

Lewmar wireless remotes were spendy at almost \$400 list. I wanted to control the windlass from the helm, but not \$400 worth. The windlass was already installed when I purchased Mahalo, and had a tethered pendant stored in the anchor locker. When I did the helm upgrade I ran wires up inside the helm and wired an appropriate toggle switch up, but didn't drill the hole in the nave pods for it. While I was willing to run 3 conductor cable from bow to stern to provide the remote functionality, I thought again about accomplishing things using wireless. This time looking what was available for Jeep winches. Wow what a difference in price, I could get a unit that had two remotes for under \$10.

The very first step was to run out about 5-6' of chain, making sure the anchor was tied off. This chain will allow you to test you install without trying to pull the anchor thru the rollers.

Before starting take some extra time and verify the power to the winch is OFF. Use a multi-meter or idiot light. If you don't feel comfortable with electricity – find a buddy to help, this is a very easy project, but the current and potential for arc flashes (both can kill you) is really high.

There are four wires and an antenna coming from the control box. The unit came with lugs fittings on all the wires, for power, and up/down I cut off the lugs and installed some female spade fittings. I installed a larger lug on the ground. The pendant controls were unplugged from the solenoid and spade stackers installed, this allows both the pendant and wireless to both control the windlass. Put one of the up/down wires on the two empty male spade location. Power things up and see if the remote up switch engages the windlass. If the windlass turned the correct way turn off the power and tie wrap your wires to tidy things up. If the windlass turned backwards move swap the up/down wires. Then do your cleanup. I used double stick tape to fix the control box to the bulkhead. The photo below shows the install before cleaning up the wiring, white and yellow are the up and down, with red/black being power and ground. The documentation with the remote is very lacking.



It took less than 20 minutes start to finish and under \$15. As a precaution I keep the breaker off unless I plan on anchoring or retrieving the anchor. Be sure and retrieve any chain left on the deck and secure your anchor.