

Boating Safety Checklist

MUST HAVE ITEMS

As Required By Regulation

Personal Flotation Devices (Life Jackets)

- ☐ Type I, II, III, or V for **each person onboard** (Wearable)
- ☐ One Type IV (Throwable)
Not Required on Non-Powered boats under 16'

Fire Extinguishers

Choose One	Boats w/out Fixed System		Boats w/ Fixed System
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boats <26'	1 Size BI - OR -	Fixed System
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boats 26 - <40'	2 Size BI* - OR -	Fixed System + 1 Size BI
<input type="checkbox"/>	Boats 40 - 65'	3 Size BI* - OR -	Fixed system + 2 Size BI*

* One Size BII may be substituted for Two Size BI Extinguishers

Visual Distress Signals (VDS)

- Choose One
- ☐ Combination Day/Night VDS (Flares or Flare Gun)
 - ☐ Daytime VDS (Flags, Smoke Signal)
AND
Nighttime VDS (Automated SOS Light)

Sound Signals

- ☐ Horn or Whistle
- ☐ Bell (Not required for vessels under 12m)

Ventilation (Boats with Gasoline Systems)

- ☐ Natural Ventilation
- ☐ Powered Ventilation

Backfire Flame Control

- ☐ Backfire Flame Arrestor (Gasoline Engines except outboards)

- The above represents minimum USCG Safety Requirements on-board vessels.
- Other Requirements may be necessary to comply with state laws.

- This is not intended to be an all-inclusive list but rather a baseline of items to make your boating adventure safe and fun.
- For Vessels over 65' refer to 33CFR 25.30-20 or ABYC A-4.

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Recommended Items

Items in Red May be Required in Some States

Boats on Inland Waters

Everything on Required List PLUS:

- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Anchor with Sufficient Line
- ☐ Bailing Device
- ☐ Sun Protection
- ☐ Alternate Propulsion (Paddles, Oars)
- ☐ Boating Safety Education/
Certificate
- ☐ Watersports Flag
(Skier Down/Diver Down Flag)

Boats on Nearshore Waters

Everything Above PLUS:

- ☐ Extra Food & Water
- ☐ Float Plan
- ☐ Compass
- ☐ VHF Radio
- ☐ GPS/Chartplotter
- ☐ Depth Finder
- ☐ Charts
- ☐ Spare Tool Kit

Boats on Offshore Waters

Everything Above PLUS:

- ☐ EPIRB
- ☐ Life Raft
- ☐ Searchlight
- ☐ List of CPR Instruction
- ☐ Radar
- ☐ Radar Reflector
- ☐ Shore Landing Craft (Tender)
- ☐ Man-Overboard Recovery Gear
- ☐ AIS
- ☐ Sea Drogue
- ☐ Safety Knife
- ☐ Weather Information System
- ☐ Radio Direction Finder
- ☐ Long Range Communications Gear

Boats on River Waters

Everything on Required List Plus:

- ☐ Throw Bag
- ☐ Helmet

Miscellaneous Items

Other Items That May be Recommended:

- ☐ Heaving Line
- ☐ Spare Keys
- ☐ Boat Hook/Pole
- ☐ Spare Propeller
- ☐ Extra Engine Oil
- ☐ Handheld Lead-line
- ☐ Strobe Light
- ☐ Carbon Monoxide Detector
- ☐ Extra Clothing
- ☐ Marine Hardware
- ☐ Masks & Fins (For Clearing Props)
- ☐ Storm Sails

