

Packing Gland (Stuffing Box) Tool

The traditional parallel fork wrench for packing glands doesn't work on the Pearson 323. The maximum throw for a wrench between the motor box and the engine is only 14 degrees. However...a large basin wrench from the plumber's supply...with an extension handle allows you to tighten your packing gland from outside the engine compartment in relative ease. The smaller basin wrench commonly found in hardware and Home Depot is too small to fit the nut....and the handle is too short.

A unique boat sometimes needs unique tools. This wrench is well worth the search to find it and the price you pay. NOTE: Remember you also have a packing gland on the rudder post, hidden at the stern of the boat. The rudder doesn't spin like the shaft so it doesn't need attention as often, but on occasion...give it a slight tweak.

I did find the wrench on line at Grainger's Wholesale Plumbing. It's the 1 1/4 to 2 1/2" telescoping extension wrench: [RIDGID #1XDZ2](#). It now costs \$49 (2011) but it's worth every penny. Maybe several owners, or a Yacht Club could go together to own one.



Cliff and Bezy McKay on *Ceilidh* (Kaylee) Hull 261