



Your boating fire safety checklist

The NSW Fire Department* recommends the following safety checklist for safe boating.

- Ensure you and your crew understand and are aware** of your vessel and its capabilities.
- Smoke alarm installed** in an area close to where you sleep and far from fumes.
- Fire extinguisher** located near an exit point or controls.
- Fire blanket** near the galley.
- Devise a 'fire escape plan'**, which takes into account every person on board, and whether you are moored or at sea.
- Every area must be well-ventilated**, especially if the motor is on.
- When refuelling, isolate ignition sources** and allow motors to cool off.
- Inspect the exhaust system** and fuel lines for leakages regularly.
- LPG cylinders should be stored in ventilated spaces.** When appliances are not being used, ensure they are turned off.
- Cylinders should be 'in test'** and fittings and hoses protected from corrosion. (LPG flows in the same way that water does, which means it can build up in the bilge.)
- Ensure electrical equipment is regularly maintained.** A high volume of fires are caused by electrical faults on vessels.
- Never operate electrical equipment or switches** in the presence of flammable vapours.

* Source: <https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/page.php?id=326> current as of 27 March 2019.