

Hull (and Keel and Rudder)

- is it a watertight vessel, dry bilge? brown stains inside?
- any gouges, scrapes, scratches or blisters?
- any “rose buds” forming on my keel?
- anything growing on it (algae, mussels, slime ?)
- any thru-hull fittings (functional cutoffs – do they work, plugs nearby, any leaks?)
- is my rudder tied down so it can’t move while I’m away?
- does my rudder mount show any brown-stain signs of water invasion?
- when does my registration expire?
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Deck

- any brown stains on fiberglass? (these are indications of core-rot, wood not rust)
- look for “trickle trails” and drip stains below decks
- chainplate and stanchion and other deck fittings showing any staining or wiggle?
- *Fred Schroth recommends re-bedding all thru-deck hardware annually*
- winches lubed and making nice clicks when you spin them
- for deck stepped masts, is your cockpit convex? *concave shows collapsed, water draw in*
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Standing Rigging

- any odd colored strand in wire rope (indicates a broken strand)?
- are spreader tips smooth for sail contacts, pinch-point guards in place?
- are all turnbuckles secured and ring-dings taped (replace any that are sprung)?
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Running Rigging

- Halyards and Sheets are cover and core; and covers fail when you least expect
- Traveller cars rolling smooth
- Any oxidation of cam-cleats or their white plastic bearings?
- Mooring lines, anchor rode and dock rigging – *(any frays or nips in the lines?)*
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Sails and Canvas and Woodwork (weak spots against UV) (if sunshine see it, UV will eat it up)

- Woodwork requires 2-3x/year maintenance (whether varnished or oiled)
- Consider covering wood with canvas or replacing it with PlasTeak
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Motor

- use only clean gas (use no-ethanol, aviation gas, or Stabile treatment)
- if you ever have to use ethanol gas, run it out of the engine — always! *(it will gum things up)*
- check for water in your oil (white, foamy or greyish lube)
- change lower unit lubricant once a year on outboards
- a flooded carburetor float will cause fuel to flow freely overboard

Battery / Lights / Sensors / other electrics

- does your battery hold a charge or are there leak currents *(measuring leak currents)*
- battery terminals clean and covered
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Head / Water / Icebox / Generator / and on and on...

- Head: Get Rid of Boat Odors – Peggy Hall (Amazon)
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