

Annual Maintenance Task List - Last Revision: Oct 23, 2020

On Deck

- Lube/service winches - give each winch a quick spin. If they're not turning freely, now is the time to strip and clean them. Any looseness?
- Lube shackles, blocks/sheaves and clutches.
- Check boom gooseneck and pivot pin for any wear.
- Windlass issues are almost always down to poor connections. Inspect these closely, especially at the foot switches, and if necessary take the connections apart, clean them, apply some petroleum jelly or dielectric grease and reassemble.
- Check the lifelines for signs of corrosion. Sheathed wire is especially prone to this. Replace if they look suspect. Also, check the split pins or split rings at the terminals. Split rings have a habit of working loose. Check stanchions for any looseness.
- Take a close look at turnbuckles and shroud terminations. Any sign of metal fatigue at terminals/swaged connections? Any rust or cracks? Check the shroud toggle - any metal pitting or cracks? Make sure all split pins are in place. Ensure turnbuckles are not at end of threads
- Check shrouds and stays - any broken or missing wires? Run a rag over them to find "fishhooks" that indicate the wire needs to be replaced
- Check chafe guards on spreaders
- How's the anchor rode and ground tackle? Time to redo the depth markers? Make sure the connecting shackle's pin is wired, so it can't work loose. Check the full length of chain and rope including the splice. Will the anchor lock/chain stopper keep the anchor secure when underway?
- Rinse all turning blocks out with freshwater to remove any dust or grit.
- Inspect all running and standing rigging - check lines for signs of wear, chafing or corrosion.
- Reinstall BBQs.
- Reinstall dodger.
- Clean Decks (Powerwash)
- Refinish any wood that has been weathered.
- Any leaks around windows, companion way etc?
- Check lazarette. Empty, clean and replace/restock contents as required. Ensure there is spare fuel and engine oil onboard.
- Check all canvas for signs of weathering. Restitch where needed.

Down Under / Haulout

- Make sure through-hulls are free of barnacles and marine growth.
- Check that your seacocks operate freely. The best thing to do with ball valves, is to exercise them by regularly opening and closing them during the year.
- Hoses should be double clamped with stainless clamps. Make sure hose clamps are in good condition and replace any that show signs of rust.
- Verify that wooden plugs on board? Why not attach them to the seacocks, so that they're right there in case of emergency?
- Check the P-bracket for stress cracks—especially if you've had a line around the prop the previous season.
- Shake the propshaft from side to side to check for movement in the cutless bearing.
- Check the rudder for cracks in the leading and trailing edges, and check for play in the bearings.
- Clean prop & shaft, change the zincs.
- Inspect hull for blistering, sand/repair as necessary
- Repaint bottom
- Clean, wax and buff topsides

Interior

- Clean head and area around it. Get it ready for action by removing the intake hose and pouring vinegar into it. This will dissolve much of the scale buildup in the hoses and pump body. Pump the vinegar through the system, letting it sit overnight, flush with freshwater and then follow up with a shot of head lube or mineral oil. Mix 125 ml of baking soda w/ 125ml of vinegar into the head bowl. The foaming action cleans and deodorizes. Brush and flush.
- Inspect and clean your bilge and electric bilge pump(s). Make sure the electric cable connections are sound and test the float switch (float switches can fail). Dry the bilge thoroughly before launch, so you'll know at a glance if there is a leak.
- Test the macerator pump and the electric head operation. Make sure the holding tank vent is not obstructed.
- Flush out your water system. A small dose of bleach in the penultimate tankful will clean out the system.
- Clean interior including floor boards. Open all compartments and lockers, and clean off any mildew. Vinegar is an effective mold and mildew killer, but do not mix it with bleach.
- Run dishes and cutlery through a dishwasher. Put cushions, cutlery and dishes back in.
- Restock consumables as required eg. marine grade toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, spare batteries
- Verify/recertify the propane tank, when due. Top-up the propane for the cruising season. Make sure the propane connections are tight, the supply hose is not chafed or pinched, and test the stove and solenoid. Test the propane and carbon monoxide detectors and replace if necessary.

Electrics and Electronics

- If you have flooded lead-acid batteries, check the electrolyte and top up if necessary. Verify the automatic battery chargers are in working order.
- Inspect the battery terminals for corrosion. If necessary, clean them with baking soda and water (an old toothbrush is great for this job). A thin coat of Vaseline on the terminals will keep corrosion at bay. Tighten all connections at both ends of the battery cables.
- Make sure the 12V system's ground connection to the engine is tight and free of corrosion. A poor ground is a common cause of electrical problems.
- Inspect the shorepower inlet / plugs for signs of overheating, which can result in a fire.
- Power up your instrument displays and switch on the backlighting to help clear condensation.

Engine and Drivetrain

- Is the engine oil fresh? If you neglected to change the engine oil at the end of last season, do it now. It will contain contaminants and acids. Check transmission oil level (do not overfill).
- Are fuel hoses supple, with no cracks, bulges, or soft spots? Do the lines smell like gasoline (wipe the lines with a clean rag and then smell the rag)? Did you also use a rag to detect odors at connections?
- Any leaks (water, oil, fuel)? Any signs of chafing on any of the lines?
- Engine mounts in good shape? Any bolts missing?
- Check the engine coolant hoses for cracking and splitting, and make sure fuel lines and their hose clamps are in good condition. Are all connections snug and firmly clamped?
- Clean air-intake filters
- Clean raw-water intake filters
- Change primary and secondary fuel filters. Reprime system and ensure there are no fuel leaks.

- Adjust alternator and water pump belts—there should be no more than half-inch of play in them. Check belts for any sign or chafing or wear. Replace if in doubt.
- Change the engine zinc.
- Make sure the spare belts, filters, impeller, etc. are onboard.
- Check engine coolant level (freshwater cooled engines). Any signs of rust or discoloration of coolant? Drain/flush/replace coolant as required
- Have a look at the stuffing box and make sure the packing has not dried out. If you have a dripless shaft seal, inspect the rubber bellows closely. These have a finite lifespan.

Sails

- Check for tears, pinholes, wear or deterioration. Any stitching starting to go?
- Check condition of UV strip on headsail. Any separation? Is it on the outside when sail is furled?
- Check mainsail sliders - replace any broken or missing. Do any “catch” or bind as you raise the main?
- Check mainsheet / jibsheet shackles for any sign of metal fatigue.
- Any broken or missing battens?

Safety Gear/Misc

- Orally inflate your lifejackets and leave them overnight to check for leaks. Make sure the CO2 canisters and automatic inflators are installed correctly.
- Check and, if necessary, replace batteries in MOB lights, strobes and flashlights.
- Ensure fire extinguishers & flares are in date.
- Charge up the handheld VHF.
- Recharge worklight/torch via USB
- Check first-aid kit – anything need replacing?
- Check tool-kit – clean-off any tool corrosion; replace anything no longer usable
- Check emergency repair supplies - sail tape, 5 min epoxy, duct tape, electrical tape, spare shackles, WD40

Dinghy

- Check hull for any damage
- Check painter for any wear/chaffing
- Oar locks ok? Bailer?

Winterization

- Heaters and battery charger on
- Position cushions so air will circulate around them
- Drain water system
- Add small amount of non-toxic RV antifreeze to head and flush
- Remove bbqs
- Outboard – remove, add fuel conditioner, run & flush
- Tarp on Massilia
- Schedule winter boat checks

Supply/Equipment Checklist

Some of these might be onboard – check with boat captain.

- 1 gal 10-40 diesel engine oil + filter + disposal container
- fuel filters (Primary, secondary) + fuel disposal container
- coolant + disposal container (if replacing Jolie's coolant)
- engine diapers
- rags
- garbage bags
- paper supplies (paper towels, marine toilet paper)
- latex/nitrile gloves
- variety of plastic containers for catching fuel/coolant drips, holding cleaners, varnish etc.
- cleaners (vinegar, marine cleaner, biodegradable bilge cleaner, dish detergent)
Note: do not use ammonia based cleaners like windex on plastic
- variety of cleaning brushes, sponges, old toothbrushes are great
- disinfectant (alcohol best – avoid bleach which will ruin fabric/upholstery/dodger etc.)
- enzyme for holding tank
- degreaser (for engines)
- silicon sealant
- white lithium grease
- baking soda & vaseline (for battery terminals)
- canvas protectant?
- wd40/rust remover
- fine steel wool
- sandpaper (various grits), sanding blocks, dust masks
- marine varnish (if redoing woodwork)
- spray paint (if anchor rode markings need to be redone)
- gelcoat repair kit, heatgun (if blister repair required)
- bottom paint, brushes, rollers, masking tape, scrapers (if redoing bottom paint)
- marine polish/wax, buffer (for topsides)
- power washer
- vacuum
- detail sander
- work light
- beer