

## **Mast**

The first step is to remove the two spreaders which are taped on to the mast. You will notice that these two aluminum tubes, or spreaders, have a hole in one end and a slot in the other end. These spreaders should be fastened with clevis pins on to the fittings on either side of the mast about one third up. Open ends of cotter pins after they are in place and tape. Into each of the slots place a sidestay. A small wire will be found in a hole at the slotted end of the spreader. Wrap the wire around the stay as many times as possible which prevents the stay from jumping out of the slot. This area should then be covered with tape to protect the mainsail. See fig. 1.

Before you step the mast tie a figure 8 knot in the end of each halyard to prevent them from getting out of reach, then pull the shackles on the other end of the halyards to the foot of the mast. This puts the shackles in reach when the mast is stepped.

## **Stepping the mast**

We recommend that you get assistance in stepping the mast until you are familiar with the stepping procedure. A "tabernacle" is a great help as it permits easy one person stepping. This is a slotted mast and the slot side faces the stern when in position to be stepped.

The mast is stepped through an opening in the deck—be sure the base of the mast is properly seated on mast step. Once accomplished the mast will stay in place.

Now fasten the sidestays to the chainplates on either side of the hull. Next fasten headstay to stemhead fitting. Turnbuckles, which permit adjustment, are provided on the lower ends of all stays. See figs. 2 & 3.

After all stays are attached, take the slack out of the rigging by tightening all stays taut, but no more than hand tight. If you find a stay too long or too short, check for proper length or possibly the mast step may have been positioned incorrectly. In the latter case, remove mast and then mast step. Next, step mast onto unattached mast step (be sure to hold mast at all times) and attach stays. When properly set up mark new position of mast step—finally, unstep mast and screw step in place.

**CAUTION:** It is very important that you do not tighten the stays too much as this can cause damage to the hull.

**CAUTION:** Be sure all lock nuts are securely tightened by pliers or a wrench and then taped to prevent loosening.