

## SOME NAUTICAL TERMS USED ON SMALL CRAFT

AFT	behind or at or towards the stern
ABEAM	off the side
ADRIFT	boat without means of propulsion
AHEAD	go in forward direction
AMIDSHIPS	centre of vessel
ASHORE	on the land
ASTERN	to reverse
AWASH	deck level with surface of water
AWEIGH	to lift anchor
BEAM	greatest breadth of boat
BEARING	direction of one point with respect to another
BILGE	deepest part of a ship's interior
BINNACLE	housing containing compass
BITE	when anchor penetrates bottom substrata and holds
BOLLARD	post at bows for securing lines
BOW	front part of boat
BOW-EYE	ring fitting for securing line to bow of boat
BROACH	boat broadside to crest of waves
BULKHEAD	partition or wall
BULWALK	boat's sides extended above the deck to provide protection for the crew
CABLE	one tenth of nautical mile, 608 feet
CAPSIZE	when boat turns over
CAST OFF	let line go free
CAVITATION	aerated water causing propeller to lose grip
CHINE	joint of freeboard and hull bottom
CLEAT	'T' shaped fixture for securing lines
CROWN	bottom part of the anchor
DECK	horizontal topmost floor of vessel
DISPLACEMENT	volume of water displaced by floating object
DRAFT	depth of water required to float boat
DRAGGING	when anchor is not holding
DROGUE	device streamed
EBB	reflux of tide
FATHOM	depth measure of 6 feet in soundings
FENDER	guard hung over side to cushion contact with other objects
FLARE	outward curve of vessel's sides near bow
FLOODWATER	inflow of tide
FLUKE	triangular place on arm of anchor
FOUL	jammed, stuck
FORRAD	the fore-end of boat. Fore of the midships line
FREEBOARD	boat sides above waterline

GEAR	general name for boating equipment
GUNWALES	top end of freeboard
HATCH	covered opening in deck
HELM	machinery used to steer vessel
HULL	basic body of boat
KEEL	backbone of vessel
KNOT	unit of speed equal to one nautical mile per hour where a nautical mile equals 1852 metres
LANYARD	short length of thin line used for securing
LASHING	tie tightly by repeated twisting of cord
LEE SIDE	side facing away from wind or sea
LINE	nautical name for rope
LIST	inclination of boat to either side
LOG	record of course or operations
MAKING WATER	boat leaking
MAYDAY	international spoken distress signal
NAVIGATION	methods of determining position and course at sea
PAINTER	length of line at bow, for towing or making fast
PITCHING	vertical motion when boat rises and falls
PLANE	boat moving across water surface at speed
PORT	left-hand side of boat looking forward
RODE	line connecting anchor with vessel
ROLL	sidewise rotational motion of boat
SCUPPER	opening to drain excess water from deck
SEA-ANCHOR	device used to reduce a boat's drift before wind
SHACKLE	metal coupling appliance
SHANK	shaft of anchor
SHOTLINE	line accurately marked for measuring depth
SKEG	metal extension to protect propeller
SLACKWATER	low tide
SPINDRIFT	scudding spray at sea
SOUNDING	depth of water
STARBOARD	right-hand side of boat looking forward
STEER	to control boat movement
STERN	aft end of boat
STOWING	proper way to store gear on boat
STRAKE	raised elevation on hull to improve handling and planing
SWAMP	boat filled with water over sides

TACKLE	arrangement of ropes and blocks for obtaining purchase
THIMBLE	curved metal plate to prevent chafing of rope eyes at ends
TRANSOM	flat area across stern
TRIM	arrangement of load mass, longitudinal balance
TWINE	cord twisted from fabric strands
UNDERWAY	boat moving under own power
VEER	to change direction
WAKE	water pattern astern of boat underway
WASH	waves created by passage of boat in motion
WEATHERSIDE	side facing wind or sea
WET-DECK	hull is sealed or self-draining
YAW	when boat runs off course steered either to port or starboard