

C.E. Smith Flush Mount Rod Holder Instruction Manual

Model: ZXC-53671Acwe

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your C.E. Smith Flush Mount Rod Holder. Designed for durability and performance, this rod holder is crafted from high-quality 316 stainless steel, ensuring reliability for various fishing applications, including heavy tackle and downriggers. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use to ensure proper function and longevity of the product.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The C.E. Smith Flush Mount Rod Holder is engineered for secure and stable rod placement on your vessel. Its robust construction and thoughtful design provide a reliable solution for anglers.



This image displays the C.E. Smith Flush Mount Rod Holder. It features a highly polished stainless steel construction, an oval-shaped top flange with three pre-drilled mounting holes, and a white vinyl liner visible inside the rod-holding tube. The main body is a cylindrical tube designed for flush mounting into a boat's gunnel.

Key Features:

- **Material:** Constructed from 100% 316 stainless steel for superior corrosion resistance and strength.
- **Design:** Features an extra-large, low-profile cap for a sleek appearance and enhanced stability.
- **Gimbal Bar:** Equipped with a super tough stainless steel gimbal bar, welded in place to withstand the forces from downriggers and heavy tackle.
- **Protective Liner:** Includes a white vinyl liner that protects fishing rods from scratches and is keyed with the gimbal bar to prevent rotation.
- **Angle:** Designed with a 15-degree angle for optimal rod positioning.

3. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for the performance and safety of your rod holder. This rod holder is designed for flush mounting into a boat's gunnel or other suitable flat surface.

Installation Steps:

- Select Location:** Choose a flat, sturdy surface on your boat's gunnel that can accommodate the rod holder's dimensions and angle. Ensure there is sufficient clearance below the mounting surface for the 9-inch tube depth.
- Mark Drilling Points:** Place the rod holder cap on the desired mounting location. Use a pencil or marker to accurately mark the center point for the main hole and the three mounting screw holes.
- Drill Main Hole:** Using an appropriate hole saw, drill the main hole for the rod holder tube. The internal diameter (I.D.) of the tube is 1-5/8 inches, so ensure your hole saw is sized accordingly to allow for a snug fit.
- Drill Mounting Holes:** Drill pilot holes for the three mounting screws. Use a drill bit size appropriate for your chosen fasteners to prevent splitting or damage to the mounting surface.
- Secure Rod Holder:** Insert the rod holder into the main hole. Align the mounting holes on the cap with the pilot holes. Secure the rod holder using marine-grade stainless steel fasteners (not included) appropriate for your boat's material. Tighten fasteners firmly but do not overtighten.
- Seal (Recommended):** For optimal water resistance, apply a marine-grade sealant around the edges of the rod holder cap before tightening the fasteners.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Using your C.E. Smith Flush Mount Rod Holder is straightforward.

- Inserting a Rod:** Gently slide the butt of your fishing rod into the rod holder tube. The white vinyl liner will guide and protect the rod. Ensure the rod's gimbal butt (if present) engages with the stainless steel gimbal bar at the bottom of the holder for secure positioning, especially when using heavy tackle or downriggers.
- Removing a Rod:** Lift the rod straight up and out of the holder.
- Angle:** The 15-degree angle of the rod holder is fixed and designed to provide an optimal fishing position, reducing strain on the rod and reel.

5. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will help preserve the appearance and functionality of your stainless steel rod holder.

- Cleaning:** Rinse the rod holder with fresh water after each use, especially after exposure to saltwater. This helps prevent salt buildup and potential corrosion.
- Polishing:** Periodically clean and polish the stainless steel surface with a marine-grade stainless steel cleaner or polish to maintain its luster and protect against environmental elements.
- Inspect:** Regularly inspect the rod holder for any signs of wear, damage, or loose fasteners. Ensure the white vinyl liner is intact and free of debris.
- Lubrication:** No lubrication is required for this product.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Most issues with the rod holder can be resolved with simple checks.

- **Rod Sticking:** If a rod feels difficult to insert or remove, check the white vinyl liner for any obstructions or damage. Ensure the rod butt is clean.
- **Corrosion/Staining:** While 316 stainless steel is highly corrosion-resistant, prolonged exposure to harsh environments without cleaning can lead to surface staining (tea staining). Regular rinsing with fresh water and periodic polishing will prevent this. If staining occurs, use a specialized stainless steel cleaner.
- **Loose Holder:** If the rod holder feels loose, check and tighten the mounting fasteners. Do not overtighten.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	SMITH
Model Number	ZXC-53671Acwe
Material	100% 316 Stainless Steel
Color	Stainless Steel
Mounting Type	Flush Mount
Tube Depth	9 inches
Internal Diameter (I.D.)	1-5/8 inches
Angle	15 degrees
Manufacturer	C.E. Smith