

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

Sailing Vessels With or Without Auxiliary Engines



Trip Prep:

- Marine Weather Forecast
- Float Plan

Leave float plan with a responsible person

Pack:

- Lifejackets / PFDs
- Safety Equipment
- PCO Card & Picture ID (if equipped with an auxiliary engine)
- Marine Charts
- Good to Have Items

One properly fitting, Canadian government-approved lifejacket/PFD in good condition for each person.

Inflatable PFDs must be worn to be legal.

Safety equipment available at local Marine Retailers, Canadian Tire or Recreational Retailer.

Good to have:

- Sunscreen and Protective Clothing
- Snacks and Water
- Compass & Portable Marine Radio

If equipped with an auxiliary engine:

- Tools and spare Parts (Hoses, clamps, spark plugs, belts)
- Spare Fuel Tank and Delivery Hose (if the auxiliary engine is outboard)

Inspect:

- Navigation Lights
- Safety Equipment
- Fire Extinguisher(s)
- Drain Plug

If equipped with an auxiliary engine:

- Engine Oil level
- Sufficient Fuel
- Bilge for smell of Fuel
- Belts & Hoses for Cracks
- Propeller for Damage
- Start Engine / Check Charging & Electrical Systems

Fuel Rule of Thumb: 1/3rd out, 1/3rd back, plus 1/3rd spare)

Cracks in belts/hoses indicate potential failure

A bent propeller may cause water to enter the engine/outdrive causing damage.

Malfunctioning alternator will drain battery.

Brief Passengers:

- Importance of wearing a lifejacket
- Duties, as applicable, including keeping watch
- Location / Use of Safety Gear

Advise passengers on the conditions you are likely to encounter.

On Water:

Watch for:

- Hazards / Other Boats
- Cloud, Wind / Wave Changes
- Water Seepage

If a marine radio is available, check periodically for updated marine weather forecasts.

Watch for approaching storms.

End of Trip:

- Close Float Plan