

# FINAL SAFETY CHECKLIST—GENERAL

"This checklist represents the minimum safety checks that should be done for any vessel prior to getting underway and does not include vessel-specific information or the numerous items relating to extended cruising, spare parts, tools, and hundreds of things that make up the best trip management prac- tices for your particular vessel."

**Note: These items are demonstrated to all passengers, regardless of experience, during the pre-sail safety brief**

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| **LIGHTS** |  |
| Navigation lights clear and bright |  |
| Spotlight |  |
| Flashlights  |  |

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| **General hull condition (exterior)** |  |
| Obvious damage and anything you don’t know about already |  |
| Markings and numbers |  |
| Lifelines and railings for security and condition |  |
| Hatch and portlight security and condition |  |
| Complete visual of all rigging and sails |  |
| Jacklines, harnesses, and tethers  |  |

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| **Sound-producing devices**  |  |
| Whistle, horn, and bell |  |

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| **Ground Tackle** |  |
| Mooring lines in good condition |  |
| Anchor, rode, and all hardware (spare?) |  |

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| **General hull condition (interior)** |  |
| Obvious damage and anything you don’t know about already |  |
| Inspect and cycle all fuel shut-off valves* Fuel lines and clamps—security and condition
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| Inspect and cycle all sea valves* Hoses and hose clamp—security and condition
* Check and clear sea strainers
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| Inspect and cycle all overboard discharge lines* Inspect/test bilge pumps
* Hoses and hose clamp security and condition
* Inspect and cycle valves (not installed?— they should be)
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| Inspect all visible wiring of any kind for security and condition |  |

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| **Fire extinguishers**  |  |
| Obvious damage and anything you don’t know about already |  |
| Sufficient type and quantity—in proper location |  |
| Indicators in the green, properly serviced, less than five years old, and brackets secure |  |
| Remove from bracket, invert test (depending on agent), and re-install |  |
| Fixed firefighting: inspect all wiring for security and condition; properly serviced |  |

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| **Life jackets/PFD**  |  |
| Minimum required for all about |  |
| Condition |  |
| Identified for each passenger—readily available |  |
| If inflatable, leak-checked within 2 months minimum and inflation bottle and valve inspected |  |
| Life ring or throwable PFD checks and easily removed from cradle |  |
| Throw bag |  |

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| **Life raft**  |  |
| Inspection current, mounting secure, all aboard understand launching operation |  |
| If hydrostatic release is installed—check condition and expiration |  |

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| **Ventilation and backfire flame control (gas)** |  |
| Condition and operation |  |

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| **First Aid / Medical Gear** |  |
| Condition and Location  |  |

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| **Dewatering device**  |  |
| Locate, remove, and operate for 2 minutes |  |

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| **Engine** |  |
| Fuel, oil, and coolant levels |  |
| Belt and hose condition |  |
| General condition and security of accessories |  |
| Start and operate all engines and generators for five minutes minimum and visualize oper- ations, checking for fuel leaks, exhaust leaks, and any suspect material condition |  |

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| **Visual distress signals**  |  |
| In a case clearly marked: DISTRESS SIGNALS |  |
| Check expiration date and condition of all flares, smokes, lights, or flags |  |
| Expired flares may be kept in a separate container |  |

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| **EPIRB/PBIRBS**  |  |
| Current battery date |  |
| Registration current |  |
| Registration updated |  |
| Run self-test |  |
| Antenna security and condition |  |
| Security and condition of bracket |  |
| If hydrostatic release is installed—check condition and expiration |  |

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| **Marine radios**  |  |
| Tuned for max power output |  |
| Inspect security and condition of all radios, wiring, and antenna |  |
| Radio check (Channels 24, 26, 27, or 28—Automated) |  |
| DSC Registered—MMSI number |  |
| Integrated GPS (why not?) |  |
| Distress coms placard and DSC codes next to radio |  |
| Handheld/spare radio and batteries available (spare handheld GPS?) |  |
| Review operation with all aboard |  |