

Honda SLIP Extreme 190

Words and pictures by Scarlett Steer

Best seller!

Honda Marine's Slip 190 is no new kid on the block. In fact, she appeared in our boat review pages well over a year ago – in last year's April issue – powered by a 150HP BF150 4-stroke, boasting VTEC (Variable Valve Timing) technology that delivers impressive torque, speed and fuel efficiency. Since her 2006 debut, this sporty package has become Honda Marine Knysna's top-selling unit. Although time has done little to alter the boat's popularity, it has done much to shift the decision regarding which outboard to mount to her transom. Today she is powered by the BF135 and could not have been rigged more beautifully.





The sum of its parts

For those of you who, like me, are constantly failed by your memory, I think a brief recap is in order. The Slip 190 boasts a great-sized and well laid-out interior. Bow seating converts into a spacious sunbed that can comfortably fit two long-legged adults, and is kitted out with stainless steel grab rails for safety and plastic cup holders for convenience. A wraparound, walkthrough safety glass windshield is set into an aluminium frame, and separates the bow from the carpeted cockpit. A cushioned L-shaped bench makes up the majority of the seating, with the skipper's chair a separate, low-slung affair. All upholstery is made from top quality, imported marine grade material which is both UV- and anti-fungal-protected. Instrumentation includes a speedometer and tachometer, as well as switches for the bilge pump and navigation lights. A self-draining ski hatch sits under the deck between the two consoles, providing storage space for skis and the like. A smallish storage hatch opposite the skipper's station provides dry storage for towels, a few bags, sweaters and other things that need to stay dry. A stainless steel ski pole and twin non-slip boarding platforms either side of the outboard (one with a fold-up stainless steel ladder attached) are found at the transom.

Our 2006 review boat was powered by a 150HP Honda BF150 4-stroke, boasting VTEC (Variable Valve Timing) technology delivering impressive torque, speed and fuel efficiency. With this particular rigging combination we managed a top speed of 63 km/h @ 5 900 rpm. 17 months down the line Honda has rigged the Slip190 with the BF135 and a 17" prop. A less powerful engine? Hardly. We achieved a top speed of 87 km/h @ 6 200 rpm and popped onto the plane in just under two

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MIDDLE Upholstery in imported marine grade material is UV- and anti-fungal protected.



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seconds. It just goes to show that it's all in the rigging.

The compact 2.4-litre Honda BF135 boasts many features that can be thanked for its stellar performance. A Lean Burn Feedback system automatically adjusts the air/fuel mix according to speed and load in order to maximise fuel efficiency. A three-way cooling system reduces engine heat, allowing the cylinder head to run slightly cooler than the cylinder block, which serves to reduce engine wear and tear. Dual Overhead Cam Technology increases the flow of air for greater horsepower and Dual Stage Induction ensures low speed drivability and high

speed performance. In addition to all of the above, a Multi-port programmed fuel injection delivers the exact air/fuel mixture to each cylinder under all operating speeds and conditions. This means that you, the boater, will experience quick starts, instant throttle response, and enhanced performance. Environmentalists can rest assured as the BF135 is both CARB 2008 and EPA 2006 compliant.

The whole

I've bleated on about the rigging subject before and although I'm not keen on sounding like a stuck record I think you'll be hard pressed to disagree that this package is a true testament to its importance. You can purchase the most powerful engine in the world and it won't come into its own unless it's fairly matched to the correct size and weight of craft. It's all about the combination. Just as Julia Roberts and Lyle Lovett didn't work out, neither will a poorly suited boat and motor. Luckily for us Honda Marine Knysna has got it just right.

For more information call Honda Marine Knysna on (044) 382 5188, or email hondamarine@knysna.sa.com. Alternatively to locate your nearest Honda Marine outlet you can visit us at www.honda.co.za.

At a glance

The boat	
LOA	19 ft/5.7 m
Beam	90 in/2.3 m
Weight	700 kg
Fuel capacity	91 litres
Max. persons	9
The engine	
Type	4-stroke Inline 4 cylinder
Displacement	2354cc (144 cubic in)
Bore and stroke	87 x 99 mm (3.43 x 3.9 in)
Full throttle rpm range	5 000 – 6 000
HP rating at propshaft	135HP @ 5 500 rpm
Induction scavenging	DOHC
Valves per cylinder	4
Fuel delivery	Programmed Fuel Injection
Ignition system	Microcomputer programmed
Starting system	Electric
Lubrication	Wet sump
Cooling system	Water cooled
Alternator	40 amp/504 watt
Trim range	-4 to +16 degrees
Tilt range	72 degrees
Drive	
Gear ratio	2.14:1 (14/30)
Gear shift	F-N-R
Propeller	Optional
Dimensions	
Recommended transom height	(L) 508 mm/20 in (X) 635 mm/25 in
Dry weight	(L) 217 kg – 478 lbs (X) 220 kg – 485 lbs

