

Scanstrut Rokk Wireless Edge

Many of our boats were built before smart phones were even a thing, and even modern boats are often designed without some phone specific details built in. Like me, you probably dump your phone in a random cockpit cubby hole or even leave it lying around on the seating. While boat design may be dragging its heels, phone manufacturers like to bring out new features faster than most of us can keep up with. Two of the more recent phone features, both real boons to boaters, are waterproof capabilities and wireless charging. This now means that your phone can be used seriously at the helm without concerns for weather damage. To take advantage of both of these features, Scanstrut offer the Rokk Wireless Edge, a waterproof phone mount that not only secures your phone in a suitable position, but charges it at the same time.

Mounting the Rokk Edge is simple enough. A single central 6mm hole to feed its power cable through and three 2.5mm holes for securing it to a suitable place at the helm. Its mounting base is only 55mm in diameter, so finding a suitable spot shouldn't be too difficult. Connecting it electrically just requires a positive and negative through a suitable fused and switched supply, although the supplied lead is only around 40cm long, so some extra wire will almost certainly be needed. The power supply can be between 10 and 30V DC, so the same unit will work on both 12 and 24V boats.



Mounting is easy, thanks to the supplied template. Non-wireless phones can use a separate receiver



Motorboat Owner
"It's not cheap, but the Edge is a great bit of kit"
Value 2/5
Usability 5/5
Performance 5/5

The quick release swivel allows a small amount of side to side adjustment, as well as a decent amount of tilt movement, but its main feature is to allow the phone to quickly go from portrait to landscape format which is ideal if you want to use your phone with some navigational software. It only tips to the right though, and with

an offset mount on the back you must make sure you don't install the unit too close to any obstruction to the right of it, if you want to take advantage of this. If space is tight at the helm, the swivel does allow the unit to be mounted overhead as an alternative.

The phone slots in easily with the top and bottom grips sliding outwards simultaneously to take a phone of up to 170mm in length. It grips very firmly, so there is zero chance your phone will bounce out, no matter how rough the going gets. Even smaller smart phones, down to around 120mm in length, are held firmly, meaning the older iPhones such as the 5, 5S and original SE are all suitable candidates. Unfortunately no one makes a wireless receiver for the iPhone 4/4S so if you still have one of these you are out of luck. Sorry to be iPhone specific, but that's where my experience lies. Samsung, Sony and other smartphone users are equally catered for as long as the dimensions are right and they either have, or can be upgraded to have, wireless charging.

The wireless charging works well, and even if your phone is in a protective case, like mine, it still manages to supply a charge, as long as the case is non-metallic and less than 3mm thick. This means that it can be used with phones that aren't waterproof by putting them in a suitable waterproof case. But what if your phone doesn't have wireless charging? Well even that obstacle can be overcome. A thin wireless charging receiver can be fitted to the back of the phone, or mounted inside its case, which gives non-wireless charging phones the ability to charge wirelessly. Scanstrut offer their own, for around £13, but I bought a generic one for around £3 and it works really well. As well as the usual 'bong' from your phone to indicate that it is charging, the Edge has an LED that goes green to confirm a charge current is flowing as an easy visual reference, which is useful as the 'bong' is often lost to engine noise.

Whether you use your phone for navigational apps, use it to wirelessly stream music, or simply want to have it close to hand so you never miss that important call while helming, the Rokk Edge is definitely one answer. Even if, like me, you still have an old tech, non-waterproof, non-wireless charging smart phone, the Edge can change the way you use it with the addition of a waterproof case and a wireless receiver. If, however, you are still using your Nokia 3310, I'm afraid you are going to have to continue to use that cubby hole.

Enquiries: Scanstrut www.scanstrut.com/rokk-wireless



It swivels to provide portrait or landscape viewing