

Boat Winterization Checklist

1. Drain all water from the boat, including the engine, water tanks, and plumbing.
2. Disconnect and remove the battery from the boat, then store it in a cool, dry place.
3. Clean and dry the boat thoroughly, inside and out.
4. Remove all electronics and store them in a warm, dry place.
5. Remove all personal items, including cushions, life jackets, and any other gear that can be damaged by the cold.
6. Store all personal items in a dry place, away from moisture and pests.
7. Close all windows and hatches securely.
8. Cover the boat with a weatherproof cover that is designed to fit the boat.
9. Make sure the cover is securely fastened to the boat to prevent it from blowing off during windy weather.
10. Remove the anchor and chain from the boat and store it in a dry place.
11. Lubricate all metal parts, including hinges, latches, and locks.
12. Lubricate the engine and other mechanical parts as recommended by the manufacturer.
13. Check the fuel level in the tank and add fuel stabilizer if necessary.
14. Change the oil and filter in the engine.
15. Change the transmission fluid.
16. Drain and refill the cooling system with antifreeze.
17. Check the spark plugs and replace them if necessary.
18. Remove the propeller and inspect it for damage.
19. Lubricate the propeller shaft and reinstall the propeller.
20. Check the steering system for proper operation.
21. Check the throttle and shift controls for proper operation.
22. Inspect the hull for damage and repair any cracks or scratches.
23. Check the bilge pump for proper operation and repair or replace as necessary.
24. Remove the drain plug from the hull and store it in a safe place.
25. Inspect the trailer and repair any damage.
26. Lubricate the trailer bearings.
27. Remove the drain plug from the engine block and allow any remaining water to drain out.
28. Check the boat's fuel filter and replace it if necessary.
29. Grease the steering mechanism and cables to prevent rust and corrosion.
30. Check the tire pressure on the trailer and inflate if necessary.
31. Store the trailer in a dry place, away from moisture and pests.
32. Inspect the ropes, lines, and fenders for wear and replace as necessary.
33. Store the ropes, lines, and fenders in a dry place, away from moisture and pests.
34. Inspect the boat trailer hitch and wiring and repair or replace as necessary.
35. Inspect the winch and strap for wear and replace as necessary.
36. Check the boat lift or hoist for proper operation and repair or replace as necessary.
37. Remove any water toys, including skis, wakeboards, and tubes, and store them in a dry place.
38. Drain the engine oil cooler, raw water pump, and any other parts that may freeze.
39. Check the hull for blisters or soft spots and repair as necessary.
40. Check the boat's electrical system and repair or replace any damaged wiring.
41. Check the boat's navigation lights and replace any that are not functioning properly.
42. Check the boat's fire extinguishers and replace any that are expired.
43. Check the boat's safety equipment, including life jackets, flares, and signaling devices.
44. Store the boat's safety equipment in a dry place, away from moisture and pests.
45. Check the boat's communication equipment, replace any that are not functioning properly.

Note: Always check your manufacturer's manual for specific instructions on how to best winterize your boat, as the manual will provide instructions **specific** to your boat.