### 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boats w/o Fixed System</th>
<th>Boats w/ Fixed System</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boats &lt;26’</td>
<td>1 Size Bl - OR - Fixed System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boats 26 - &lt;40’</td>
<td>2 Size Bl* - OR - Fixed System + 1 Size Bl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boats 40 - 65’</td>
<td>3 Size Bl* - OR - Fixed system + 2 Size Bl*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*One Size Bl may be substituted for Two Size Bl Extinguishers*

**Visual Distress Signals (VDS)**
- 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 Arrester (Gasoline Engines except outboards)

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- 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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### Boating Safety Checklist

**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

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*Scan here to download the ABYC Boating Safety Checklist App. abycinc.org/mobileapps*