



Sailboats USA

practical resources for DIY sailboat owners

Member Guide

[Boat Log Book & Anchor Watch](#)

[Buy & Sell](#)

[Marine Vendor Reviews](#)

[Weather & Wind Maps](#)

[Crew & Community](#)

sailboatsusa.com • Support: contact@sailboatsusa.com

Last updated October 2026

All screenshots use fictitious sample members, boats and listings.

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PART 1 OF 8

Getting Started

Everything begins with a free account. This part covers signing up, signing in, and setting up your profile and boat details.

- 1.1 Creating an Account & Signing In
- 1.2 Setting Up Your Profile & Boat

1.1 Creating an Account & Signing In

sailboatsusa.com/login.html

A free account unlocks everything in this guide — listing a boat, writing a vendor review, keeping a log book, joining discussions, and more. Browsing most of the site never requires an account.

1. Click **Log In** in the top right corner of any page.
2. Choose **Sign In** if you already have an account, or **Create Account** to start one.
3. Sign in with your email and password, or use **Continue with Google**, **Facebook**, or **Microsoft** for one-click access with an account you already have.

Tip: Already have a Gmail account? Use it. Continue with Google is the fastest way to get started — there's no separate Sailboats USA password to create or remember.

The screenshot shows the 'Sailboats USA' login page. The header is dark blue with the site logo, a search bar, and a 'Log In' button. Below the header, there are language selection buttons (EN, FR, ES) and a link to the main site. The main content area features a light blue box with the heading 'Why create a free account?' and a list of benefits: saving boat profile, bookmarking favorite pages, syncing settings, quick access to local state pages, and helping improve the site. Below this is a 'Sign In' button and a 'Create Account' button. The 'Sign In' section includes a 'Welcome back, sailor' message, fields for 'EMAIL ADDRESS' (with 'you@example.com' as a placeholder) and 'PASSWORD' (with 'Your password' as a placeholder), a 'Forgot password?' link, and a 'Sign In →' button. Below the password field are three social login options: 'Continue with Google', 'Continue with Facebook', and 'Continue with Microsoft'. At the bottom of the sign-in section is a link: 'Don't have an account? Create one free →'. The footer is dark blue and contains the site's name and links to the main site, contact, and member guide.

The Sign In / Create Account page.

1.2 Setting Up Your Profile & Boat

sailboatsusa.com/profile.html

Your profile is also mission control for everything tied to your account — listings, your Log Book, your groups, saved pages, and settings all live behind the tabs across the top.

- 1. Once signed in, click your name in the top right corner, then choose **My Profile & Boat**.
- 2. Add your display name and a profile photo if you'd like.
- 3. Fill in your boat's name, type, make, model, year, and length, plus your home port. Click **Save**.

Your boat details here are separate from (but used to pre-fill) your **Log Book** in Part 2 — the first time you open the Log Book, it creates your boat's record using whatever you've entered here.

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Alex Morgan
sailor@example.com
Member since June 2026 • Click your photo to update it • JPG, PNG, WebP

My Boat

Log Book

Anchor Watch

My Items for Sale

My Sailboat Listings

My Dinghies for Sale

My Crew Wanted

My Crew Available

My Groups

Saved Pages

Settings

 **BOAT PHOTO**

(your boat photo)

YOUR BOAT

BOAT NAME

Wandering Star

MAKE / MANUFACTURER

Catalina

YEAR

1985

TYPE

Sloop

MODEL

30

LENGTH (FT)

30

Save Boat Info

My Profile & Boat — sample member and boat (fictitious).

PART 2 OF 8 • NEW

Your Boat's Digital Log Book

A private record just for you and your boat: voyages traced on a map, a maintenance log with parts and costs, hull/rig/engine specs, a spares inventory, expiration alerts, and a live anchor watch alarm. Nothing here is visible to other members.

- 2.1 Log Book Overview & Boat Specs
- 2.2 Timeline & Quick Log
- 2.3 Voyages & Route Tracking
- 2.4 Maintenance Log
- 2.5 Spares Inventory
- 2.6 Expirations & Alerts
- 2.7 Anchor Watch Alarm
- 2.8 Exporting Your Log Book to Excel

2.1 Log Book Overview & Boat Specs

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html

Open Log Book from your account menu ("Log Book"), the Log Book tab in your profile, or the featured card on the homepage. The first time you open it, a boat record is created automatically, pre-filled from your profile's boat details (Section 1.2). If you've owned more than one boat, use **+ Add Another Boat** at the top to keep a separate log for each.

1. Use the **Boat** dropdown at the top to switch between boats if you have more than one.
2. On the **Overview & Specs** tab, fill in hull specifications (material, beam, draft, displacement, ballast, keel type, HIN), rig measurements (rig type, mast height, sail areas), engine details, and documentation/insurance numbers.
3. Click **Save Specs**. A rollout banner at the top of this tab shows anything overdue or due soon from Sections 2.6 and 2.4.

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 **Boat Log Book**

BOAT

Wandering Star ▾

+ Add Another Boat

Export to Excel

Weather

Find Vendors

Overview & Specs

Timeline

Voyages

Maintenance Log

Spares Inventory

Expirations & Alerts

Anchor Watch

 **BOAT**

BOAT NAME

Wandering Star

SAIL NUMBER

e.g. USA 1234

HAILING PORT

Shilshole Bay Marina, WA

TYPE

Sloop

MAKE

Catalina

MODEL

30

YEAR

1985

LOA (FT)

30

HULL SPECIFICATIONS

MATERIAL

Fiberglass

BEAM (FT)

10.8

DRAFT (FT)

5.0

DISPLACEMENT (LB)

10,200

BALLAST (LB)

4,200

KEEL TYPE

Fin

RIG MEASUREMENTS

RIG TYPE

Masthead sloop

MAST HEIGHT (FT)

44

MAINSAIL AREA (SQ FT)

190

Log Book — Overview & Specs tab (fictitious sample boat).

2.2 Timeline & Quick Log

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html — Timeline tab

The Timeline is a running record of everything that happens aboard. Use **Quick Log** for a fast one-line note, or **+ Add Entry** for a fuller record with a specific type: General, Weather, Radio, Social, or Boat Activity.

1. Type a quick note in the Quick Log bar and press Enter, or click **Log It**.
2. For more detail, click **+ Add Entry**, choose a type, and fill in the fields that appear — Weather adds wind/seas/barometer fields, Radio adds channel/contact fields, and so on.
3. Optionally link an entry to a specific voyage (Section 2.3) using the Linked Voyage dropdown.
4. Filter the Timeline by type or by voyage using the dropdowns above the list.

Maintenance used to be a Timeline entry type — it now has its own dedicated tab (Section 2.4) with far more detail: parts, costs, vendors, and replacement intervals.

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 **Boat Log Book**

BOAT

Wandering Star ▼

+ Add Another Boat

Export to Excel

Weather

Find Vendors

Overview & Specs

Timeline

Voyages

Maintenance Log

Spares Inventory

Expirations & Alerts

Anchor Watch

 Log It

All Types ▼

All Voyages ▼

+ Add Entry

WEATHER Sep 14, 2026
Wind: 12-15 kt NW | Seas: 1-2 ft | Baro: 30.1"

SOCIAL Sep 12, 2026
With: The Hendersons (s/v Blue Heron) | Where: Blake Island

QUICK LOG Sep 10, 2026
Topped off water tanks before the weekend trip.

Log Book — Timeline tab (fictitious sample entries).

2.3 Voyages & Route Tracking

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html — Voyages tab

A voyage is a trip with a route traced on a map. Click **+ New Voyage**, then click the map to drop waypoints — the distance in nautical miles updates automatically as you go.

1. Fill in the title, dates, skipper, crew (comma-separated), and start/end ports.
2. Click points on the map to trace your route. Use **Undo Last Point** or **Clear Route** to adjust it.
3. Add notes, then click **Save Voyage**.
4. Click any saved voyage to reopen it — the route redraws exactly as you left it, and you can keep editing.



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Boat Log Book

BOAT

Wandering Star ▼

+ Add Another Boat

Export to Excel

Weather

Find Vendors

Overview & Specs

Timeline

Voyages

Maintenance Log

Spares Inventory

Expirations & Alerts

Anchor Watch

A voyage is a trip with a traced route on the map.

+ New Voyage

TITLE

San Juan Islands Cruise

SKIPPER

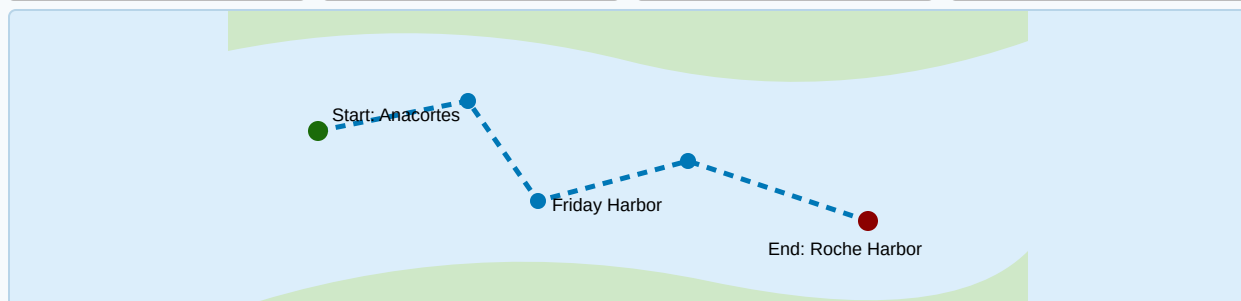
Alex Morgan

START PORT

Anacortes

END PORT

Roche Harbor



38.4 nm

Undo Last Point

Clear Route

Save Voyage

Voyages tab — route tracing on the map (sample voyage; the live map uses OpenStreetMap).

2.4 Maintenance Log

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html — Maintenance Log tab

Every oil change, belt, filter, and repair — with cost, part numbers, and when it's due again. Click **+ Log Maintenance** to add a record.

1. Enter the date, system/category, and a description of the work performed.
2. Optionally add the part number, manufacturer, vendor purchased from, price, and engine hours at service.
3. Set a **Replace Every** interval (months, years, engine hours, or miles) and click **Auto-Calc Next Due Date** for month/year intervals, or set the date yourself.
4. Attach a photo of the work if you'd like, then click **Save**.

Overdue or soon-due maintenance shows up automatically in the rollup banner on the Overview tab (Section 2.1) — you don't have to check this tab separately to know something needs attention.



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Boat Log Book

BOAT

Wandering Star ▼

+ Add Another Boat

Export to Excel

Weather

Find Vendors

Overview & Specs

Timeline

Voyages

Maintenance Log

Spares Inventory

Expirations & Alerts

Anchor Watch

Every oil change, belt, filter, and repair — with cost, part numbers, and when it's due again.

+ Log Maintenance

ENGINE

Aug 2, 2026

Oil & Filter Change — Part #: LF3970 | Vendor: Harbor Marine Supply | Price: \$64

⚠ Due Nov 2, 2026

FUEL SYSTEM

Jun 14, 2026

Primary & Secondary Fuel Filter Change — Racor 500FG

Maintenance Log tab (fictitious sample records).

2.5 Spares Inventory

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html — Spares Inventory tab

Track the spare parts you carry aboard so you know what's on hand before you leave the dock.

- Click **+ Add Spare**.
- Enter the part name, category, quantity, and where it's stowed aboard.
- Optionally add part number, supplier, cost, and when it was last restocked.



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Boat Log Book

BOAT

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+ Add Another Boat

Export to Excel

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Find Vendors

Overview & Specs

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Expirations & Alerts

Anchor Watch

Keep track of spare parts you carry aboard.

+ Add Spare

PART	CATEGORY	QTY	LOCATION	PART #	SUPPLIER
Impeller (raw water pump)	Engine	2	Lazarette bin #2	17-24	Harbor Marine
Fuel filter (Racor 500FG)	Fuel System	3	Engine room shelf	R12T	Harbor Marine
Spare winch handle	Deck Hardware	1	Cockpit locker	—	—

Spares Inventory tab (fictitious sample items).

2.6 Expirations & Alerts

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html – Expirations & Alerts tab

Track registration, insurance, licenses, warranties — anything with a due date. Overdue items turn red, items due soon turn amber.

1. Click **+ Add**, enter a title, choose a kind (warranty, registration, insurance, license, certification, other), and set the expiration date.
2. Set how many days before the date you'd like it flagged as "due soon" (default 30).

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 **Boat Log Book**

BOAT Wandering Star ▼ + Add Another Boat Export to Excel Weather Find Vendors

Overview & Specs | Timeline | Voyages | Maintenance Log | Spares Inventory | **Expirations & Alerts** | Anchor Watch

Track registration, insurance, licenses, warranties — anything with a due date. + Add

TITLE	KIND	EXPIRES	STATUS
Liability Insurance	Insurance	Oct 1, 2026	 Due Soon
State Registration	Registration	Mar 15, 2027	✓ OK

Expirations & Alerts tab (fictitious sample items).

2.7 Anchor Watch Alarm

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html – Anchor Watch tab

A live anchor-drag alarm that runs right in your browser using your phone's GPS — no app to install.

How this works: this alarm only works while the page stays open and your device stays awake — it cannot run in the background like a dedicated app, and it is not a substitute for a proper anchor watch. Keep your phone plugged in and the screen on.

1. Click **Set Anchor at My Current Location** and allow location access when your browser asks.
2. Set your alarm radius in meters (how far you can drag before it alerts you).
3. Click **Start Watch**. The screen shows your live distance from the anchor point.
4. If you drag past the radius, an audible alarm sounds and a red banner appears until you tap **Silence** or drift back inside the radius.
5. If you reopen the page while a watch is already running, tap **Resume Anchor Watch** — your browser requires a tap before it will allow location access again.

Location not working? See the built-in links to Apple's and Google's location settings guides right on the Anchor Watch tab.

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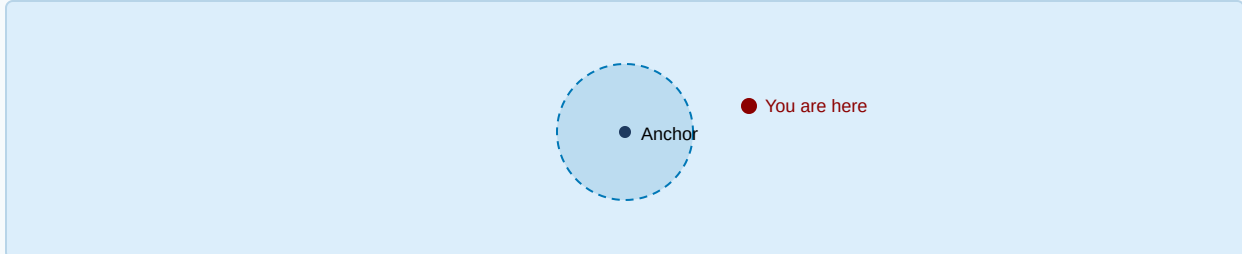
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 **Boat Log Book**

BOAT Wandering Star ▼ + Add Another Boat Export to Excel Weather Find Vendors

Overview & Specs | Timeline | Voyages | Maintenance Log | Spares Inventory | Expirations & Alerts | **Anchor Watch**

⚠ ANCHOR ALARM — YOU MAY BE DRAGGING



A map interface showing a dashed blue circle representing the anchor's location. A solid red dot indicates the current position, labeled "You are here". The anchor's location is labeled "Anchor".

78 m from anchor Silence Stop Watch

Anchor Watch mid-alarm (illustrative sample).

2.8 Exporting Your Log Book to Excel

sailboatsusa.com/logbook.html — boat bar, top of page

Click **Export to Excel** in the boat bar at any time to download a spreadsheet of your current boat's entire Log Book — Specs, Voyages, Maintenance, Timeline, Spares, and Expirations, each on its own sheet. Generated instantly in your browser; nothing is uploaded anywhere.

PART 3 OF 8

Buying, Selling & the Marketplace

List a sailboat, a part, or a dinghy — free, with no commission. This part covers every listing type, editing and photos, the Sell Sheet PDF, and how listings expire.

- 3.1 Listing a Sailboat for Sale
- 3.2 Editing, Photos & Deleting a Sailboat Listing
- 3.3 The Sell Sheet (PDF)
- 3.4 Listing a Part or Piece of Equipment
- 3.5 Listing a Dinghy or Tender
- 3.6 Listing Expiration & Administrator Oversight

3.1 Listing a Sailboat for Sale

sailboatsusa.com/sailboats-for-sale.html

From the homepage, click **Boats for Sale**, then **List Your Sailboat Free**.

1. Click **List Your Sailboat**.
2. Fill in the required fields: Year, Make, Model, Asking Price, and your name and email.
3. Add as much extra detail as you'd like — dimensions, engine, rigging, location, description. More detail builds buyer confidence, but nothing beyond the required fields is mandatory.
4. For sails, just check a box for each sail you have — measurements and condition are optional.
5. Add photos by clicking any empty photo square (up to 25 photos, 10 MB each).
6. Click **Post Listing**. Your boat is live.

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List Your Sailboat

YEAR *	MAKE *	MODEL *	ASKING PRICE *
1998	Catalina	320	\$38,500
YOUR NAME *	EMAIL *	LOCATION	
Alex Morgan	sailor@example.com	Anacortes, WA	

SAILS

☒ Main ☒ Genoa ☒ Spinnaker ☐ Storm jib

PHOTOS (up to 25)

+

+

+

Post Listing

Listing a sailboat — sample fields (fictitious).

3.2 Editing, Photos & Deleting a Sailboat Listing

sailboatsusa.com/profile.html#sailboats

1. Click your name (top right), then **My Sailboat Listings**.
2. **Edit:** click "Edit Sailboat Listing" — the full form reopens with everything filled in. Change anything and click Save Changes.
3. **Photos:** in the Photos section, click the small "x" to remove a photo or an empty square to add one.
4. **Delete:** click the trash icon and confirm. The listing is removed from public search immediately.

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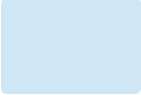
Alex

My Boat

Log Book

My Sailboat Listings

My Items for Sale



1998 Catalina 320 • \$38,500 • Anacortes, WA
Visible to Buyers: **On** Expires in 312 days

Edit Sailboat Listing

Sell Sheet (PDF)

Relist



My Sailboat Listings — sample listing card (fictitious).

3.3 The Sell Sheet (PDF)

sailboatsusa.com/sailboats-for-sale.html and your profile

Every sailboat listing can generate a printable Sell Sheet — specs, condition, and every photo, formatted for printing or emailing to an interested buyer.

1. When listing your boat, choose whether to let buyers download the Sell Sheet, or keep it private. Change this anytime.
2. From **My Sailboat Listings**, click **Sell Sheet (PDF)** on any listing's card to generate a fresh copy anytime.
3. Use the visibility toggle on the same card to flip "Visible to Buyers" on or off with one click.

3.4 Listing a Part or Piece of Equipment

sailboatsusa.com/marketplace.html

1. From the homepage, click **Parts & Equipment Marketplace**, then **List an Item**.
2. Fill in Title, Category, Condition, Price, and your contact email.
3. Optional: which boat make/model/year it fits, your location, a description, and up to 5 photos.
4. Click **Post Listing**.

Manage your items the same way as sailboats (Section 3.2): from **My Items for Sale** in your profile, click Edit to change anything including photos, or Delete to remove it.

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**Sailboat Parts & Equipment Marketplace**

2
Active Listings

Free
To List

5
Photos / Listing

+ List an Item

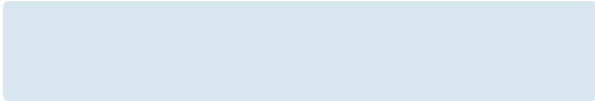
Bulk Add Items

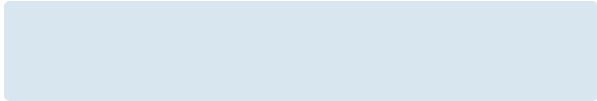
SEARCH

CATEGORY

CONDITION

MAX PRICE (\$)


Harken Genoa Cars (pair)
\$85 Deck Hardware Good
Seattle, WA • Sep 2, 2026


Raritan PH Electric Head
\$220 Plumbing Used
Tacoma, WA • Aug 28, 2026

Parts & Equipment Marketplace — sample listings (fictitious).

3.5 Listing a Dinghy or Tender

sailboatsusa.com/dinghies-for-sale.html

Works exactly like listing a sailboat (Section 3.1), scoped to dinghies and tenders — inflatables, RIBs, and hard dinghies. Click **List a Dinghy**, fill in the make/model/price/condition, add photos, and post. Manage it from **My Dinghy Listings** in your profile.

3.6 Listing Expiration & Administrator Oversight

- **365-day expiration:** every listing (sailboats, parts, dinghies, crew posts) automatically expires 365 days after it's posted, to keep search results current. You'll be able to relist it with one click from your profile before or after it expires.
- **Administrator oversight:** site admins can hide or remove any listing or piece of content that violates the site's terms (scams, prohibited items, abusive content). This is a safety net, not routine moderation — the overwhelming majority of listings are never touched.

PART 4 OF 8

Crew & Community

Find crew, join a group, start a conversation, or ask a question — the community side of Sailboats USA.

- 4.1 Finding or Posting for Crew
- 4.2 Joining or Creating a Group
- 4.3 Starting or Replying to a Discussion
- 4.4 Sailor Q&A
- 4.5 Commenting on a Page
- 4.6 Messaging Another Member

4.1 Finding or Posting for Crew

sailboatsusa.com/crew-wanted.html and [/crew-available.html](https://sailboatsusa.com/crew-available.html)

- **Need crew for a trip?** Post a Crew Wanted listing: trip details, dates, route, and what you're looking for.
- **Want to crew on someone else's boat?** Post a Crew Available listing: your experience, availability, and where you're based.
- Manage either from **My Crew Wanted Listings** or **My Crew Available Listings** in your profile — same edit/delete pattern as every other listing type.

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 **Crew Wanted**

+ Post a Crew Wanted Listing

Crew wanted: PNW to San Francisco delivery
Oct 3-10, 2026 | 2 spots | Some offshore experience preferred | Posted by Sample Skipper
[Message](#)

Crew Wanted — sample listing (fictitious).

4.2 Joining or Creating a Group

sailboatsusa.com/groups.html

Groups organize members by boat model, region, or interest (racing, liveaboards, a specific marina). Browse and click **Join** on any group, or click **Create a Group** to start your own.

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Groups

+ Create a Group

Catalina 30 Owners
Boat model • 24 members
[Join](#)

Puget Sound Cruisers
Region • 41 members
[Join](#)

Groups — sample groups (fictitious).

4.3 Starting or Replying to a Discussion

sailboatsusa.com/discussions.html

For anything that doesn't fit an existing guide or group — like "anyone run a manual windlass on an Island Packet?" Open for anyone to read; registered members can start a thread or reply. Click **Start a Discussion**, choose a category, write your post, and submit.

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Discussions

Start a Discussion

Anyone run a manual windlass on a 36-footer?
Category: Ground Tackle • 6 replies • Started by Sample Sailor

Best bottom paint for freshwater moorage?
Category: Maintenance • 3 replies • Started by Demo Member

Discussions — sample threads (fictitious).

4.4 Sailor Q&A

sailboatsusa.com/qa.html

A more structured question-and-answer format than Discussions — good for specific, answerable questions.

1. Click **Ask a Question**. Fill in the required Question Title and Category — details and an image are optional but help you get a useful answer.
2. Click **Post Question**. It's live immediately — there's no review queue.
3. To answer someone else's question, click it to expand, use the Your Answer box, and click **Post Answer**.

You can edit or delete your own questions and answers. Deleting a question also removes all of its answers, so a quick reread before you click Post is a good habit.

Several pages on the site link an "Ask a Question" button straight into Q&A with the right category already selected, so you land ready to type.



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Sailor Q&A

Ask a Question

How often should I replace a raw-water impeller?

Category: Engine • 2 answers • Asked by Sample Sailor

Is agreed-value coverage worth it on a 1985 boat?

Category: Boat Insurance • 1 answer • Asked by Demo Member

Sailor Q&A — sample questions (fictitious).

4.5 Commenting on a Page

Any guide, checklist, or listing page – scroll to the bottom

1. Scroll to the bottom of nearly any page on the site — most guides, how-tos, and listings have a Comments section.
2. Type your comment (up to 2,000 characters) and click **Post Comment**.
3. You can delete your own comment at any time. Use Report on anything that needs a moderator's attention.

Not every page has comments. They're not shown on account pages, or on pages that already have their own discussion built in — Q&A, Discussions, and Group posts each handle their own comments and replies instead.

4.6 Messaging Another Member

`sailboatsusa.com/messages.html`

1. Messaging always starts from a listing — click **Message Seller** (or similar) on any sailboat, part, dinghy, or crew listing that isn't your own.
2. Your conversation opens automatically on the Messages page, with the other member's name at the top.
3. Type in the box at the bottom and click **Send** (or press Enter).
4. Click **Options** at any time to Block the other member, Report the conversation, or Delete it from your inbox.

Watch for the unread badge. A red badge on your account button (and a count next to "Messages" in your account menu) lets you know when you have unread messages, sitewide — there's no separate email notification.



Messages

Conversations



Search messages & people

Inbox

Archived (3)

Sample Buyer

Great — can I see it this weekend?

Harbor Rigging Co.

Quote Q-0001 for "Replace main...

Sample Buyer

Options

Hi, is the Catalina 320 still available?

Yes it is! A few things before you visit:

- **New sails** in 2024
- Survey report: [sailboatsusa.com/...](#)

Great — can I see it this weekend?

B / *I* U ~~S~~ | •≡ 1.≡ “ | T/

Type a message...

Send

Enter to send · Shift+Enter for a new line · links become clickable automatically

Messages — sample conversation with formatting, search, and the Archived tab (fictitious).

Formatting, Links, Archive & Search NEW

- **Format your message** with the toolbar above the message box: **bold**, *italic*, underline, strikethrough, bulleted and numbered lists, quotes, and links. **Ctrl+B**, **Ctrl+I**, and **Ctrl+U** work too. Press **Shift+Enter** for a new line; **Enter** sends.
- **Links just work.** Any web address or email address in a message becomes clickable and opens in a new tab — including links in older messages and in notices the site sends for you (like a quote from a marine pro).
- **Paste from anywhere.** Text copied from a web page, Word, or Google Docs keeps its bold, italics, lists, and links; everything else is stripped out for safety.
- **Archive a conversation** you're done with: **Options** → **Archive Conversation**. Find it under the **Archived** tab, and use **Move to Inbox** to bring it back. If the other member writes again, it returns to your inbox automatically.
- **Search** with the box above your conversations. It finds names and words in any message — inbox and archived — and highlights the matches. Click a result to jump straight to that message.

Safe by design: formatting is limited to text styles, lists, quotes, and links. Pictures, scripts, and hidden code are always removed, so a message can't run anything on your computer. Still, don't click links from someone you don't trust — use **Options** → **Report** instead.



PART 5 OF 8 • NEW

Marine Vendors, Pro Services & Refit Help

Find (or warn others about) riggers, diesel mechanics, upholsterers, fiberglass and paint shops, insurance agents, surveyors, and every other marine trade — rated and reviewed by fellow members. Then use **The Heeling List** to get quotes for your own boat from approved local Pros or a vendor you already know, and keep every reply, quote, and invoice in one place. Stuck on a refit? Build a **Refit Registry** for parts, or find a hand — and learn skills — with **Learn the Ropes**.

- 5.1 Finding & Reviewing a Vendor
- 5.2 Adding a New Vendor
- 5.3 Claiming Your Business Listing
- 5.4 The Heeling List: Getting Quotes for Your Boat
- 5.5 Inviting a Vendor You Know
- 5.6 Becoming a Pro (for Marine Businesses)
- 5.7 Job Leads & Replying to Owners
- 5.8 Quotes, Invoices & PDFs
- 5.9 Staying Safe & Reporting a Problem
- 5.10 The Refit Registry
- 5.11 Learn the Ropes
- 5.12 Your Sailor Profile

5.1 Finding & Reviewing a Vendor

sailboatsusa.com/vendors.html

1. Search by keyword or city, or filter by category/trade, region, or minimum rating. Popular categories (Insurance, Diesel Mechanics, Rigging & Mast, Surveyors) have quick-filter chips at the top.
2. Sort by Highest Rated, Most Affordable, Priciest, Most Reviewed, Newest Added, or Name.
3. Click any vendor to see full details, all reviews, and to write your own.
4. To review a vendor, rate the Overall experience plus four sub-ratings — Price/Affordability, Communication, Timeliness, and Expertise — and write a few sentences about your experience.

 **Sailboats USA** us ca
practical resources for DIY sailboat owners

Search Sailboats USA
DIY...

Alex

[← Back to main site](#)

 **Marine Industry Vendor Reviews**

POPULAR: Insurance Diesel Mechanics Rigging & Mast Surveyors

2
Vendors Listed

7
Total Reviews

Free
To List & Review

+ Add a Vendor

Harbor Rigging Co. (sample)
★★★★★ 4.8 (12 reviews)
Rigging, Mast & Climbing • Anytown, WA

Example Marine Insurance Agency
★★★★☆ 4.3 (7 reviews)
Marine Insurance • Sample City, WA

Marine Industry Vendor Reviews — sample listings (fictitious businesses).

5.2 Adding a New Vendor

Click **+ Add a Vendor**. Start typing the business name — if a close match already exists, you'll see a link to it so you can write a review there instead of creating a duplicate.

1. Fill in the business info: category, owner/salesperson, phone, email, website, city, state/province/region, and mailing address.
2. Optionally upload a business card image.
3. Give your Overall rating (required) plus the four sub-ratings, and write your review.
4. Click **Post Vendor & Review**.

5.3 Claiming Your Business Listing

If you're the vendor (or work there), you can claim your own listing to add details a reviewer wouldn't know — years in service, tax ID (kept private), services offered, logo, and business card.

1. Open your business's listing page.
2. Click **This is my business — claim it** (any signed-in member can claim an unclaimed listing).

3. Once claimed, an edit panel appears for your extended fields.

Claiming your listing is also the first step to becoming a **Sailboats USA Pro** and receiving job requests — see 5.6.

5.4 The Heeling List: Getting Quotes for Your Boat

sailboatsusa.com/get-quotes.html



The Heeling List

Get quotes from trusted local marine pros — free for sailboat owners. (You may have seen it called “Get Quotes” before; it’s the same service with a new name.)

Describe the work your boat needs and approved local Pros who do that kind of work can reply with questions and quotes. It’s free, and you choose who (if anyone) to hire.

1. On the homepage, find  **The Heeling List** and click **Get Quotes** → (it’s also linked from the vendor directory and your profile).
2. Pick the **type of work** and **when you need it**, add a short title and the details — what’s wrong, what you’ve tried, parts you already have.
3. Say **where the boat is right now**: in the water (marina slip, mooring, at anchor, private dock) or out of the water (boatyard, dry storage, trailer, at home). Optionally add the marina or yard name so Pros can plan access.
4. Enter the boat’s **ZIP / postal code**, and optionally the make, model, length, year, a budget, and up to 4 photos.
5. Read the short disclaimer, tick the box to agree to the **Pro Services Terms & Disclaimers**, and click **Post My Request**.

 **Sailboats USA**
practical resources for DIY sailboat owners

 **The Heeling List — Get quotes from local marine pros**

Type of work *

When do you need it? *

Where is the boat right now? *

Boat’s ZIP / postal code *

Short title *

Post My Request →

Posting a Heeling List request (sample).

What Pros can see

Your description, photos, boat details, where the boat is kept, and its town/ZIP area and approximate distance — **never your email, street address, or slip number**. Share those privately in Messages once you choose a Pro.

Comparing replies & hiring

1. Replies land in your **Messages** inbox and under the request on **My requests**, each with the business's  /  badges and star rating.
2. Use **Message** to ask questions, and **Ratings & reviews** to read what other members said.
3. When you've chosen, click **Mark as hired**. The request closes to new replies; you can **Reopen** or **Close request** anytime.
4. After the work, leave the business a review. Reviews from owners who hired through The Heeling List are tagged .

Your requests are also listed on your profile's  **Heeling List** tab.

5.5 Inviting a Vendor You Know

"I know a guy" — want a quote from a business you already use, even if they aren't a Pro? Invite them to your request. They see just that job and can reply and quote like any Pro. Up to 10 vendors per request.

1. On **My requests**, click  **Invite a vendor you know** on an open request.
2. Search the vendor directory by name and click the business — or type their name, email, and (optionally) phone, then click **Add invite**.
3. Businesses already on the site get a note in their Messages right away. For everyone else, click  **Email invite** to send a ready-made email from your own mail app, or **Copy link**.

Shortcut: on any vendor's page, click  **Request a Quote from This Business**. Your new request is sent to that business along with approved Pros in your area.

If you were invited: open the link, then sign in or create a free account **using the same email address** the invite was sent to. For the owner's privacy you'll be asked to **verify that email** (click the link we send you, then **I've verified — show the job**). You'll then see the job under **Jobs you were invited to**.

5.6 Becoming a Pro (for Marine Businesses)

sailboatsusa.com/pro.html

Approved Pros join The Heeling List and receive job requests from sailboat owners in their service area. The program is **free during launch** — no lead fees, no commissions — and Sailboats USA never touches your payments.

1. **Claim your listing** in the vendor directory (5.3), or add it first (5.2).

2. Open **Become a Pro** and fill in the application: the services you want requests for (up to 6), your home base ZIP / postal code and how far you'll travel, insurance, licenses and certifications, and a short description of your business.
3. Tick the box to agree to the Pro Services Terms & Disclaimers and click **Submit Application**. Your status shows as **Under review**.
4. Once approved, your listing shows a  badge and you get **Heeling List Job Leads**. If an application isn't approved, you'll see the reason and can update and resubmit.

Approved Pros can change their services, service area, and whether they get **job-lead emails** anytime on the same page.  is an editorial designation chosen by Sailboats USA; Preferred businesses are listed first.

Pro approval is a basic review of what a business submits — **not** a license check, background check, or endorsement. Owners: always verify licenses and insurance yourself.

5.7 Job Leads & Replying to Owners

sailboatsusa.com/job-leads.html

1. Open **Heeling List Job Leads** from your Pro account, your listing page, or your profile's Heeling List tab. You'll see open requests in your trades within your travel radius, closest first — tick **Also show other trades nearby** to widen the list.
2. Each lead shows the work, where the boat is, the boat, timing, budget, photos, and how many businesses have replied.
3. Write a short reply — introduce your business, ask questions, suggest a next step — and click **Send Reply**. It goes to the owner's Messages under your business name. You can reply once per request; keep talking in Messages.
4. Jobs an owner invited you to appear under **Jobs you were invited to**, and jobs you were hired for under **Jobs you were hired for**.

Only reply to jobs you can actually do. Owner information may be used only to respond to and perform that owner's job.

5.8 Quotes, Invoices & PDFs

sailboatsusa.com/quote.html

After replying, send the owner a proper itemized quote — and when they accept, flip it into an invoice in one click. Both are documents between you and the owner; **no payment passes through Sailboats USA**.

Building a quote (businesses)

1. On the job, click  **Create Quote**.

2. Add lines with the buttons under the table: **+ Labor**, **+ Parts**, **+ Delivery**, **+ Handling**, **+ Misc**, **+ Discount**, **+ Other**. Enter quantity and unit price; tick **tax** on taxable lines. Add a **+ Tax** line (e.g. 6% sales tax) — it applies to the taxable lines only.
3. Set *Valid until*, add notes and terms (scope, warranty, deposit expectations), choose USD or CAD, and optionally save your tax, currency, and notes as defaults.
4. Click **Save Draft** (only you can see drafts) or **Send**. The owner gets a note in Messages with a link. You can edit and re-send, or withdraw, until they respond.


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 practical resources for DIY sailboat owners

Harbor Rigging Co. (sample)
 Annapolis, MD · (410) 555-0100

QUOTE
 No. Q-0001 · Valid until Oct 27

Description	Qty	Unit	Amount
Labor: run new main halyard	2	\$95.00	\$190.00
Parts: 3/8" double-braid, 90 ft *	1	\$185.00	\$185.00
Delivery / travel	1	\$40.00	\$40.00
Handling	1	\$15.00	\$15.00
Discount	1	\$20.00	-\$20.00
		Subtotal	\$410.00
		MD sales tax (6%)	\$11.10
		Total (USD)	\$421.10

An owner reviewing an itemized quote (sample figures).

Accepting or declining (owners)

Open the quote from Messages or **My requests** and click **Accept Quote** or **Decline**, with an optional note (e.g. a preferred start date). The business is notified. Accepting tells them you want to go ahead on those terms — your agreement, schedule, warranty, and payment are directly with them.

Flipping a quote into an invoice (businesses)

1. On an accepted quote, click **Convert to Invoice**. Every line is copied into a new draft invoice linked to the quote.
2. Add any extra charges (parts found during the job, delivery, handling, misc) and adjust the due date.
3. Enter your **payment options** — e.g. “check payable to..., Zelle to..., or card at the yard office.” You can't send an invoice without them. Owners pay you directly, outside the site.
4. Click **Send**. When you're paid, click **Mark as Paid** (a **PAID** stamp appears for both of you); you can also mark it unpaid again or **Void** it.

Keep copies: both sides can **Download PDF** or **Print** any quote or invoice. Businesses see everything they've created on **My Quotes & Invoices**; owners see them under each request.

Keeping a record in your Log Book (owners)

When the business marks an invoice **Paid**, open it and click  **Add to my Log Book** — or, in your Log Book's Maintenance tab, click **Import from The Heeling List**. The job becomes a maintenance record with the date, vendor, cost, and every line item, and you can set when it's due again.

Businesses — exporting your records: My Quotes & Invoices (sailboatsusa.com/pro-documents.html) lets you download any document as a PDF, a batch as **one combined PDF** or a **ZIP of PDFs**, an **Excel workbook** of invoices, quotes, and customers, and **QuickBooks Online** import files. You can also ask us to connect your own accounting software (QuickBooks, Xero, Sage, NetSuite, and others). See the **Vendor Pro Guide** for step-by-step instructions.

5.9 Staying Safe & Reporting a Problem

- **Do your homework.** Check licenses, insurance (ask for a certificate), and references before anyone works on your boat. Badges are not guarantees.
- **Get it in writing** — scope, parts, price, schedule, and warranty — before work starts.
- **Be careful with payments.** Pay only by methods that give you a record, be wary of large up-front deposits, and never pay a request you didn't expect (gift cards are a red flag).
- **Report problems.** Use  **Report** on a job request, reply, or quote/invoice. Reports go straight to the Sailboats USA admins, who can remove content, suspend Pro status, or ban accounts.

Sailboats USA (including The Heeling List) connects owners and marine businesses but is not a party to any agreement between them, does not guarantee any work, and does not process payments. Full details: sailboatsusa.com/pro-terms.html and our Privacy Policy at sailboatsusa.com/privacy.html.

5.10 The Refit Registry

sailboatsusa.com/refit-registry.html



The Refit Registry

Like a wedding registry — for your boat restoration. List the parts and gear your refit needs, share the link, and friends, family, and fans can buy them for you. Sailing YouTubers use it too.

Building your registry

1. Click **Start a Registry** on the homepage or your profile's 📁 **Refit Registry** tab.
2. Click ⚡ **Fill in my boat details** to copy your boat's name, make, model, year, length, and home port from your profile or Log Book — then add a title, your refit story, a cover photo, and your projects (Rigging, Engine, Sails...).
3. Under **Where to shop**, list up to 10 stores you use — online stores, your Amazon or West Marine wish lists, and local shops (add a note like “ask for Tom — parts on hold under *Second Wind*”).
4. Choose how gifts reach you: **Message me for a ship-to address** (recommended — nothing shown publicly) or a ship-to address that only signed-in members see (use a marina, boatyard, or PO box — never your home).
5. Optionally add your own support links (PayPal, Venmo, Patreon, Ko-fi...). **YouTubers and creators** can link their channel and request a ✓ **Verified Creator** badge.
6. **Save**, then add items: name, store link (or a local store), price, quantity, project, priority, and a photo. Big-ticket items (a new sail) can be a **Group gift** that supporters chip in toward. Add more stores and items anytime.

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 **Bringing “Second Wind” back to life**

1978 Pearson 30 · Annapolis, MD · by Sam Skipper ✓ **Verified Creator**

25% funded · \$1,374 of \$5,449 · 2 of 4 items covered

Racor 500FG fuel filters
\$24.50 each · needs 2
1 of 2 bought
[Buy at Defender ↗](#) [✓ I bought this](#)

New mainsail **Group gift**
\$3,800
\$100 of \$3,800 pledged
[👉 Chip in](#)

A Refit Registry (sample).

Sharing & thanking supporters

- Click **Share this registry** to copy your link — paste it in video descriptions, posts, and emails.

- When someone taps **I bought this** or pledges toward a group gift, you get a note in **Messages**. When it arrives, click ✓ **Received** and **Thank** — your note appears on the public **thank-you wall**.
- Mark an item **Got it / no longer needed** instead of deleting it, so supporters' gifts stay on the wall. Set the registry to **Completed** when the refit is done.

For supporters

1. Pick an item (must-haves are listed first) and buy it from the store — the owner's link, or anywhere you like.
2. Tap **I bought this** (or **Chip in** on a group gift) so nobody doubles up. You can appear by name or as **Anonymous supporter** on the wall — the owner is still told who you are so they can thank you.
3. Ship it as the registry explains, or message the owner for the address. Money for group gifts goes **directly** to the owner through their own links.

Sailboats USA never collects, holds, or refunds money, and doesn't verify purchases or deliveries. Gifts are personal gifts, not tax-deductible donations — give only to people you trust. As an Amazon Associate, Sailboats USA earns from qualifying purchases made through Amazon links on registries; it doesn't change your price. Full terms: sailboatsusa.com/refit-registry.html#terms.

5.11 Learn the Ropes

sailboatsusa.com/learn-the-ropes.html



Learn the Ropes

Boat owners who need a hand with a refit, and people who want hands-on experience — rigging, fiberglass, diesels, varnish — find each other. Safety first. **Adults 18+ only.**

Asking for help (boat owners)

1. Click **Ask for help on my boat**. Describe the work and **what helpers will learn**, and choose the experience needed and how many helpers.
2. **Tick the hazards** the work involves — helpers see the safety gear each one needs. Going aloft, hot work, and electrical are **skilled only** and can't be offered to beginners.
3. Add when and where (only the town and distance are shown), the boat (use **Fill in my boat details**), and what you'll provide (tools, safety gear, food...).
4. Choose what you offer: **volunteer**, meals & drinks, a **trade** (like sailing time), or **pay** — your call. **Unpaid help is only for personal boats**; a boat used for a business must pay.
5. Confirm you have **permission** to have helpers where the boat is — many marinas and yards restrict outside workers, bottom sanding, or hot work — and that you'll give every helper a safety briefing, gear, and supervision.
6. When offers arrive (you're notified in Messages), read each helper's note and **Sailor Profile**, then **Accept** or **Decline**.

Offering to help

1. Open **Learn the Ropes**, enter your ZIP, and browse requests near you by experience level and what's offered.
2. Open a request, read the work and the safety gear, and click 🍷 **Offer to help**. Write a short note, choose whether to share your Sailor Profile, and confirm you're 18+ and have read the safety guide.
3. If the owner accepts, you'll hear from them in Messages — agree on the day, tasks, and what to bring.

Meet safely: message first; meet at the boat in daylight at a yard or marina — not a home; tell a friend where you'll be; bring a buddy the first time; and only do tasks you're comfortable with. Owners and helpers can print the optional **work-day agreement** (sailboatsusa.com/work-day-agreement.html) to fill in together.

Sailboats USA doesn't screen, employ, supervise, insure, or pay anyone. See the safety guide, the "Is DIY work allowed?" guide, and the terms on the Learn the Ropes page.

5.12 Your Sailor Profile

sailboatsusa.com/sailor-profile.html

Your sailing and boat-work **skills**, **certifications**, and **goals & interests** in one place — open it from your profile’s 🏠 **Learn the Ropes** tab. Owners see it when you offer to help (if you choose to share it).

- **About me:** a headline, your area, sailing experience, goals (e.g. “learn diesel maintenance”), and interests.
- **Skills:** set a level for each skill — *Want to learn*, *Some experience*, *Competent*, or *Can teach / lead*. Add your own skills too.
- **Certifications:** ASA, US Sailing, USCG licenses, ABYC, RYA, first aid, and more, with issuer, earned, and expiry dates. They show as *self-reported*; upload a photo of your card (only you and site admins can see it) and request a ✓ Verified tag.

You choose who sees each part	Who that is
🔒 Only me	Just you
👤 People I offer to help	Owners whose Learn the Ropes requests you offer to help on (when you share your profile)
👥 Signed-in members	Anyone signed in to Sailboats USA
🌐 Public	Everyone

Use **See my Sailor Profile as others do** to check what’s visible. Change any audience anytime.

PART 6 OF 8 • NEW

Weather

A real-time wind map plus NOAA marine forecasts to plan your next trip.

6.1 Checking the Weather

6.1 Checking the Weather

sailboatsusa.com/weather.html

Sailboat weather is different from land weather — wind, wave height, swell period, current, and tidal timing all matter. This page combines a real-time interactive wind map (powered by Windy.com) with location-specific NOAA marine forecasts.

1. Pan and zoom the wind map, or switch between Wind, Gusts, Waves, Rain, Pressure, and Clouds layers.
2. Enter a ZIP code, city/state, or GPS coordinates under Local Forecast for a 7-day NOAA marine forecast for your area, or click **Use My Location**.

A quick link to Weather sits right in the Log Book's boat bar (Section 2.1) — handy when you're checking conditions while planning a voyage entry.

**Sailboats USA** us ca

practical resources for DIY sailboat owners
(USA = United Sailors of the Americas)

[EN](#) [FR](#) [ES](#)

Search Sailboats USA DIY... [Log In](#)

[Back to main site](#)

Sailing Weather — Wind, Waves & Marine Forecasts

Sailboat weather is different from land weather. Wind speed, wind direction, wave height, swell period, current, and tidal timing all matter. This page combines a real-time interactive wind map with location-specific NOAA forecasts — enter your ZIP code, city/state, or GPS coordinates to get a 7-day marine forecast for your area, and use the Windy map to visualize conditions anywhere in the world.

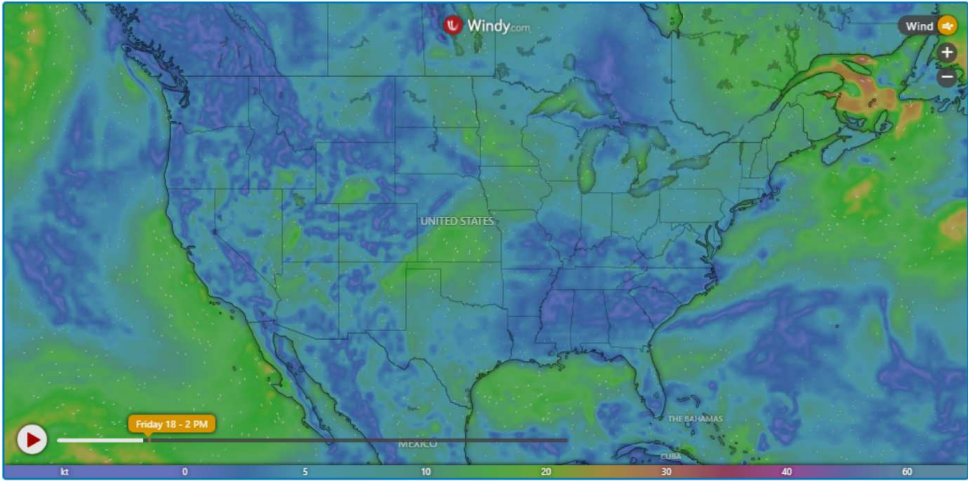
Knots vs. mph reminder: Marine forecasts use **knots (kt)**. 1 knot = 1.15 mph = 1.85 km/h. 10 kt = light breeze, comfortable sailing | 15–20 kt = ideal sailing wind | 25 kt = start reducing sail | 30+ kt = heavy weather | 40+ kt = storm conditions.

Jump to: [Wind Map](#) | [Local Forecast](#) | [NOAA Marine Zones](#) | [Weather Radio Channels](#) | [Reading a Marine Forecast](#) | [Weather Resources](#)

Real-Time Wind Map — Windy.com

Interactive real-time wind, gust, wave, and pressure maps powered by **Windy.com** — the gold standard for sailing weather worldwide. Pan, zoom, and click any point for a detailed forecast. Search your location below to zoom the map to your sailing area.

Show: [Wind](#) [Gusts](#) [Waves](#) [Rain](#) [Pressure](#) [Clouds](#)



Wind map by Windy.com — uses ECMWF and GFS forecast models — updated every 6 hours — click any point on the map for a detailed local forecast.

Local Forecast — Enter Your Location

Enter a ZIP code, city and state (e.g. Annapolis MD), or GPS coordinates (e.g. 38.9717, -76.5133) to get the NOAA 7-day forecast for your sailing area. The Windy map above will also zoom to your location.

[Get Forecast](#) [Use My Location](#)

Examples: 98101 • Annapolis MD • Key West FL • 47.6062, -122.3321

Sailing Weather — Wind, Waves & Marine Forecasts.

PART 7 OF 8

Sharing & Fun

The lighter side of the site — tell a story, share a laugh.

7.1 [Sharing a Sailing Story](#)

7.2 [Submitting a Sailing Joke](#)

7.1 Sharing a Sailing Story

sailboatsusa.com/stories.html

1. From the homepage, click **Sailing Stories**, then **Share Your Story**.
2. Fill in the required fields: First Name, Last Name, and Email.
3. Everything else is optional — check the box to post anonymously, pick a category (Funny, Technical, Liveaboard, Adventure & Cruising, Cautionary Tale, Racing, and more), and add the sailboat name(s)/type(s) involved.
4. Write your story, add up to 6 photos, and click **Submit My Story**.

Stories post live right away — unlike a joke, there's no review step. The site administrator can still edit, hide, or remove a story per the oversight policy (Section 3.6), and may mark an especially good one as the site's Featured Story. Manage your own story anytime from the Sailing Stories page.

 **Sailboats USA** us ca
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Search Sailboats USA
DIY ...

Alex

[← Back to main site](#)

Share Your Sailing Story

FIRST NAME *

Alex

LAST NAME *

Morgan

EMAIL *

sailor@example.com

CATEGORY

Adventure & Cruising

SAILBOAT(S) INVOLVED

Catalina 30

YOUR STORY

The morning fog lifted just as we cleared Deception Pass...

☐ Post anonymously

Submit My Story

Share Your Story — sample form (fictitious).

7.2 Submitting a Sailing Joke

sailboatsusa.com/submit-joke.html

1. From the homepage's Sailing Jokes section, click through to submit your own.
2. Fill in The Joke Setup (the lead-in line) and The Punchline — both required.
3. Optionally add your name and email (never shared) so we can credit you or let you know if it's posted.
4. Click **Submit My Joke**.

All jokes are reviewed before posting. We look for jokes that are original, clean enough for all ages, and genuinely about sailing or boats — we may edit slightly for length or clarity, but we'll keep the funny part intact.

8.1 Getting Help & Reporting a Broken Link

If you run into a problem with your account or a listing, email contact@sailboatsusa.com directly — this reaches the site administrator and is the fastest way to get personal help.

For a broken or outdated link elsewhere on the site (not an account or listing problem), go to sailboatsusa.com/feedback.html (usually linked as "Report / Suggest a Link" in the footer):

1. Under "Report a Broken Link," select which page the broken link is on.
2. Describe the broken link — its text or its URL (required).
3. Optional: what error you saw, the correct URL if you know it, and any other notes.
4. Click **Send Report**.

The Report a Broken Link form is for links only. For anything about your account or a listing — including editing, photos, or pricing — email contact@sailboatsusa.com directly instead for a faster, more personal reply.

8.2 Please Use the Site Responsibly — It's Free!

Thank you: free, with no catch. Sailboats USA is completely free to use — no listing fees, and no commissions on anything you sell. We ask that you use it in good faith: post honest, accurate listings, and please don't create spam, duplicate posts, or unrelated content. The site is run by a small team, so we appreciate your patience — we read every message and get back to you as soon as humanly possible.

8.3 A Few More Tips

- Mark a listing "Sold" (or "Under Contract" for boats) as soon as it's no longer available, so other members don't waste time reaching out.
- Keep the contact email on your listings up to date so buyers can reach you.
- For sailboats, the more detail you add — rigging dates, survey history, engine hours — the more serious inquiries you'll get.
- You can save other members' listings and site pages for later using the **Saved Pages** tab in your profile.
- Signed in but don't see the button you're looking for? Your account menu (click your name, top right) is the fastest way to reach every "My ..." tab, plus the Log Book and Anchor Watch, from any page on the site.

8.4 Your Privacy Matters

Our promise: we will never sell your data. We will never sell your personal information, and we will never use your email address for third-party marketing or advertising. Your email is used only to operate your Sailboats USA account: signing you in, displaying your name on listings you post, and letting other members reach you about an item or boat you've listed. That's it.

Your **Log Book** (Part 2) is private by design — your voyages, maintenance records, specs, spares, and anchor watch sessions are visible only to you and, if needed for support, a site administrator. It is never shown to other members and never appears in search.

Questions not covered here? Email **contact@sailboatsusa.com** — we're happy to help.

Sailboats USA — for owners of boats under 50 feet who turn their own wrenches.