

# 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

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