



Skippers responsibility Checklist

Before each trip

- Check the weather and tides. If in doubt about any of the conditions, don't go
- Tell someone where you plan to go and when you intend to return. If your plans change, let them know
- Make sure your boat is suitable and capable of making the trip
- Carry all necessary supplies such as fuel, food and water in case of an emergency
- Study a chart or local boating guide of the waters you intend cruising. Are you familiar with the many dangers on the water, such as rocks or submerged obstructions and various speed limits and local laws?
- Ensure that all safety equipment is operational and in easy reach
- Let everyone know what safety equipment is carried, where it is stored and how it works
- Check, and double check, that your craft is not overloaded
- Check that your marine radio works
- Maintain boat stability by centrally loading your boat
- Make sure you and your crew can handle the boat properly
- Be sure lifejackets fit all passengers properly and are in easy reach

Note: In bad weather, when boating alone, if you are a weak swimmer or when you are not comfortable they should be worn at all times

- Consider the needs of all of your passengers. Do they have any special medical problems? Are they prone to sea sickness?
- A final check of basic mechanics. Has there been regular maintenance, particularly on the steering gear?

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