

RATCHET BLOCK DETAILS

1

Holt Allen 57



Wichard 55

2

Seldén 60

3

Ronstan 55



4

Ronstan 55



5

Wichard 55



From Bearings to Shackles

While holding power, friction, and ease of use weighed heavily in this comparison, the standouts in the field also best addressed smaller details like shackles, bearings, on-off switches, and sheaves.

1. Using a hex key, you can replace the sheave and bearings on the Holt Allen block.

2. Both the Wichard and Seldén have rugged stainless-steel swivel and shackle fittings. The Wichard's safe working load is far greater than of any of the other blocks tested.

3. The lightweight Ronstan uses a Dyneema stop instead of a shackle and swivel pin.

4. The Ronstan block offers three function modes: auto-sensing, ratchet, or free-spinning. This was the only block capable of operating in all three modes.

5. Rugged stainless straps support the cheeks of the Wichard block. The Delrin plastic bearings are easy to inspect and clean, but the bearings do see more UV than the other bearings in the field.