



## VESSEL SAFETY CHECK REQUIREMENTS



Requirement	≤16 ft	16-25 ft	26-39 ft	40-65 ft	Remarks
<b>Display of Numbers</b>	Undocumented: All boats with motors, plus sailboats ≥19.5 ft (CT) – Permanent, front half port & starboard 3" Documented: Pleasure: Name & port on hull ≥4" Commercial: Name on P/S bow + port on stern ≥4" All: Permanent on interior structure "No..." ≥3"				
<b>Registration/Documentation</b>	On board & available				Note length & type of power relative to other requirements
<b>Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)</b>	Wearables as ≥16 ft Minimum: 2 PFDs (except canoes & kayaks), can include 1 throwable	Type I, II or III wearable for each person readily accessible, Type V or inflatable if worn + Type IV throwable (except canoes & kayaks) immediately available Minimum: 2 wearable + 1 throwable			USCG Approved PFD fitted to each person Inflatable not app for under-16
<b>Visual Distress Signals (VDS)</b>	Day: None required Night: Required for operation sunset to sunrise	Day: Mirror, flags, hand signals, etc. Night: Strobe, flashlight, etc. Pyrotechnic: 3 day, 3 night in good condition & unexpired Sail-only ≤26 ft same as power ≤16 ft			USCG Approved
<b>Fire Extinguishers</b>	Power: 1 B-I, except open outboards that cannot trap vapors	Power: Same as ≤16 ft Sail-only: 1 B-I	2 B-I or 1 B-II or Fixed + 1 B-I	3 B-I or 1 B-II + 1 B-I or Fixed + 2 B-I or 1 B-II	Marine Type USCG Approved Good condition & pressure Halon tagged within 6 months
<b>Ventilation</b>	Closed engine compartment: Built after 1 Aug 80: Powered system Earlier: Natural or powered Closed fuel tank compartment: Built after 1 Aug 78: Certificate of Compliance Earlier: Natural or powered				Operate blower
<b>Backfire Flame Control</b>	Gasoline powered inboard engines: Flame arrester properly installed on each carburetor				USCG Approved or UL-1111 or SAE J-1928
<b>Sound-Producing Devices/Bell</b>	4-second blast audible for 0.5 mile		CT Same as 40-65 ft	4-second blast audible for 0.5 mile + Bell	Horn must operate if fitted Bell ≥26 ft CT, ≥40 ft Fed
<b>Navigation Lights</b>	Lighting required for operation sunset to sunrise	Sail: Installed red & green running lights & white stern light + white anchor light Power: Same + white masthead light			Operate lights All: Nav lights must operate if fitted
<b>Pollution Placard</b>	None required		Machinery compartment: Oily waste pollution placard		
<b>MARPOL Trash Placard</b>	None required		MARPOL trash placard	Same + written trash disposal plan	
<b>Marine Sanitation Devices</b>	Overboard discharge outlets must be sealable				Type I & II USCG Approved
<b>Navigation Rules</b>	Not required on board			Current edition on board	Available on line
<b>State/Local Requirements</b>	CT Under-12 wear PFD CT Inflatable PFD not approved for under-18 CT Boating certificate on board CT Recreational boats <16 ft, open sailboats <26 ft & manually propelled boats exempt from day VDS requirement CT Bell required for powerboats > 26 ft				
<b>Overall Vessel Conditions</b>	Deck: Clear Bilge: Clean	Electrical system: Fuses, wiring, covered Fuel system: Secure, vented	Galley: Secure fuel Heating system: Secure fuel		Operate bilge pump