



Type D: Smoke (buoyant or hand-held)

- Produces a dense orange smoke for three minutes
- Used only as a day signal
- Some types are made especially for pleasure craft use that last one minute and come in a package of three

Position your smoke flare down wind and follow the directions carefully.

Navigation equipment

Sound-signalling devices

Pleasure craft less than 12 m (39'4") in length need a sound-signalling device if they are not fitted with a sound-signalling appliance. The sound-signalling device can be a pealess whistle, compressed gas horn or an electric horn.



Sound-signalling appliances

Pleasure craft 12 m (39'4") or greater in length must have a fitted whistle. Check the Collision Regulations for the technical criteria the whistle must meet.

Navigation lights

If you operate your boat at night or in restricted visibility, it needs navigation lights. If your pleasure craft has navigation lights, they must work and be fitted in accordance with the Collision Regulations (for placement options, see the silhouettes in the Minimum Required Equipment section).

Radar reflectors

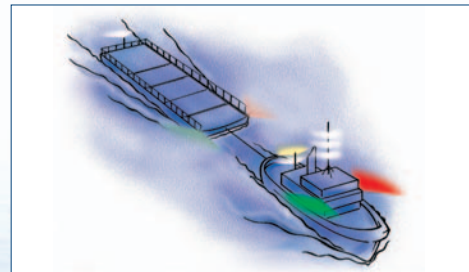
Vessels less than 20 m (65'7") in length or that are constructed primarily of non-metallic materials must have radar reflectors, unless they are not essential to the safety of the vessel, or the small size of the vessel or its operation away from radar navigation makes compliance impractical. If properly positioned, they help larger, less manoeuvrable vessels detect your presence on their radar screens. They should be

located above all superstructures and at least 4 m (13'1") above the water (if possible).

Towing

Tugs may be towing barges or other vessels on a long tow-line astern. Often, the length of the tow is so great the tow-line hangs below the surface of the water and is nearly invisible. If a small craft were to strike the submerged tow-line, it could capsize and be run down by the barge.

Never pass between a tug and its tow and be alert for special lights displayed by vessels towing barges, other vessels or objects. The towing vessel is usually more visible than its tow. The tow's navigation lights do not include masthead lights and are often much dimmer than those of the towing vessel.



In the case of a power-driven vessel towing another vessel from its stern, the towing vessel must exhibit the following:

- Sidelights and sternlight
- Towing light (yellow light with the same characteristics as the sternlight)
- Two masthead lights in a vertical line – three of these lights if the tow exceeds 200 m (656')
- A diamond shape where it can best be seen, if the tow exceeds 200 m (656') – day signal

In the case of a vessel being towed, it must exhibit the following:

- Sidelights and sternlight
- A diamond shape where it can best be seen, if the tow exceeds 200 m (656')
- If impractical for the vessel being towed to comply with the lights stated above, it must carry one all-around white light at fore and aft

Charts and publications

Having charts and various publications such as Notices to Mariners, Sailing Directions and the List of Lights and Buoys and Fog Signals is required under the Charts and Nautical Publications Regulations. Small craft charts are not regularly updated.

Consult Notices to Mariners for chart updates and corrections or visit www.charts.gc.ca.

Suggested items to take on board

If you will be out for more than a few hours, consider taking these items with you:

- Spare clothing in a watertight bag (weather conditions can change rapidly so be prepared)
- Drinking water and high-energy snacks (drinking water is important because not ingesting enough of it can quickly lead to fatigue and dehydration)

Tool kits and spare parts

You may need to make repairs while out on the water. Take along a tool kit, spare parts (for example, fuses, bulbs, a spare propeller, nuts and bolts, penetrating oil to free-up stuck fasteners, duct tape, spark plugs) and tools and materials to temporarily stop hull leaks. Now that you have the tools available, do you know what to do with them? Bring the owner's manual and any other guidebook you might need on your trip.



First aid kit

While boating, you may be some distance from medical assistance. Take a first aid kit with you. Store it in a dry place and replace used and outdated contents regularly. Not every kit will be appropriate for your specific needs so choose carefully.

Do you know the signs and symptoms of hypothermia, heat exhaustion, an allergic reaction to insect venom or food items? Do you know how to stem bleeding, perform rescue breathing, treat shock? If not, take a first aid course as soon as possible. Knowing how to provide first aid assistance can make the difference between permanent injury and full recovery, or even life and death. For more information on first aid training visit www.sja.ca or contact St. John Ambulance Canada.