

USED BOAT - 5-MINUTE FIRST LOOK

Before you get emotionally invested, take five minutes and look for these warning signs.

- ☐ **HULL & TRANSOM** - Cracks, damage, questionable repairs or movement
- ☐ **DECK** - Soft spots, cracks or loose hardware
- ☐ **BILGE** - Unexplained water, oil, fuel or strong odors
- ☐ **ENGINE** - Corrosion, leaks, poor maintenance or difficult cold starting
- ☐ **PROP & RUNNING GEAR** - Damage, corrosion or excessive wear
- ☐ **ELECTRICAL** - Corroded batteries, messy wiring or equipment that doesn't work
- ☐ **MAINTENANCE RECORDS** - Are they available - and do they make sense?
- ☐ **SEA TRIAL** - Never make the final decision without one

THE FIRST LOOK IS ONLY THE BEGINNING

A boat can look great at the dock and still hide expensive problems.

- What should you check during a cold start?
- What should the engine do at different RPMs?
- What should you test during the sea trial?
- What do you inspect again after returning to the dock?

BOAT BUYER'S INSPECTION & SEA TRIAL GUIDE

A step-by-step system for inspecting, sea-trialing and evaluating a boat before you buy.

[GET THE COMPLETE GUIDE](#)

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