

# VESSEL & EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Take Time to Reflect on Safety. Safe Boating Begins with You.

## Trip Destination

## Date

### Additional Resources:

**United States Coast Guard Boating Safety**

<http://www.uscgboating.org>

**United States Coast Guard Auxiliary**

<http://www.cgaux.org>

Information Source:

[http://bdept.cgaux.org/wp/?page\\_id=1032](http://bdept.cgaux.org/wp/?page_id=1032)

- Personal papers; operator's certificate or license (if required) onboard, current.
- Ship's papers; registration or documentation certificate.
- Life jacket suitable for each person on board, readily accessible, in good condition.
- Throwable floatation aid immediately available.
- Fire extinguishers conveniently placed, fully charged, in good condition.
- Visual distress signals with current expiration dates.
- Horn working.
- Bell (if required) onboard.
- Anchor and anchor line appropriate to area, depth, conditions.
- Compass properly adjusted.
- Charts for the area, up to date.
- Navigation tools.
- Boat hook.
- Mooring lines and fenders in good condition.
- Paddles or oars.
- Tool kit and spare parts (including light bulbs, fuses).
- Bilge free of fuel vapors and excess water.
- Fuel supply full.
- Fuel system free of leaks.
- Engine oil and transmission fluid levels correct.
- Battery fully charged, fluid level full.
- Electronic gear in good condition.
- Engine drive belts tight, in good condition.
- All navigation lights working.
- Steering and shift mechanisms in good condition.
- Outboard motor mountings tight (if appropriate).
- Grab rails, life-lines in good condition.



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The Coast Guard Foundation supports the men and women of the United States Coast Guard who protect America's shores and save lives at sea.

Learn more about our mission and find out how you can help at [www.coastguardfoundation.org](http://www.coastguardfoundation.org).

This guide covers only basic boating elements and does not guarantee the safety of your vessel or its passengers. Please refer to the U.S. Coast Guard for further safety guidelines and requirements for recreational boats.