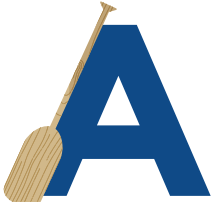


# the ALPHABET of BOATING TIPS



## is for ACCESSORIES

Check your boat's accessories. If you own wooden oars or paddles, be sure to check for splinters or cracks in the blade. Check plastic or metal paddles for signs of wear that would cause them to fail.



## is for BUNG

Keep a wooden bung that matches the diameter of each through-hull below the waterline in order to prevent sinking in case of an emergency.



## is for CLEANER

Use oven cleaner to remove paint splatters on gel coat.



## is for DIRTY

Is your boat getting a little dirty? Be sure to clean your deck and hull with a mild water-soluble cleansing agent. This will prevent damage to the color and condition of your boat.



## is for ELECTRONICS

Prevent equipment theft! Remove your electronics when storing your boat to protect expensive gadgets.



## is for FUEL

After every boating trip, be sure to fill the gas tank. This will help prevent water build-up from condensation.



## is for IMPELLER

If a water pump impeller disintegrates while you're boating, the engine will overheat. Change your engine's water pump impeller every three years to prevent failure.



## is for GASOLINE

Clear any potential gasoline fumes by running the blower for five minutes before turning the ignition key (for boats with gas engines housed in compartments).



## is for HURRICANES

Before hurricane season begins, take a video of the interior, exterior, and the equipment in your boat. Keep it in a safe place in case an insurance claim needs to be filed.



## is for JELLY

Coat battery terminals with a small amount of petroleum jelly to prevent corrosive buildup.



## is for KIDS

Kids onboard? Be careful about hatch covers – they can pinch toes and fingers.



## is for METAL

A little metal polish goes a long way when dealing with chrome and stainless steel railings. After a good rinse, be sure to add this finishing touch.



## is for NAVIGATION LIGHTS

Routinely clean the navigation lights with a pencil eraser to prevent corrosion.



## is for LEAVES

Do not store your boat under trees. Falling leaves will leave stains, especially on fiberglass. Not to mention the tree sap and bird droppings that are particularly tough to remove.



### is for OIL

Boat engines that aren't often used can be susceptible to oil leaks. Make sure to check the oil to prevent the gaskets and seals from drying out.



### is for PFD

Don't forget your personal floatation devices (PFD's). You must have one for each person on board and they must be properly fitted.



### is for RECONDITION

Do you need to re-pair your propeller's blades? Lightly run a cotton ball along the blade edges. If the cotton catches, you will need to recondition the prop.



### is for QUALIFIED

If you find any loose fittings or rivets, cracks, or other parts of the boat that need care, fix these immediately or take the boat for a detailed check-up at a qualified marina.



### is for SOLIDS

If painting your boat's bottom, flip the can of paint upside down to mix the solids into the solution. Do this the night before for best results.



### is for TOWEL

Lay a damp towel underneath your cooler to keep it from sliding around the deck.



### is for US COAST GUARD

Free vessel safety checks are available from the US Coast Guard. [www.GoCoastGuard.com](http://www.GoCoastGuard.com)



### is for VINEGAR

Eliminate onboard mildew by mixing two parts white vinegar to one part water. Unlike bleach, this won't cause discoloration on your boat.



### is for WOOD

If you have a wooden boat, try to remove the boat from water and turn it over for wintering.



### is for EXTRAS

Be sure to have extras of key items, so you don't run out on the water! Keep aboard a supply of extra first aid items, snacks, bottled water, and life jackets.



### is for FREEZING

While Florida's boat enthusiasts often enjoy year-round boating, most boaters across the country have to protect their boats against freeze damage. Don't forget the antifreeze when cruising northward.



### is for YACHTS

Sport fishing and excursions to the Bahamas are favorite outings. Yachting is hard work though, so be sure to treat your captain and crew well!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [SKISAFE.COM](http://SKISAFE.COM) OR CALL 800.225.6560

Tower Hill Insurance | P.O. Box 147018, Gainesville, FL 32614 | 800.342.3407 | [THIG.com](http://THIG.com)  
SkiSafe | 1 Hollow Lane, Lake Success, NY 11042 | 800.225.6560 | [SKISAFE.com](http://SKISAFE.com)

Sources: [boatingmag.com](http://boatingmag.com); [discoverboating.com](http://discoverboating.com)  
© 2015, SkiSafe and Tower Hill Insurance Group, LLC



Tower Hill Insurance proudly partners with SkiSafe.