

# American Check List

This is a check list of things needed to be done on the Americans from before departing through returning and docking. This check list is a starting point to help skippers and crew ensure they have addressed the minimum items necessary to sail the boat. There may be more to do, depending on conditions. This is not a substitute for knowing the boat and attending to all necessary details.

## Pre-departure

1. Lower centerboard as much as tide allows
2. Put plugs in cockpit drains
3. Lower the engine into the water
4. Check fuel level in engine and refuel if necessary
5. Check fuel level in auxiliary tank and refill if necessary. **DO NOT MIX OIL INTO FUEL FOR YAMAHA ENGINES.**
6. Ensure stern dock lines are not tangled in engine propeller
7. Lower the rudder as much as tide allows and secure in the Down position
8. Remove tiller ties

## Starting the Engine (Yamaha engine)

1. Turn on the fuel valve (handle on starboard side of engine, pointed down is on.)
2. Open fuel-tank vent (center of fuel filler cap on top of engine)
3. Ensure the lanyard switch clip is snapped on the kill switch (if present)
4. Ensure shift is in 'Neutral' position
5. Set throttle to 'Start' position
6. Close the choke (cold start only)
7. Pull starter with gusto
8. When engine starts... ...open the choke
9. Allow engine to warm up... ...reduce throttle to idle

## Leaving the Slip

1. Release the bow dock lines
2. Release the stern dock lines; pull on one to bring the boat to the piling and hang on hook on the pilings. Repeat with other stern line.
3. Rotate the engine 180° to drive the boat backwards and shift into gear
4. Steer using both the rudder and engine as needed
5. Go straight out of the slip until the widest part of the boat is clear of the pilings, then turn to port
6. When boat is lined up with fairway rotate engine to drive the boat forward then hold engine steady and steer with the rudder.
7. Be careful to avoid the bow fittings, anchors, etc... on the boats in the slips around you. Fend off as needed. Lower centerboard if needed to facilitate steering.

## Preparing to Sail

1. Remove sail covers
2. Remove sail ties
3. Hoist main sail, tighten and secure halyard to cleat
4. Tighten Cunningham (pulls forward end of boom down) and secure to cleat

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5. Remove shock cord from around jib, uncleat roller furling line, keep light resistance on furling line as leeward jib sheet is hauled in to unfurl the jib
6. Trim main sheet and jib sheets as needed
7. Loosen boom topping lift as needed
8. Push and hold kill button to shut off engine, turn fuel off, close fuel-tank vent
9. Tip engine up and if possible lock in place

## Preparing to furl the sails

1. Lower the engine into the water
2. Open fuel-tank vent, turn on fuel valve, start engine as above
3. Turn boat into the wind
4. Use furling line to haul in jib while maintaining light resistance on jib sheets. Roll sheets around furled jib 2 times before securing both furling line and sheets.
5. Release the Main sheet
6. Tighten the boom topping lift to support the boom
7. Release the main halyard in controlled manner, flaking the sail port and starboard as it comes down.
8. Tie mainsail with sail ties as it comes down
9. Tighten main sheet to lock boom in place
10. Remove halyard from main sail and attach to shroud chain plate, take up slack and secure to cleat
11. Return to desired heading

## Docking

1. Pick up one stern line while entering the slip, pass back to stern to attach to boat
2. Pick up bow dock line from water and attach to bow fitting
3. Use engine or paddle to pick up other stern dock line and attach to boat.
4. Turn off the fuel valve
5. Let engine run until it stalls
6. Close the fuel-tank vent
7. Tip engine up out of water and if possible lock in place
8. Raise rudder and centerboard and secure in Up position, attach tiller ties
9. Install main sail cover; wrap shock cord around roller furling jib
10. Attach mast line to dock

## Leaving the Boat

1. Walk the boat to ensure everything is secure
2. Ensure that things are where they belong
3. Pack up and take garbage with you
4. Remove cockpit drain plugs from the drains
5. Hose down to clean off sand and salt