

Q: Is it possible to hand crank the Atomic 4 and what is the proper technique?

A: You'll find a starting hand crank in our online catalog at moyermarine.com. It has a product number of MISC_01_74.

Before using this, or any hand crank for starting, be sure that the end of the crankshaft and the roll pin itself are relatively clean and free from burrs, etc. Then check the end of the crank for the same good condition, and I would recommend putting a little grease on the end of the crankshaft and crank. These precautions will ensure that the crank will pop right off the end of the crank as soon as the engine starts.

If the batteries are any good at all, engines will usually start amazingly well, due to the fact that the starter is not draining 800 to 1000 amps of power away from the coil. It's best to have a person in the cockpit to work the choke and throttle, just as if you were using the starter.

The Atomic 4 is rather gentle to start, and backfires are rare, especially if you use full choke so as to avoid a lean start. As with any other skill, it is good to practice a few times before you're actually in position to have to use the crank. All you really have to do is turn the engine in a counterclockwise direction, just as the starter does. The engine should start before you have to turn it more than a couple turns.

You need a minimum of 9 1/2" radius around the center of the flywheel cover for safe knuckle clearance during starting. The first bend of the handle extends out from the flywheel cover approximately 3 3/4".