



Installing Electric Trim Tabs



PARTS

- A** Trim Tab Kit – Lenco Marine model TT 12x12 E
- B** LED indicator switch – Lenco model 123



SUPPLIES

- 3/8" electric drill
- 5/32", 3/32", 3/16", 3/8" drill bits
- 2" hole saw
- 7/16" wrench
- Tape measure
- 4' straight edge
- Screwdrivers (#2, #3 Phillips)
- Stainless-steel panhead screws, washers, bolts, locking nuts (included in most kits)
- Silicone sealant
- 3M's 5200 adhesive/sealant
- 18-gauge wire
- Wire stripper
- Crimping tool
- Crimp-on connectors
- Adhesive-lined heat-shrink tubing
- Heat gun
- Split-loom wire wrap
- Wire supports
- Cable ties

Now that fuel prices have shot through the stratosphere, I've been looking for ways to reduce the burn rate on my guzzler. One way is to install trim tabs to get on plane quicker and level out the ride more. I chose the new electric style with its worm gear actuators over traditional hydraulics—no real reason except to see how it works. I went with Lenco Marine's system that has 12" tabs. The LED indicator switch costs extra, but it's worth it to know the position of each tab.

[1] 11" transome height required to mount edge mounts, 15" transome height required to mount standard mounts

[2] Tabs should be as far outboard and widely separated as possible, yet from 1" to 4" from the outboard edge of the transom. The bottom of the hinge is 3/8" from the hull bottom, set parallel to the deadrise.

[3] Drill eight 3/16" pilot holes to a depth of 1-1/4" for each hinge. Bed the hinges and holes with the 3M 5200 adhesive/sealant and secure with the included #14 panhead screws.

[4] Bolt the lower mounting brackets to the tabs. Attach the actuators to the lower mounting brackets. Fit the upper mounting brackets to the top of the actuators.

[5] Attach the tabs at the hinges. Extend a 4' straight edge out from the bottom of the hull under each tab.

Raise the trailing edge of the tab 3/4" above the straight edge. Rest the actuator's upper mounting bracket against the transom and mark the two outer holes. Drill two 3/16" pilot holes 1" deep. Dry fit the upper mounting bracket using two screws, and mark the remaining mounting hole and the 3/8" wire hole. Remove the bracket. Drill a pilot hole for the mounting hole. Before drilling the through-transom hole for the wires, check inside the transom to be sure there are no obstructions.

[6] Repeat above for the second tab.

[7] Bed the upper mounting brackets with the 3M 5200 and secure to the transom.

[8] The indicator switch should be mounted at the helm. Tape the template in place and drill a 2" hole, plus four 5/32" holes.

[9] Install the control box—the

wires should exit out the bottom—in a dry, protected space, close enough for the 3' or shorter cable run to the indicator switch.

[10] Run the actuator's wires to the control box and tag the wires indicating which tab they control. Using insulated butt connectors or a bus bar, join the actuator's wires to the wires from the control box.

[11] Extend the control box's red (+) wire to the battery with a 20-amp inline fuse. Extend the control box's black (-) wire to ground. The control's orange wire goes to a terminal of an On/Off switch. Attach a second wire to the switch and run it to a positive (+) nonswitched terminal in the distribution panel.

[12] Connect the control box's cable to the indicator switch. Mount the tab indicator keypad with silicone sealant.

