

Vessel Inspection Haul Out Guide: You and Your Surveyor

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Buyers of previously owned boats rely on marine surveyors to significantly decrease the risk of spending good money on bad boats. The purpose of a marine survey is to discover the overall condition of a vessel before you buy it. Insurance companies require surveys at the beginning through intervals from the purchase of a new vessel and banks require surveys for loans.

- A professional surveyor starts with experience, care and skills, often called prior knowledge. A professional surveyor makes it his or her job to discover deficiencies and potential problems.
- There is no set timeline or guide for the amount of time. The more care a surveyor takes in performing the inspection: major systems, electronics, safety equipment, heads and galleys, and yes even appurtenances such as interior decorating, the higher the caliber of the surveyor's professionalism.
- Not all yachts are the same and not all surveys take the same amount of time but always reserve the entire day for data gathering and visual inspections. This includes time for an open water trial run so the surveyor can note conditions: Rough water, smooth water, speed intervals.
- The following checkpoints are samples of the **minimum requirements** (not inclusive) that are given over to the survey day including reserving time if required for in water inspection, sea trial and haul out.

- ___ Weather conditions are noted
- ___ Engine room observed at rest (cold)
- ___ Engine room observed running (hot)
- ___ Engine Mechanic needed while running
- ___ Electrical systems observed at rest
- ___ Electrical systems observed if possible activated
- ___ Propeller and Shaft observed hauled out: barnacles, bent, damage, shafts, coats and cracks
- ___ Run Gear: bearings, shafts, seals, to engine connections, growth, anodes, bonding, straps
- ___ Rudders: Worn bearings, lubrication
- ___ Lights and Lenses condition hauled out
- ___ Lights and Lenses condition while running (leaking)
- ___ Stabilizers, Trim Tabs: Smooth Operation, worn fittings
- ___ Bilges/Pumps at rest
- ___ Bilges running/Pumps (leaking)
- ___ Hull Condition at rest
- ___ Hull Condition while running (leaking, breakage, fouling)



For a surveyor near you or to ask further questions please call 1-800-245-4425