



Guidelines for the equipment of yachts flying the Swiss flag

The minimum equipment for a yacht is as follows:

Preamble: The captain shall ensure that all equipment and safety equipment complies with the provisions of these guidelines and is taken on board, is valid, suitable for the crew and in good condition. He/she shall implement their use when the conditions so require.

Lifesaving equipment

- A tracking and assistance device for anyone who has fallen into the water.
- Three automatic hand flares (red), three distress signal rockets with parachutes, two floating smoke signals.
- A signalling mirror.
- One or more inflatable life rafts suitable for the number of persons on board and to the type of navigation carried out, in accordance with ISO 9650-1 (24h +). The life raft must be easily accessible and ready to be deployed.
- Individual buoyancy equipment per person, minimum buoyancy of 150N.
- One harness and one lanyard per person (can be combined with individual buoyancy equipment).
- One waterproof light tracking device per person.
- A system enabling a person to climb on board to be activated by a person in the water.
- A fixed or portable light device suitable for searching and locating a person at sea at night.
- A first-aid kit with instructions.
- N & C flags.

Firefighting equipment

- At least two portable firefighting devices fire with a capacity of 2 kg.
- A fire blanket near the cooking facility.

Dewatering equipment

- A manually operated bilge pump that is permanently installed, to be operated from the cockpit area and which is capable of draining areas.
- A fixed bilge pump that can be used from within the living space; it must be able to drain all the watertight compartments.
- Portable equipment (bucket - bailer - sponge).

Navigational equipment

- A device for receiving the shipping forecasts on board.
- A magnetic compass fixed temporarily or permanently to the vessel, and visible from the steering position.
- Nautical charts, or their extracts, either official or drawn up from the information provided by a national hydrographic service, in paper or electronic form, kept up to date.
- The nautical documents necessary for the navigation zone: list of lights, tide tables, kept up to date.
- Equipment to assess, to trace and to follow a route.
- The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREG).
- A log book / a speed log with totalizer / an echo sounder.

General equipment

- COLREG-compliant navigation and anchor lights.
- Back-up navigation lights with autonomous power source.
- Two anchors with mooring lines adapted to the displacement of the vessel.
- A tow line with a length of 5 x the length of the vessel (can be combined with mooring line).
- A mounted radar reflector.
- An emergency back-up system to withstand a steering system failure.
- Repair tools and equipment adapted to the vessel's characteristics and intended navigation.
- For sailing boats: cable cutter adapted to the diameter of the cables.
- For sailing boats: device for trimming the sails in severe weather. If there is a furling genoa, it must be possible to rig the stormsail without bringing down the genoa.
- A foghorn.
- A sea anchor.

The following electronic communications equipment is optional:

- An approved VHF radio transmitter and receiver.
- An EPIRB 406 MHz location tag encoded with the vessel's MMSI number.

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