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| **PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST** - Page 1 of 2 http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gifhttp://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif | |
|  | **Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | At least one Coast Guard approved device per passenger and a minimum of two on board. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | An additional throwable device is required if the vessel is more than 16 feet long. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Explain the location and use of all PFDs to passengers and crew that may be new to the vessel. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Sound Producing Devices (Whistle)** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Must have a horn capable of producing a four-second blast audible for at least 1/2 mile. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If a portable air horn, have a spare can of air or an alternate device. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Lights and Shapes** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | All navigation lights as required. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Instrumental lights working. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If you intend to engage in an activity that requires a day shape, have the required shapes. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Flashlight on-board. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Distress Signals** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Accessible flares, day signals, etc., stored in a dry location. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Carry signals at all times even if not required by the Coast Guard. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Inform the crew and passengers of their location and their use. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Tools and Spares** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Basic tool box on-board. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Box of spares aboard, e.g., fuel filter, light bulbs, head parts, through hull plugs, etc. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Ventilation** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | On any powered vessel or auxiliary powered sailboat, or vessels using LPG for cooking or heat, check that all interior spaces are well ventilated before departure. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If fuel smells are detected before ventilating, check after running the blowers for several minutes before starting. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If odor persists, stop and look for the source of the leak. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Fire Extinguishers** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Accessible fire extinguisher. Do you have at least those required by the U.S.C.G.? |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Check to be sure mounts are secure and functional before departure. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Take the time to point out locations to passengers and crew. |

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| **PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST** - Page 2 of 2 http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif | |
|  | **Fuel and Oil** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Are your tanks topped-off? |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If not, have enough fuel to provide a reasonable margin of safety for your return. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Check the engine oil and coolant level. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Bilges** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Check to be sure bilges are reasonably dry and that pumps are not running excessively. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Clean up any spilled oil or waste in bilges so as to prevent overboard discharge. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Battery Care** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If you have a duel charging system, is the selector switch in the proper position? |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Is the power on to the entire vessel? |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Spare batteries for accessories such as a handheld radio, flashlight, portable navigational aid, etc. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | If they are rechargeable, are they charged? |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Weather Forecast** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Did you check the weather forecast? |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Radio on board to receive weather updates. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Docking and Anchoring** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | At least one anchor set up and bent-on to your anchor line. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Two or three extra docklines in case of unusual conditions dockside. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Visually inspect the lines you use for chafe or wear. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | At least two fenders on-board for docking or towing if required. |
|  | http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/vspacer.gif |
|  | **Documentation** |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Have the ship's papers, radio license, fishing permit, etc. on board. |
| http://boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/boating/check.gif | Have the chart or charts for the area you intend to cruise in, regardless of your level of local knowledge |