

Does my vessel have an Attitude?

How your vessel sits in the water at the dock can dictate your planning and cruise efficiency PLUS give some clues as to whether your propellers are doing their job efficiently. The purpose of your propellers are to provide sufficient thrust to overcome the wetted surface of your hull on the way to getting up on plane and staying there.

Let's examine the horizontal attitude of your boat at rest at the dock, compare where the water lines up on your transom. Is the water level the same height Port and Starboard? If this measurement is not the same you will be using rudder to offset the turning of the boat underway because the boat is going to want to turn in the direction of the lean, (side that is lower in the water).

Forward and aft attitude is often noticed as an issue getting on plane and under way, cruising. If your propellers do not provide sufficient thrust to raise the transom thus allowing the bow to settle, the proper adjustment is a propeller adjustment. Vessels for the most part, unless a specific duty vessel (Sportfish, Pontoon, Ski), come with a propeller that can accommodate a range of load that could range a family of six to 1 or 2 people, with and without gear, food, refreshments, full fuel. Sizing your Propeller to Load is unique to your vessel because of these factors

along with different floor plans, a/c units or not, generator or not and so on. All these factors can be delt with at one time with the proper tune, or a better propeller for the situation with possibly a better alloy composition or blade area combination. One of the indicators of this condition would be the need to extend trim tabs to force the bow down. What in reality is happening is that a large amount of drag is being applied to the vessel so that the bow is forced down allowing the transom to rise. The same condition can be duplicated by dragging a small sea bag, not exactly an efficient situation.

**Call 313-383-0020 or send a note to:
PropGuy@WolverinePropeller.com and take advantage of over 40 years boating experience and 35+ years of mechanical knowledge to help you get the most for the least spent and understand WHY. Wolverine Propeller is easily accessible off I-75 at exit #41, to give you a free evaluation of your gear.**

May you have smooth seas and blue skies.....PG