Kingman, unless otherwise stated

# THE ANCHORS

## » FORTRESS FX37

**Weight: 22 lb (10kg) Price: £476.00**

The Danforth-style Fortress anchor is made of corrosion-resistant aluminium and is as strong as steel but only half the weight. It can

be flat-packed for shipping and has proved the perfect kedge anchor and storm anchor for many users. The sharp flukes have adjustable angle settings for soft mud and sand.

The Fortress's ability to dig in instantly and hold was astonishing – especially as it weighs only 22 lb, one of the lightest anchors tested. At 5:1 scope it dug in immediately each time – its cable quivering like a bow-string as the test boat's 375hp engine produced whirlpools

of turbulence. We terminated the test at the maximum 5,000 lb pull. The anchor hadn't budged.

We subjected it to a further test at 3:1 scope, and it gave an amazing 4,500 lb-plus resistance, though the shank bent slightly during our veering test. Up to this point, the Fortress endured severe abuse and won through. This is a lightweight anchor which should prove dependable in an emergency.

**Price: £476**



One of the lightest anchors, the Fortress set instantly and held steadfastly

