

Boat Icon Facing the Wrong Direction When Using a Garmin Autopilot

If the boat icon on a Garmin Marine Chartplotter is facing the wrong direction (also known as "Crabbing") when using a GHP autopilot as a heading sensor, the issue may be due to improper calibration. The first troubleshooting step is to make sure that both the chartplotter and the GHP are set to use either True or Magnetic heading. Both devices need to be set to the same North Reference (True or Magnetic heading) to ensure proper operation. Select your series for below for directions on checking and changing heading. It is user preference on whether True or Magnetic heading is chosen.

Garmin Helm Control (GHC)

1. Press **Menu**
2. Select **Set Up**
3. Select **System**
4. Select **North Reference** - Change to match chartplotter

If both devices are setup to use the same North Reference, check the compass's mounting location to ensure there is no magnetic interference around the Reactor. This would include speakers, motors, iron, magnets, etc. Use a handheld compass to verify that there is no magnetic interference in the area around the compass (Reactor). Re-calibrate the compass (Reactor) to ensure that it has been calibrated correctly. After the calibration, a Set North procedure should be done when both the chartplotter and GHP are powered on. To perform the compass calibration and the Set North procedure the GHC will first need to be put into Dealer mode. If the vessel does not have a GHC to perform the compass calibration, skip "Dealer Mode" and proceed to "Calibrate Compass" for steps on calibrating using a chartplotter.

Dealer Mode

1. Select **Menu**
2. Select **Setup**
3. Select **System**
4. Select **System Information**

5. Press and hold the center soft key until Dealer Mode displays
6. Press the back button twice

Calibrate Compass

While performing the compass calibration be sure to keep the boat as steady and flat as possible. The boat should not list during calibration. Make sure boat is evenly loaded.

To calibrate using a GHC:

1. Select **Dealer Autopilot Setup**
2. Select **Compass Setup**
3. Select **Calibrate Compass - Begin**

To calibrate using a chartplotter:

1. Select **Settings**
2. Select **My Vessel**
3. Select **Autopilot Installation Setup / Menu**
4. Select **Compass Setup**
5. Select **Compass Cal.**
6. Select **Begin**

Set North

When performing the set North Procedure, having a large stretch of open water available and calm surface conditions are best for setting North. Begin driving the boat in a straight line at cruising speed, downwind and in the same direction as the current.

1. Select **Dealer Autopilot Setup**
2. Select **Compass Setup**
3. Select **Set North – Begin**
4. Continue to drive the boat in a straight line at cruising speed, downwind in the same direction as the current, and follow the on-screen instructions.

If the Compass Ball has been calibrated and does not have any electromagnetic interference around it, the next troubleshooting step would be to update the internal operating system of the device and the autopilot to the latest version. For more information on updating the

devices, review Related Content.