

ANDY'S BOATYARD CHECKLIST CARD

Prior to becoming a Surveyor Associate with SAMS, Andy owned and operated Anchors Way Marine Centers in Southern California during which time he oversaw over 2000 individual boat yard projects. His checklist assumes that you have already performed your own due diligence selecting a facility based upon: past results, yard skill sets, referrals, work quality, lighting, cleanliness, safety and environmental responsibility. Plan the Work then Work the Plan!

BEFORE ARRIVAL	MORE BEFORE ARRIVAL	UPON ARRIVAL
Have the yard shift your boat so you can sleep in and have coffee with your wife/husband/dog. <i>(Yards typically offer intra-harbor delivery at little or no additional expense and it allows them to manage their work flow better)</i>	Ask the yard if they will need to remove your back stay prior to haul. <i>(Many yards may need to loose or remove a stay to get the entire boat into their lift. YES most cranes are blue but they are all different due to custom fitting to their facility, no kidding, so prep in advance for this)</i>	Speedo paddle wheel out? <i>(These things break pretty easy)</i>
Dinghy, kayaks etc removed or cleared away? <i>(These items can get in the way during haul out and while in the yard plus they will get dirty and fill with rain water)</i>	Bow in or Bow out at haul out area? <i>(Good idea to ask the yard office prior to arrival.)</i>	Dropping the rudder(s)? <i>(Let the yard know BEFORE haul out, as the boat may be blocked down too low to clear the rudder post)</i>
Bilges clean and mucked? <i>(This will give you a post launch reference. Yard crews will treat a well-cared for boat differently)</i>	Interior carpet, soles, upholstery protected? <i>(Yards are conscientious but if major work is to be performed inside your boat, best to lead by example)</i>	Swing keel/Center board up? <i>(Let the yard know the location of the CB and its hardware, as they may want to block boat down higher to enable maintenance of it while partially lowered)</i>
Interior access points and lazarettes decluttered? <i>(Yards bill time and materials so you can pay them to clear out your stuff or not, its up to you)</i>	Email a Bottom sketch showing transducers and thru hulls or a picture of your boat in the slings to the yard office? <i>(Lift operators love this)</i>	Sails and ising glass covered? <i>(Bottom paint on sails and ising glass is not good)</i>
Holding tank pumped? <i>(Do I really need to explain this?)</i>	Furler Secured? <i>(There is nothing worse than a loose head sail at 3 a.m. in a blow..on the hard)</i>	Take a "Bow on" picture showing current boat condition and inclination(list)? <i>(Get out of jail free card!)</i>
Boat washed? <i>(Set the benchmark for launch day now)</i>	Defrost and clean out freezer/fridge? <i>(Nothing worse than rotten food and puddles after 5 days in the yard)</i>	Got your car keys and wallet? <i>(It may be awhile before your boat is cleaned and blocked)</i>

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THINGS YOUR YARD DOES WELL AND ECONOMICALLY	MORE THINGS YOUR YARD DOES WELL	THINGS TO NEVER DO IN A BOAT YARD
Sand and Paint Bottom <i>(This is the ham and eggs of all boat yards, let them shine)</i>	Striping <i>(This is an acquired skill best left to the pros)</i>	Dump oil, paint or acid on the ground or in drains.
Pull Prop(s) <i>(Requires special tools and skills)</i>	Repaint hullsides <i>(I can write pages of stories about why you DON'T want to attempt this on your own)</i>	Move the stands beneath your boat.
Replace Cutlass Bearing(s) <i>(A good yard can remove a bearing, fit, dimple and install a new one with warranty in about an hour, can you?)</i>	MSD replacement <i>(Another job for a professional)</i>	Rearrange yard scaffolding on Sunday or any day for that matter
Draw propeller shaft(s) <i>(Definitely a boatyard strong point)</i>	Step/Unstep mast(s) <i>(Dangerous, challenging, and that's on a good day)</i>	Bring in hired help without prior permission from yard management.
Refurbish/Replace Pedro Hose(s) <i>(Right in a yards backyard)</i>	Remove/Replace tankage <i>(It's all about the prep, yards know how to get this done quick and clean, do you?)</i>	Wet sand without prior permission from yard management.
Repack rudder packing <i>(Access is everything and unless you are <4' tall, triple jointed with radar vision, this can be a brutal project)</i>	Remove/Replace engine(s) <i>(How much can you lift?)</i>	Operate a spray gun without prior permission from yard management.
Replace trim tabs <i>(Yards know what type to acquire and have installed thousands of these)</i>	Remove and replace batteries <i>(These things are heavy)</i>	Use open flames or torches without prior permission from yard management.
Thru hull replacement <i>(See rudder packing)</i>	Refer Professional Help <i>(Horses for courses)</i>	Leave clutter underneath your boat

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THINGS TO ASK YOUR YARD WHEN THEY ARE PREPARING YOUR QUOTE	SPLASH DAY	BACK TO SLIP
"How long between coats of bottom paint and how long between the last coat and launch?" <i>(24 hours is best)</i>	Check the work and talk to the yard staff, especially those who performed the work. They are honest and will tell you things no one else may.	Open your engines RW intakes
"How much more would you charge to buff and wax the hullsides?" <i>(This is one of those pot sweeteners that your yard will be willing to negotiate because they can assign the same workers to the hullsides while the paint is drying.</i>	Sit down and review your itemized invoice(SEE WORKSHEET ON BACK). Compare it to your estimate. Did you ask for additional work to be performed?	Burp your dripless propeller shaft seal if required
"Will your crew clean my boat after launch and how long will it take?" <i>(A good yard will offer a complimentary wash after launch. Be patient on busy Friday afternoon so just smile and admire the work.</i>	Pay your bill and tip the workers who helped you.	Put your speedo paddle wheel back in if needed
"What warranty do you place on your work?" <i>(Most yards back their work up verbally and paint manufacturers offer a written product warranty)</i>	Compare your boat's condition and pre haul list to your pre haul photo.	Check all below waterline thru hull and plumbing for leaks Check all Packing for heat and leaks, adjust accordingly
"How many days will you give me to complete my projects if you are doing work?" <i>(Yards may give a day or two if they aren't jammed, provided you are paying them to perform work in their facility)</i>	Check your rigging if it was loosed. Admire your boat and go have fun!	Consider retaining a Marine Surveyor prior to your haul out to minimize surprises!

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WORK ITEM	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE

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