

**ABOARD** - On or within the boat.

**ADRIFT** - Loose, not on moorings or towline.

**AFT** - Towards the stern of the boat.

**AHEAD** - In a forward direction.

**ASTERN** - In back of the boat, opposite of ahead.

**BATTEN DOWN** - Secure hatches and loose objects both within the hull and on deck.

**BOW** - The forward part of a boat.

**BOWLINE** - A knot used to form a temporary loop in the end of a line.

**BRIDGE** - The location from which a vessel is steered and its speed controlled.

**BRIDLE** - A line or wire secured at both ends in order to distribute a strain between two points.

**BULKHEAD** - A vertical partition separating compartments.

**BUOY** - An anchored float used for marking a position on the water or a hazard and for mooring.

**CABIN** - A compartment for passengers or crew.

**CAPSIZE** - To turn over.

**CAST OFF** - To let go.

**CATAMARAN** - A twin-hulled boat, with hulls side by side.

**CHART** - A map for use by navigators.

**CLEAT** - A fitting to which lines are secured.

**COURSE** - The direction in which a boat is steered.

**CURRENT** - The horizontal movement of water.

**DEAD AHEAD** - Directly ahead.

**DEAD ASTERN** - Directly aft.

**DINGHY** - A small open boat.

**EBB** - A receding current.

**FENDER** - A cushion, placed between boats, or between a boat and a pier, to prevent damage.

**FLARE** - A distress signal.

**FLOOD** - A incoming current.

**FORWARD** - Toward the bow of the boat.

**GUNWALE** - Upper edge of a boat's sides.

**HATCH** - An opening in a boat's deck fitted with a watertight cover.

**HEAD** - A toilet on a vessel.

**HEADING** - The direction in which a vessel's bow points at any given time.

**HITCH** - A knot used to secure a rope to another object or to another rope, or to form a loop or a noose in a rope.

**HULL** - The main body of a vessel.

**KEEL** - The centerline of a boat running fore and aft.

**KNOT** - A measure of speed equal to one nautical mile (1,852m) per hour.

**LATITUDE** - The distance north or south of the equator measured and expressed in degrees.

**LINE** - Rope used aboard a vessel.

**LONGITUDE** - The distance in degrees east or west of the meridian at Greenwich, England.

**MARLINSPIKE** - A tool for opening the strands of a rope while splicing.

**NAUTICAL MILE** - One minute of latitude; approximately 1,852m - about 1/8 longer than the statute mile of 1,600m.

**OVERBOARD** - Over the side or out of the boat.

**PLANING** - A boat is said to be planing when it is essentially moving over the top of the water rather than through the water.

**PORT** - The left-hand-side of a boat.

**RUDDER** - A vertical plate or board for steering a boat.

**SQUALL** - A sudden, violent wind often accompanied by rain.

**STARBOARD** - The right-hand-side of a boat when looking forward.

**STERN** - The rear part of the boat.

**TIDE** - The periodic rise and fall of water level of a body of water due to the gravitational pull of the moon.

**TILLER** - A bar or handle for turning a boat's rudder or an outboard motor.

**TRANSOM** - The stern cross-section of a square sterned boat.

**TRIM** - Fore and aft balance of a boat.

**UNDERWAY** - When a vessel is in motion i.e. not moored.

**WAKE** - Moving waves, track or path that a boat leaves behind it, when moving across water.

**WINDWARD** - Toward the direction from which the wind is coming.