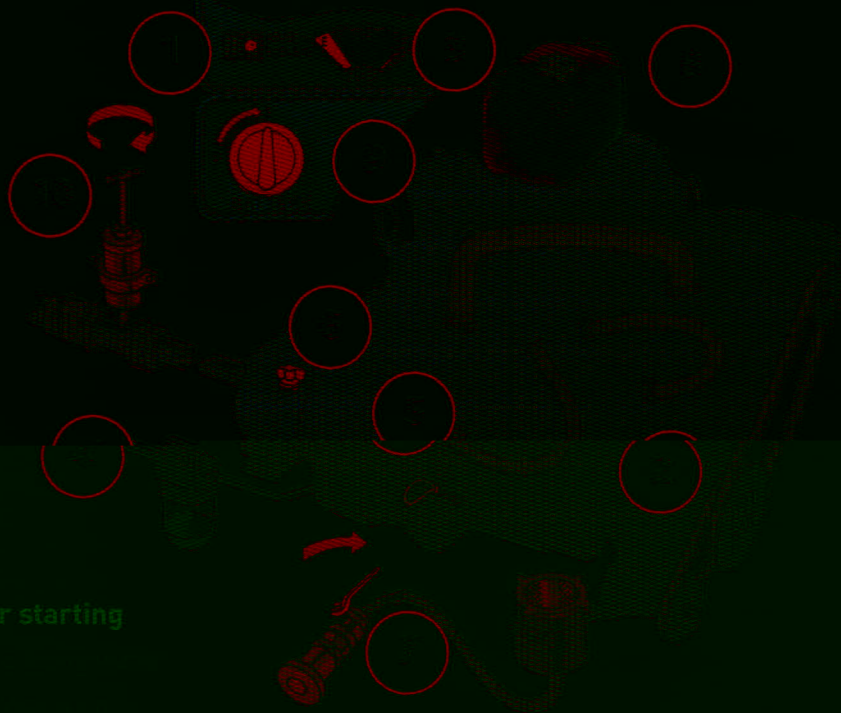


# Inboards and Outdrives

# engine checklist

## Pre-start checks

1. Oil level
2. Fuel level
3. Coolant level
4. Battery level
5. Water pump
6. Gearbox oil level
7. Propeller
8. Steering
9. Throttle
10. Clutch
11. Ignition
12. Spark plug
13. Air filter
14. Belts
15. Lights
16. Horn
17. VHF
18. EPIRB
19. Survival kit
20. First aid kit



## After starting

1. Oil level
2. Fuel level
3. Coolant level
4. Battery level
5. Water pump
6. Gearbox oil level
7. Propeller
8. Steering
9. Throttle
10. Clutch
11. Ignition
12. Spark plug
13. Air filter
14. Belts
15. Lights
16. Horn
17. VHF
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20. First aid kit

Call us for free sea safety advice and information on

**0800 328 0600** United Kingdom

**1800 789 589** Republic of Ireland



# Lifeboats

## Pre-start checks

- 1. Bilge blower.** If you have a bilge blower or engine room extractor fan, run it for a few minutes before starting the engine.
- 2. Visual check.** Check belts and hoses for cuts, splits, or fraying, and look out for oil or coolant leaks. Excessive black dust could indicate possible belt wear.
- 3. Fuel.** Make sure you have enough fuel for your intended trip, plus a reserve of about 20% of the tank's capacity, and make sure the fuel tap is open.
- 4. Fuel filter.** Some boats have a transparent water separator /filter in the fuel line. Inspect the bowl for water or dirt, and drain off any visible contamination.
- 5. Engine oil.** Check the engine oil level with the dipstick, and top up if necessary to keep the level between the 'max' and 'min' marks.
- 6. Gearbox oil.** Check the engine oil level with the dipstick.  
*NOTE: some gearbox oil levels can only be checked with the engine running. Many gearboxes need special oil: engine oil will NOT do!*
- 7. Raw water filter.** Shut the cooling water seacock; remove the filter element and clean it if necessary. Replace the element, screw the lid back onto the filter body, and OPEN THE SEA COCK.
- 8. Fresh water level.** Some engines have fresh water cooling systems as well as raw water. Carefully remove the header tank cap, and top up with water/ anti-freeze mixture if necessary to bring the level within about 50mm of the top. Replace the header tank cap.
- 9. Battery switch.** Turn the battery switch on before starting. Do not switch it off while the engine is running.
- 10. Stern gland greaser.** Boats with 'traditional' transmission systems have stern gland greasers. Give the cap or handle one full turn. Alternative, more modern types of seal just require a visual inspection.
- 11.** If your boat has an outdrive engine, trim tabs, or power steering, check the level of the hydraulic fluid in the hydraulic reservoirs and top up if necessary.
- 12.** If your boat has an outdrive engine, check that the leg is clear of weed, rope or plastic bags etc and is fully down.

## After starting

- 1.** Immediately check that there is a good flow of water from the exhaust pipe or cooling water tell-tale.
- 2.** Allow the engine to warm up so that it will tick-over smoothly before setting off.

