



Preparing Your Boat for the Season

GENERAL

- Do a general cleaning of hull, deck and topsides using a mild detergent
- Make sure drains and scuppers are clear
- Put on a good coat of wax
- Clean and polish metal with a good metal polish
- Clean teak and oil
- Clean windows and hatches
- Clean canvas, bimini and dodger
- Clean interior including bilges
- Check spare parts and tools and replace as necessary
- Make sure registration is current and onboard
- Check and replace wiper blades if necessary

HULL

- Check for hull abrasions, scratches, gouges, etc. and repair
- Check and replace zincs
- Check for blisters and refinish is necessary
- Check rub rails
- Check swim platform and/or ladder
- Inspect and test trim tabs
- Check shaft, cutlass bearing, strut and prop
- Check rudder and fittings
- Touch up or replace antifouling paint

DECK, FITTINGS, SAFETY EQUIPMENT:

- Check stanchion, pulpits and lifelines for integrity
- Check ground tackle, lines, fenders, etc.
- Check chainplates and cleats
- Check hull/deck joint
- Check deck, windows, and port lights for leaks
- Inspect anchor windlass and lubricate
- Clean and grease winches
- Check and lubricate blocks, pad eyes, etc.
- Check dinghy, and life raft

BELOW DECKS:

- Check, test and lubricate seacocks
- Check condition of hoses and clamps
- Make sure below waterline hoses are double clamped
- Check bilges pumps for automatic and manual operation
- Check for oil in bilges
- Check limber holes and make sure they are clear of debris
- Lubricate stuffing boxes, shaft and rudder logs

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM AND COMPONENTS:

- Check battery water level
- Check/recharge batteries
- Check terminals for corrosion, clean and lubricate
- Check bonding system
- Inspect all wiring for wear and chafe
- Test all gauges for operability
- Check shore power and charger
- Check for spare fuses
- Check all lighting fixtures (including navigation lights) and make sure you have spare bulbs
- Check all electronics for proper operation
- Inspect antennas

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT:

- Sound signaling device
- Check distress signals and expiration date
- Check Pfd's
- Inspect life rings and cushions
- Check fire extinguishers and recharge if necessary
- Check and adjust compass
- Check navigation lights
- Check charts and replace as necessary
- Check radar reflector
- Check and replace first aid supplies
- Check bailer and hand pump

INBOARD ENGINE(S):

- Change oil & filters - have spare onboard
- Check and change fuel filters - have spares onboard
- Check and change engine zincs
- Check cooling system change coolant as necessary - have extra onboard

- Record engine maintenance log, especially date & hours of last oil changes
- Check belts for tension
- Check transmission fluid
- Check and clean backfire flame arrestor
- Check impeller
- Check and clean water strainer
- Check bilge blower

HEAD SYSTEM:

- Checked for smooth operation - lubricate and clean as necessary
- If equipped with treatment system, have chemicals on hand
- Y-valve operation checked, valve labeled & secured

WATER SYSTEM:

- Flush water tank
- Check water system and pump for leaks and proper operation
- Check hot water tank working on both AC and engines
- Check for tank cap keys on board
- Check and clean shower sump pump screens
- Empty water separator filters
- Shock the drinking water tank. Suggestion is pool shock not bleach. Pool shock breaks down in a few days and then can be flushed out.

GALLEY:

- Fill propane tank, check electric & manual valves, check storage box vent to make sure it is clear
- Check refrigerator, clean and freshen, operate on AC and DC
- Clean stove, check that all burners and oven are working
- Check microwave, if fitted

OUTBOARD MOTOR:

- Replace spark plugs
- Check plug wires for wear
- Check prop for nicks and bends
- Change/fill gear lube
- Inspect fuel lines, primer bulb and tank for leaks
- Lubricate and spray moveable parts

TRAILER:

- Check for current registration
- Check rollers and pads
- Check and lubricate wheel bearings
- Clean and lubricate winch
- Lubricate tongue jack and wheel
- Test lights and electrical connections
- Check tire pressure and condition
- Check brakes (if equipped)
- Check safety chains
- Check tongue lock

SAILS:

- Check general condition
- Look for wear and chafing
- Check battens and batten pockets
- Check all sail attachments
- Inspect bolt rope

MAST AND RIGGING

- Check mast and spreaders for corrosion or damage
- Inspect spreader boots and shrouds
- Inspect rivets and screw connections for corrosion
- Check reefing points and reefing gear
- Clean sail track
- Check rigging, turnbuckles and clevis pins for wear and corrosion
- Inspect stays for fraying and "fish hooks"
- Check forestay and backstay connections
- Check masthead fitting and pulleys
- Check and lubricate roller furling
- Check halyards and consider replacing or swapping end for end
- Tape turnbuckles, cotter pins, and spreaders