

BOAT TEST - CHECK LIST & RATING SHEET		Boat:	A	B	C	D
		Brand:				
	A Suggested Rating Scale: 1 (unacceptable) 2 (not very good) 3 (fair) 4 (good) 5 (excellent):	<u>Rating or Value</u>				
	Ride & Handling					
1	In calm conditions will the rudder steer the boat when out of gear at 5 knots as you slow down approaching a slip...or does power continually have to be applied for any steerage?					
2	In reverse, is the rudder large enough to overcome the prop rotation once the boat gets moving? With windage, does the bowthrustrer effectively act as a tiller to aim the transom, when backing down.					
3	Is the steering crisp, responsive and predictable or mushy with a delayed response? In other words, is it fun to drive like a sportscar or light plane or does it feel like a truck with 4 flat tires.					
4	Can you walk the boat sideways to enter a tight spot at a fuel dock...or delicately raft with another boat... by applying hard right rudder, bow-thrustrer taps to port and touches of reverse and forward to move to port (or reverse the procedure to move to starboard)?					
5	Apply moderately hard right or left rudder at 25 knots, does the boat lean/carve into the turn, stay upright or lean outward? Does it appreciably lose speed/rpms in the turn?					
6	At 25 knots can the boat drive directly into 1-2 ft waves without excessive pounding?					
7	At 25 knots in rough conditions, when going down the face of one 4-6 foot wave into the back of the next, will the bow dig into the wave causing "bowsteer" or yaw, requiring you (or the autopilot) to fight the wheel to bring the boat on course?					
	Dry Boat					
8	At 25 knots in a 10 knot breeze on the beam, will the bow wave rise up and blow back against the side windows or blast spray onto the transom seat, or does the shape of the hull lay the bow wave reasonably flat so the pilothouse side windows and people in the transom seat stay dry?					
9	When going 10-15 knots upwind into 3-4 foot waves, does green water come over the bow?					
	Reasonably Quiet, Comfortable Ride					
10	At 25 knots is it quiet enough so it's possible to carry on a conversation at the helm, seated on the transom seat?					
11	Underway, can you seat 4 passengers in addition to the co-pilots comfortably under the protection of the hard/soft top so that they have good visibility out of the boat?					
	Visibility					
12	From the wheel do you and anyone who may be driving the boat have a 360 degree unobstructed view around the boat?					
13	Are the running angles of the bow in the 3-4 degree range or less and may these be lowered further by use of trim tabs to see obstructions in the water such as lobster pots, logs, etc.					

14	When accelerating from 8-9 knots to a planning speed of 15+ knots, does the boat just go faster at the same angle or does the bow rise excessively causing either a momentary loss of forward visibility, or creating a situation where the boat can't be operated safely in the 10-15 knots speed range?				
15	In acute conditions of fog or at nighttime (and realizing that even good windshield wipers, defoggers and washers sometimes can't create optimum clarity) is there a steering station on the boat where windshields can be removed or hinged up completely? And, where you can pilot the boat out of the direct air flow? (For instance, this works on the 34z with helm windshield fully-opened by standing slightly to the left of center while steering).				
16	Is the spotlight located in on the bow where it can be effective at night in avoiding floating hazards and not blind the helmsman with deck or hardware glare?				
Safety					
17	Imagine falling overboard and there's no one to help. How do you get back on board?				
18	Are there secure handrails to permit operators to easily move forward onto the foredeck in waves?				
19	Are there companionway, galley and pilothouse grab rails in case you are surprised by a large wake?				
20	Can the boat be boarded by stepping over the deck using good handholds onto an intermediate step in the cockpit. Of, if standing on the deck is it flat and not obstructed by coamings?				
21	With only two people aboard, can you always see and communicate with the other person, no matter where they are?				
Stability					
22	Walk forward to the bow standing on the edge of the deck, or when first boarding: Does your weight cause the boat to heel appreciably?				
23	When on the sea trial, stop the boat broadside to large waves or the wake of a large boat: Does the boat go up and down the waves with a slight side to side roll or does it mostly roll violently from side to side?				
Sociability/Family Outings/Comfort		<u>Enter Values or Rating</u>			
24	When the boat is at rest, how many people can be comfortably seated in the Pilothouse if it's raining or cold?				
25	How many more people can be seated comfortably in the same grouping with the above if expanded to seating in the cockpit?				
26	How many people can the main saloon belowdecks comfortably seat, should more privacy be desired at night?				
27	Can the pilothouse area be opened up for fresh air on nice days and heated on chilly days?				
28	Is there adequate screening and airflow at night for bug protection?				
29	How many built-in 6'6" long sleeping areas are available aboard ? (i.e. 34z has 4 inside, 5 if you count the transom seat)				

