

ESSENTIAL
GUIDE to
BOATING

BOAT MAINTENANCE

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO KEEPING YOUR BOAT SHIPSHAPE





Table of Contents

Introduction	8
<i>Chapter 1:</i> Hull Care	14
<i>Chapter 2:</i> Painting	54
<i>Chapter 3:</i> Engine Upkeep	74
<i>Chapter 4:</i> Belowdecks	106
<i>Chapter 5:</i> Fittings	124
<i>Chapter 6:</i> Winterizing	146
Glossary	156
Index	158

Index

c=chart
i=illustration
p=photo
t=table

Air ventilation, 122; system, *i*: 122-123
 Alternating current (AC) electrical system, *i*: 108-109
 Alternator, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Aluminum, hull material, advantages, 32
 Antichafing tape, replacing, *p*: 129
 Antifouling paint, 61; selecting, 66
 Applying boat name, 72; *p*: 72; *i*: 73
 Backing iron, repairing hull tears, *i*: 36-37
 Battery, installing second, *i*: 112; charger, installing, *i*: 113; maintenance, *i*: 114-115
 Belt sander, use in hull repairs, *p*: 28
 Bilge blower, *i*: 122-123
 Bilge outlet, in water systems, *i*: 116-117
 Bilge pump, *i*: 116-117; types, *i*: 118-119
 Bilge strainer, *i*: 116-117
 Bleed screws, in diesel engine, *i*: 92
 Block, as part of chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98; as part of drum-and-cable steering system, *i*: 100
 Boat name, applying, 72; *p*: 72
 Bonding system, *i*: 108-109
 Bosun chair, use, *i*: 138-139
 Brace, use in repairing oilcanning, *i*: 25
 Breaker points, inboard motor distributor, *i*: 86
 Brightwork, 69; *p*: 68; stripping, need for, *p*: 70; stripping, how to, *p*: 70
 Bungs, missing or protruding, *i*: 40; inspecting and repairing, *i*: 42-43
 Buttoning up a pleasure boat, 134; *i*: 134-135
 Cable, drum-and-cable steering, *i*: 100
 Cable terminal assembly, rack-and-pinion steering, *i*: 102
 Cable ram, rack-and-pinion steering, *i*: 102
 Cam, inboard motor distributor, *i*: 86
 Carburetor, outboard motor, *i*: 77; inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Carburetor-filter housing, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Carburetor linkage, outboard motor, *c/i*: 80-81
 Caulking compound, repairing hull tears, *i*: 36-37; wooden boats, *i*: 40
 Caulking seams, how to, *p*: 44-47
 Center box, worm steering gear, *i*: 99
 Chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98; maintenance, 99
 Chain plates, replacing, *i*: 131

Check valve, water systems, *i*: 116-117
 Choke shaft, outboard motor, *c/i*: 80-81
 Clamp screws, outboard motor, *c/i*: 80-81
 Clevis, clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104
 Clevis pin, clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104
 Clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104
 Clutch lever engine controls, 104; parts of, *i*: 104; maintenance, *i*: 105
 Coil, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Coil cable, inboard motor distributor, *i*: 86; relationship to engine block, *i*: 86
 Color agent, manufacturing fiberglass hulls, 16; *i*: 16
 Companionway door, air ventilation, *i*: 122-123
 Control system, maintenance, 94-105
 Cooling system hose, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Cooling system intakes, outboard motor, *i*: 77
 Copper oxides, 61
 Cork float, outboard motor fuel system, *i*: 76
 Cotton, in caulking wooden hull seams, *p*: 44-45
 Cracks, in fiberglass hull, repairing, *i*: 20-21; in ferro-cement hull, *i*: 26
 Crankcase dipstick, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
 Grazing, in fiberglass hull, *i*: 18
 Deck seams, wooden, caulking, *p*: 46-47
 Delamination, repairing, *i*: 19; how to repair *i*: 24
 Dents, in aluminum hulls, *i*: 32; how to repair, *i*: 34-35
 Depth finder, installing new, *i*: 110
 Diesel engine, advantages, 90; changing fuel filter element, *i*: 92; cleaning fuel pump, *i*: 92; how it works, 90; maintenance, 92-93; *i*: 92-93; parts of, *i*: 90-91; removing water moisture, *i*: 92
 Direct current (DC) electrical system, *i*: 108-109; installing new gear, 110-111
 Discharge hose, manual diaphragm bilge pump, *i*: 118; mandatory filter installation, *i*: 119
 Discharge lines, water systems, *i*: 116-117; marine toilet system, *i*: 120-121
 Discharge valve, manual diaphragm bilge pump, *i*: 118

Distributor, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83; maintenance, *i*: 86-87
 Distributor points, inboard motor distributor, how to set properly, *i*: 86
 Dorade ventilators, *i*: 122-123
 Drill, repairing dents, aluminum hull, *i*: 34; *i*: 36-37
 Drive-shaft pulley, inboard motor, *i*: 85
 Drum-and-cable steering system, *i*: 100
 Dual-battery system, how to install, *i*: 112; need for, 113
 Dry rot, *i*: 41
 Elastic sealant, *p*: 44-45
 Electric bilge pump, *i*: 119
 Electrical system, *i*: 108-109; service box, *i*: 111
 Engine compartment intake line, *i*: 122-123
 Engine-compartment outlet, *i*: 122-123
 Engine maintenance, 74-93
 Engine vibration, impact on control terminals, *i*: 105
 Engine water intake line, *i*: 116-117
 Engine water system, *i*: 116-117
 Epoxy compound, use in smoothing dents, *p*: 62
 Epoxy resin, *i*: 16; *i*: 16; use in repairing fiberglass hulls, 20; use in repairing hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
 Fairlead, when to replace, *i*: 131
 Feeler gauge, to inspect spark plugs, *i*: 78; in setting inboard motor distributor points, *i*: 87
 Ferro-cement, as hull material, 26; minor wounds, repairing, how to, *p*: 28; major breaks, repairing, how to, *p*: 29-31
 Fiberglass hull, 16, 18; *p*: 16; *i*: 17, 18; composition, 17; crack, repairing, *i*: 20; crazing, repairing, *i*: 19; delamination, repairing, *i*: 19; evaluating damage, 16; gouges, repairing, *i*: 19; holes, fixing, 18; how manufactured, 17; invisible flaws, 18; oilcanning, 18; punctures, repairing, *i*: 22-23; scuff, repairing, *i*: 19; stress cracks, *i*: 18; waxing, 16
 Fiberglass mat, composition, *i*: 17; fiberglass hulls, 20; hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
 Filler cap, outboard motor fuel system, *i*: 76
 Filling dents and cracks, *p*: 60-61
 Fittings, maintenance of, 126-127; *i*: 126-127
 Flame arrester, *i*: 82-83
 Flush-valve lever, *i*: 120
 Flushing an outboard motor, how to, *p*: 79; *i*: 79
 Flying-bridge station, rack-and-pinion steering system, *i*: 102
 Fresh-water pump, outboard motor fuel system, *i*: 76; how to clean, *i*: 77
 Fresh-water tank, *i*: 116-117
 Fuel filter, inboard motor, *i*: 76; diesel engine, *i*: 90-91
 Fuel filters, in diesel engine, *i*: 92; changing element of primary, *i*: 92; changing element of secondary, *i*: 93
 Fuel injector, diesel engine, *i*: 90-91; bleeding, *i*: 93
 Fuel line, diesel engine, *i*: 90-91
 Fuel overflow line, diesel engine, *i*: 90-91
 Fuel-pump outboard motor, *i*: 76; inboard motor, *i*: 82-83; diesel engine, *i*: 90-91; cleaning, how to, *i*: 92
 Fungus, impact on wooden boats, 40; *i*: 41
 Galley sink, in water systems, *i*: 116-117
 Galvanic action, 38; *i*: 38
 Galvanic action, marine metal, *i*: 38
 Galvanic corrosion, clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104; aluminum hulls, 32; *i*: 32; from improper grounding of electrical system, 112
 Gear case, outboard motor, *c/i*: 80-81
 Gear-shift linkage, outboard motor, *c/i*: 80-81
 Gel coat, fiberglass hulls, 16; *i*: 16; repairing fiberglass hulls, 20
 Glass fibers, chopped, for repairing fiberglass hulls, 20; hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
 Googles, in fiberglass hull, repairing, *i*: 19; in ferro-cement hull, repairing, *i*: 27
 Hand pump, in water systems, *i*: 116-117
 Heel fitting, rudderstock, *i*: 97
 Hinge, rudder assembly, *i*: 96
 Hinge bolt, rudder assembly, *i*: 96
 Holding tank, *i*: 116-117; marine toilet system, *i*: 120
 Holes, fiberglass hull, repairing, 18; in ferro-cement hulls, *i*: 27
 Hull, 14; ailments, 14; materials, 14
 Hydraulic steering system, *i*: 103; when needed, 103; maintenance, 103
 Ignition file, inboard motor, *i*: 86
 Inboard motor, adjusting belts, *i*: 85; lubrication, *c/i*: 89; changing oil and oil filter, *i*: 88-89; overview, 82; parts of, *i*: 82-83; routine maintenance, 82-83; replacing filters, *i*: 84
 Intake line, water system, *i*: 116-117
 Intake hose, manual diaphragm bilge pump, *i*: 118

- Intake valve, manual diaphragm bilge pump, *i*: 118; manual toilet pump, *i*: 121
- Internal water systems, pleasure boats, *i*: 116; *i*: 116-117
- Invisible flaws, fiberglass hulls, 18
- Joker valve, marine toilet system, *i*: 121
- Lag screw, worm steering gear, *i*: 99
- Latrine, origins, 120
- Lever, rack-and-pinion steering system, *i*: 102
- Lifeline sagging, *p*: 128
- Locator key, inboard motor, *i*: 87
- Loosened fastenings, in aluminum hulls, *i*: 33
- Lubrication program, outboard motor, *C/I*: 80-81
- Magneto linkage, outboard motor, *C/I*: 80-81
- Manual diaphragm bilge pump, how it works, *i*: 118-119
- Manual toilet pump, how it works, *i*: 121
- Marine wiring, AC and DC systems, finer points, *C*: 111
- Masonite, repairing major breaks, ferrocement hulls, *p*: 29
- Mesh, repairing major breaks, ferrocement hulls, *p*: 30
- Metal parts, isolating from aluminum hulls, *i*: 39
- Metal fuel line, outboard motor, *i*: 76
- Motor-cover latch, outboard motor, *C/I*: 80-81
- Mount bearing, worm steering gear, *i*: 99
- Mounting bracket/nut, inboard motor, *i*: 85
- Mounting block, worm steering gear, *i*: 99
- Mounting screw, inboard motor, *i*: 87
- Mushroom vent, *i*: 122-123
- Oil filter, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
- Oilcanning, hulls, 18; how to repair, using a brace, *i*: 25
- Outboard motor, advantages, 76; carbon and oil deposits of, effects of, 76; corrosion, effects of, 76; flushing, need for, 76; flushing, how to, *i*: 76, 79; flushing methods, *i*: 79; inspections of, 76; lubrication points, *C/I*: 80-81; proper lubrication of, 76
- Outboard steering bracket, drum-and-cable steering system, *i*: 100
- Outlet valve, manual toilet pump, *i*: 121
- Packing fiber and nut, rudder assembly, *i*: 96
- Paint roller, *p*: 67
- Paint primer, caulking wooden hull seams, *p*: 44-45; applying, *p*: 61
- Paint scraper, repairing ferrocement hull, *p*: 28
- Paint, types of; advantages and disadvantages, *C*: 56; determining amount needed, *i*: 63; handling properly, 63; *i*: 64; mixing properly, 63; *i*: 64; using test area, 63, *i*: 64
- Paintbrush, proper methods for use, *i*: 65
- Painting, proper application methods, *i*: 64; decks and interiors, special tips for, 65; boats and bottoms, 66, *p*: 65-66, *i*: 65
- Pedestal steering system, *i*: 98
- Picking a paint color, 56; *p*: 57-59
- Picking a paint finish, 56; *p*: 57-59
- Pinion gear, *i*: 103
- Piston, marine toilet system, *i*: 121
- Piston rod, manual toilet pump, *i*: 121
- Pivot points, worm steering gear, *i*: 99; clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104
- Planks, wooden hull, rotted, replacing, 49-53; *p*: 48-53
- Plunger, clutch-control lever systems, *i*: 105
- Plywood, repairing major breaks, ferrocement hulls, *p*: 31
- Polyester resin, 16, *i*: 16; repairing fiberglass hulls, 20; repairing hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
- Polysulphide, repairing tears in aluminum hulls, *i*: 36-37
- Power inverter, installing, 113
- Powerboat wheel steering systems, 101, *i*: 101
- Primer bulb, outboard motor fuel system, *i*: 76
- Propeller, outboard motor, *i*: 77
- Propeller shaft, outboard motor, *C/I*: 80-81
- Propulsion regulators (*aka* engine controls), 104; parts of, *i*: 104-105
- Pulpit stanchion, bolts, corrosion, *p*: 129
- Pulsator, diesel engine fuel pump, *i*: 92
- Pump cylinder, marine toilet system, *i*: 121
- Pump handle, marine toilet system, *i*: 120
- Pump housing, manual diaphragm bilge pump, *i*: 118
- Puncture, patching, how to, *i*: 22-23
- Putty, repairing fiberglass hulls, 20; *i*: 21; hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
- Quadrant, as part of chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98
- Rack-and-pinion steering, *i*: 102
- Raw water port, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83
- Reach rod, clutch lever engine control system, *i*: 104
- Repair materials, fiberglass hulls, 20, *i*: 20
- Repainting fiberglass, safety measures, 20
- Repairing sails, *p*: 140-143
- Resin, fiberglass hulls, 16; *i*: 16; hull punctures, *i*: 22-23
- Rigging, when to replace, *p*: 137
- Rivets, in aluminum hulls, *i*: 33
- Rivet gun, how to use, *i*: 35
- Roller chain, chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98
- Rotor, inboard motor distributor, *i*: 86-87
- Rubber spreader boot, *i*: 136
- Rudder, *i*: 96; lubrication; rack-and-pinion steering, *i*: 102
- Rudder connection arm, rack-and-pinion steering system, *i*: 102
- Rudder post, chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98
- Rudder-tiller combinations, *i*: 97
- Rudderstock, *i*: 96-97
- Saber saw, use in repairing tears in aluminum hulls, *i*: 36-37
- Safety-switch cam, outboard motor, *i*: 80-81
- Sails, repairing, *p*: 140-143; stowing, *p*: 144-145
- Sand paper, choosing correct, *i*: 60
- Sanding, as preparation for painting, 60
- Scrapers, tailor-made, 44; stripping paint, *p*: 60
- Screws, repairing, *i*: 43
- Scruffs, fiberglass, repairing, *i*: 19
- Seacock, *i*: 116-117; marine toilet system, *i*: 120
- Seams, need to caulk, *i*: 40-41; how to caulk, *p*: 44-47
- Secondary fuel filter, diesel engine, *i*: 90-91; changing element, *i*: 93
- Setting notches, inboard motor, *i*: 87
- Shaft, inboard motor, *i*: 87
- Sheave, chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98; cracks in, *p*: 129
- Shift lever and shaft, outboard motor, *C/I*: 80-81
- Sight glass, inboard motor, *i*: 82-83; warming device, 84
- Spark plug, *i*: 77; how they work, 78
- Spark plug cables, *i*: 77
- Spars, when to replace, *p*: 137
- Spinnaker-block pad eye, corrosion in, *p*: 128
- Stanchion, high stress, replacing, *i*: 130
- Standing rigging, 136, *i*: 136
- Waste inlet valve, *i*: 121
- Water line, *i*: 120
- Water intake valve, *i*: 120
- Water outlet, *i*: 116-117
- Waxing, fiberglass hull, 16
- Weather, impact on painting, 63
- Wheel steering rigs, types of, 99, *i*: 99-99
- Wick, inboard motor, *i*: 87
- Winch, how to repair, *i*: 132; *p*: 133
- Wire rope cable, chain-and-sprocket steerer, *i*: 98
- Worm gear, *i*: 99
- Worm steering gear, 99, *i*: 99