# TROLLING MOTOR 'LOCKING CLAMP' ASSEMBLY

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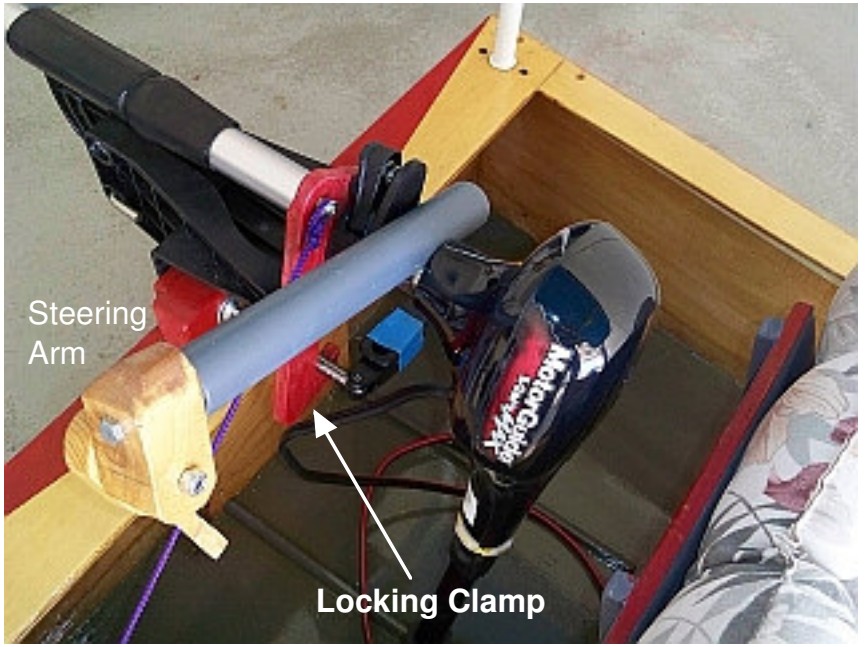
This is a solution to a problem that most boaters do not have. As I design and build only small trolling motor powered boats, available room to move about inside the boat is extremely limited. Some designs even prevent turning around in the seat, except for the most able of us. This creates a problem when launching or beaching the boat, as the trolling motor must be raised and lowered. This action necessitates that the latching mechanism of the motor be removed, to provide free up and down motion of the motor. This, however, prevents the motor from from being locked in a raised position for beach launching. Here is where the 'Locking Clamp' fills a need. Raising and locking the motor prior to launch keeps it out of harms way until deeper water is reached. Then, just pull the release cord to lower the motor. When beaching, turn off the motor just prior to hitting the shore, and the motor will slowly rise as it is dragged to land. Exit the boat and lock the motor back into the raised position.
Mission accomplished !

The pictures provided give a good overview of how the simple design works, and it's general size and related components. The 'Locking Clamp' will vary in size depending on the motor used, so no definitive dimensions are shown, only reference dimensions. All parts are jig saw cut from 3/4" plywood, as shown.

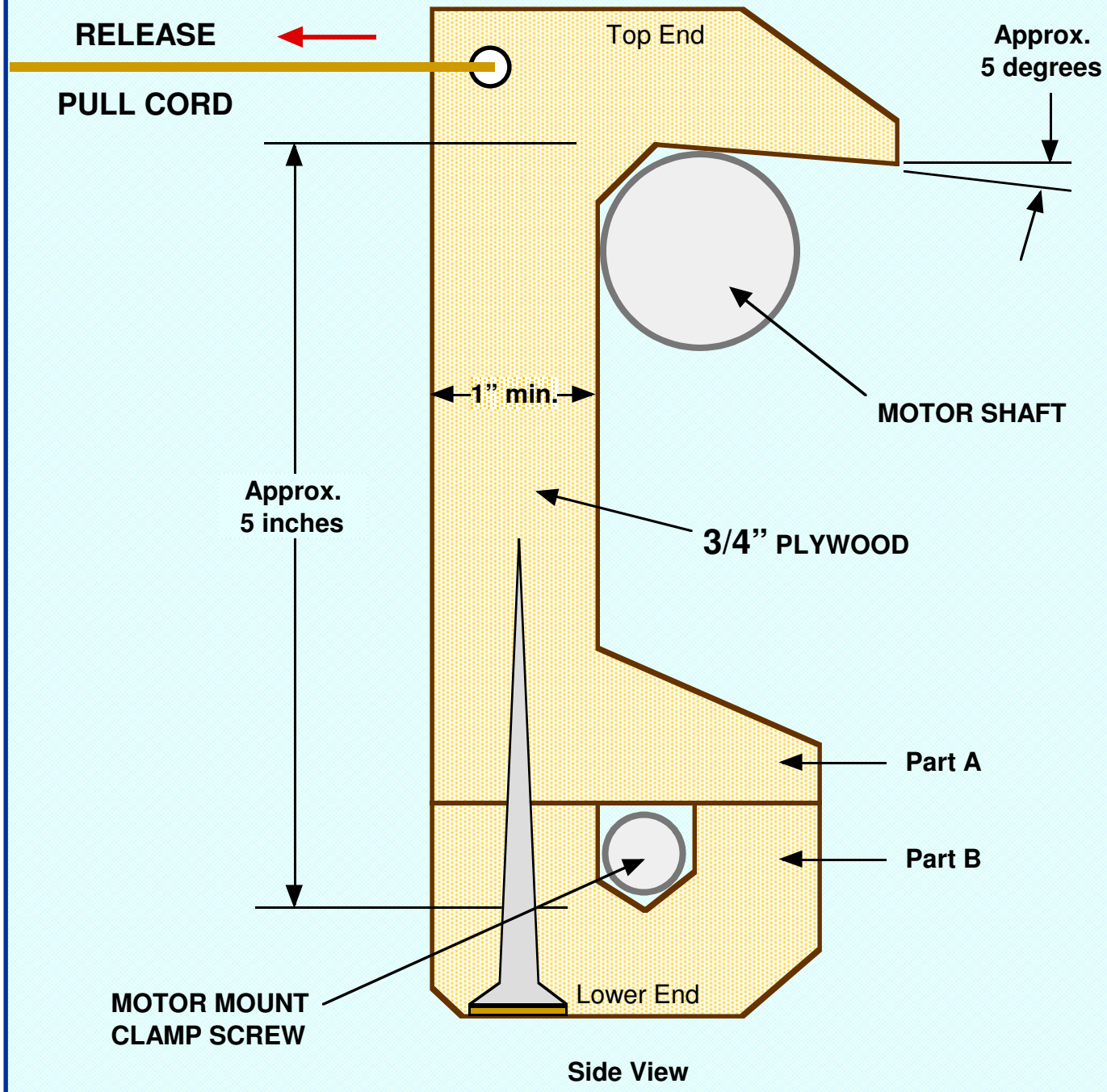
My hope is that this design provides direction for you to build a similar device for your small boat.





*a ken simpson design*

# “LOCKING CLAMP” LAYOUT




Side View

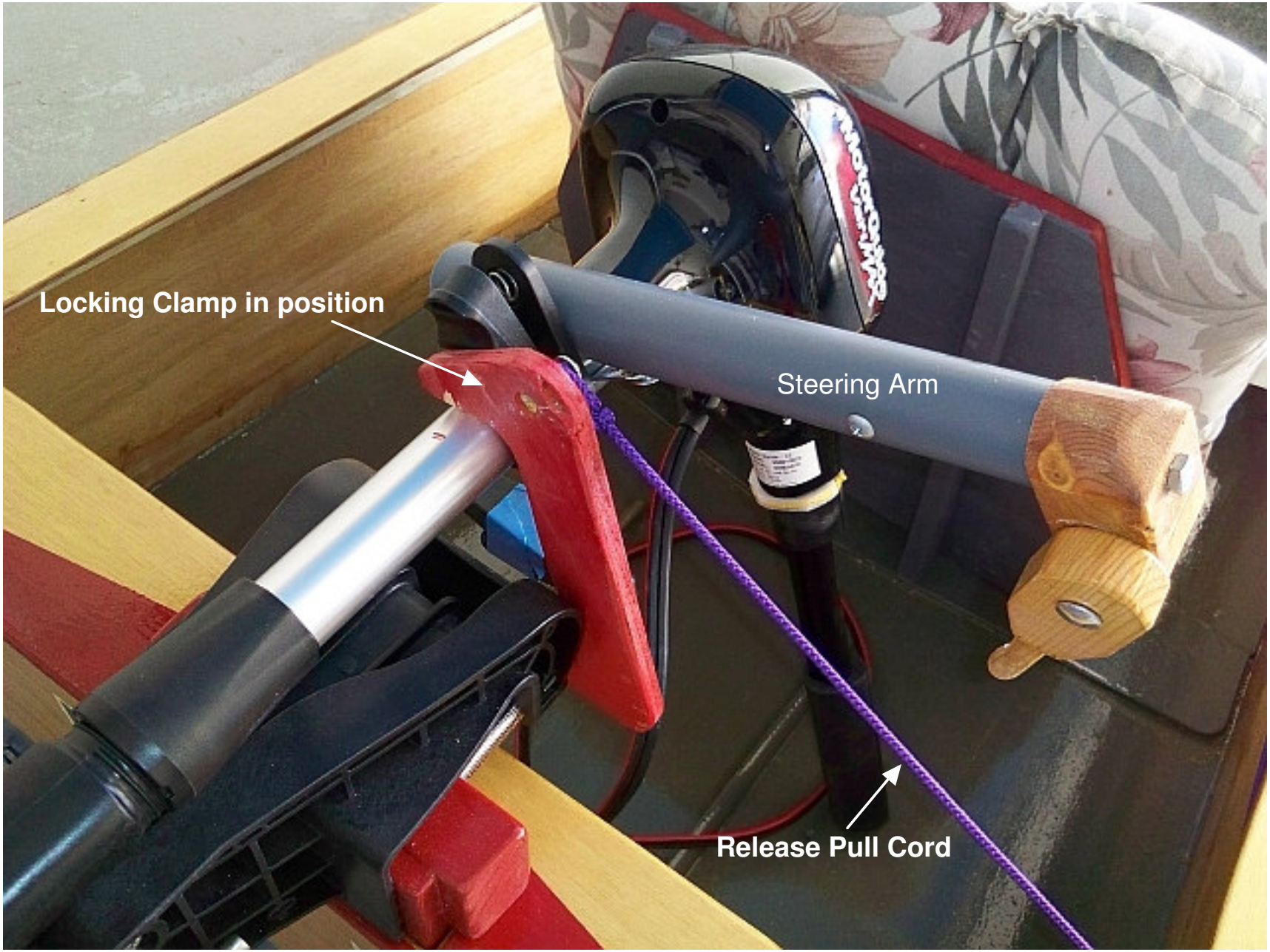
This is a simple solution to the tricky problem.

First, fasten Part B around the motor clamp screw, and then to Part A with a 3 inch #8 wood screw.
To use, raise the motor to a horizontal position, and slip the Top End over the motor shaft. Releasing pressure on the motor shaft will tighten the clamp in position.
To release, just pull the cord and the upper end of the clamp will slide away from the motor shaft, until the motor is free and lowers into the water.

Repeat the clamping process when you return to shore.

Dimensions are primarily dependent on the motor used. But make the clamp as rugged as possible, to prevent failure.

Also, paint, varnish or treat the wood for durability.




**Prototype shown on the POKE ABOUT portable boat.**