

USER GUIDE

Boat Manager

All your Logs. All your Specs. All your Docs.
All your Boats. All in one place.

Version 1.8.1

Built by an ex-USCG-credentialed Master Mariner.

Guide Navigation

Use this page as a quick map. Chapters 1 and 2 get you set up; Chapters 3 to 18 follow the app screen by screen, so you can jump straight to whatever is in front of you; the appendices cover what to do when something looks wrong, and what the terminology means.

Common Workflows 5

Welcome to Boat Manager 6

Record Once, Use Everywhere 6

Why It Works the Way It Does 6

Built Around Every Boat You Own 7

About Boat Manager 7

Getting Started 8

Set Up Your First Boat 8

What's Aboard 8

Record What You Started With 9

Make Your First Log Entry 9

It Gets Faster From Here 9

Boat Manager on the Mac 10

The Helm — Your Dashboard 11

What the Helm Shows 11

Tides on the Helm 12

Nearby 13

ToDo List, Shopping List, and Notes 14

Boats & Specs 15

Six Tabs, One Boat 15

What Lives on the Specs Tab 16

Gear & Spares 17

The Equipment List 18

Copying Equipment to Another Boat 18

The Equipment Maintenance Log 20

A Report for the Technician 22

Spares & Shopping List 23

The Logbook 24

A New Log Starts With Yesterday's 24

Location, Engine Hours, and Distance 25
Taking a Position From Apple Maps 25
Weather, Crew, and Tankage 28
Maintenance and Photos, From the Log 30
Finding Checklist Runs 30
Expenses 31
Recurring Costs 33
Filing a Receipt or Invoice 33
Upkeep 35
What are Maintenance Task Records 35
The Maintenance Dashboard 38
Putting an Item on the Maintenance Dashboard 38
Planning: The Outlook 39
Planned Jobs 40
Projects 41
Documents 42
Crew 44
Waypoints & Float Plans 45
Waypoints 45
Voyages 47
Float Plans 48
Filing a Float Plan 48
Maintenance 49
From Library to Planned Job to Logged Work 51
Planning a Job From the Maintenance Library 52
Starter Checklists 52
Safety Checks 53
Running a Safety Check 54
What the Check Fills In 55
Gear That Knows Its Requirement 56
Keeping It Current 56
Reminders 57

Analysis....60
Settings — Making It Yours....61
Safe Harbor Membership....62
Data Health....62
The Toolkit — Buttons & Navigation....64
Getting Around....64
The Core Buttons....65
Everywhere Else....65
Getting the Most from Boat Manager....66
Is Boat Manager free?....66
What if I lose connectivity?....66
How do I back everything up?....66
Taking a Manual Backup....66
Will it keep improving?....66
Troubleshooting....67
The Save button on a log entry is greyed out....67
The iCloud Sync icon is red....67
A device is behind the others....67
I changed a unit setting and my numbers did not convert....67
A CSV import produced records that are not linked to anything....67
Reminders are not appearing in Apple Reminders....67
The Maintenance Dashboard is empty, or missing equipment....68
Distance run looks shorter than the trip felt....68
Data Health says a meter reading went backwards....68
The Helm's tide card is empty, or shows the wrong place....68
The same boat, contact or checklist appears twice....68
Glossary....69
Bringing In Your Own Spreadsheets....72
Before You Start....72
Step by Step....72
The Rules Every Row Follows....72
Where Your Columns Go....73
If Something Doesn’t Come In....75

Common Workflows

- The Helm: check position, weather, and what needs attention before you leave the dock
- The Logbook: log a day, and watch it auto-fill tomorrow’s
- Upkeep & Maintenance: plan the job, log it when it's done, see the cost in Expenses
- Safety Checks: run the USCG Vessel Safety Check, file the report, and fix what failed
- Gear & Spares: record the specs, the upkeep you want to track, and the history and status, all in one place
- Documents: attach the manual once, find it years later
- Waypoints & Float Plans: file a plan before you leave, send "Arrived" the moment you’re back
- Expenses: see what the boat costs, file a receipt, and record the bills that come round

CHAPTER 1

Welcome to Boat Manager

Every boat accumulates knowledge. This is where it lives.

Maintenance records. Equipment specs. Spare part numbers. Insurance documents. Fuel logs. The name of the impeller you replaced two seasons ago. Over time, that information scatters across notebooks, photos, email folders, and memory — and memory is the least reliable of the three.

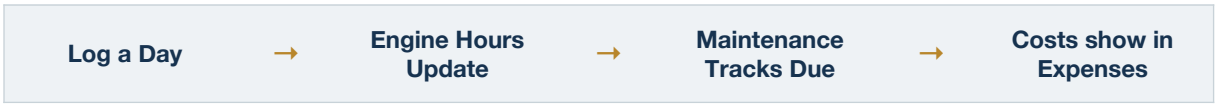
The questions always seem to arrive at the wrong moment:

- Which oil filter fits this engine?
- When did I last change the impeller?
- Did I already buy that spare part, or is it still on the list?
- How many engine hours since the last service?
- Where's the insurance certificate — the marina office is asking?
- What was the part number on the water pump?

Boat Manager exists to answer those questions quickly, from your phone, at the dock or a thousand miles from it.

Record Once, Use Everywhere

The core idea behind Boat Manager is that information you enter once should keep working for you. A day's log carries its engine hours forward into maintenance tracking. A maintenance task's cost rolls automatically into your expense totals. A fuel fill-up updates the tank gauge on the Helm dashboard. You shouldn't have to type the same number twice.



Why It Works the Way It Does

Two decisions explain most of what might look unusual about Boat Manager.

It started as a spreadsheet. Many sheets, kept over years of ownership, then imported. That is why costs are columns on a log rather than separate records, and why CSV import and export are a first-class route rather than an afterthought. If you arrive with a spreadsheet of your own, importing it is the expected way in.

The day log stands alone. It is not a legal document, but it is treated like one: nothing changes a log except you editing it. That is why a new log starts with yesterday's hours and position rather than working them out, why weather and tide are written into a log once and read back exactly as they were, and why Data Health proposes a fix instead of making it. Equipment maintenance is the one deliberate exception — fully linked, because nothing else kept its history straight.

In short: the app will not quietly change your record.

Built Around Every Boat You Own

Boat Manager holds boats, gear, spares, logs, maintenance, documents, crew, waypoints, and float plans — all synced to iCloud and fully usable offline. It is built around more than one boat because that is how boating actually works. Most owners have two: the main boat and a tender or dinghy. It is tempting to treat them as one, but the registry, the insurer and the marina office do not — the tender has its own registration, its own papers and its own outboard to maintain, so it gets its own record here. And over the years most of us own, charter or serve on a good many boats. A USCG credential is not tied to one vessel; the sea service behind it comes from every boat you have run. Keeping each boat's logs separately, rather than deleting the old to make room for the new, is what lets Boat Manager add that history up.

> **TIP — How this guide is organized**
> Each chapter opens with why a feature exists before it explains how to use it. Skip straight to a chapter for the screen you're looking at, or read start to finish to see how the pieces connect.

About Boat Manager

Boat Manager is a personal project by an ex-USCG-credentialed Master Mariner and former Royal Navy officer. It started as the way to keep one boat organized, refined over several thousand miles underway, before becoming something other boat owners could use too.

CHAPTER 2

Getting Started

Half an hour at the dock now, instead of a season of guessing later.

Boat Manager needs one thing before anything else works: a boat, set as your default. Every log entry, every piece of gear, every document and every reminder hangs off it. This chapter is the shortest path from an empty app to a record that is already earning its keep.

Set Up Your First Boat

You need at least one boat, and one boat is always the default. Start with the details you can read off the hull or the paperwork in front of you — the rest can be filled in whenever you next have the manual open.

1. From the main menu, tap Boats, then Add (+), and name the boat.
2. On the Specs tab, set the basics — motor or sail, single or twin engine — and the administrative details you have to hand: make, model, hull number, MMSI, official number.
3. Enter the dimensions, weights and tank capacities.
4. Add up to three photos. Swipe sideways at the top of the page to move between them.
5. Go to Settings, then Default Boat & Homeport, and set this boat as your default. Set your home port while you are there.

   Result *The Helm opens on this boat, and every shortcut in the app now points at it.*

> **TIP — Do the tank capacities before anything else**
> The Helm gauges and the fuel, water and pump-out steppers in the log are all sized from your actual tank capacities. Two minutes of typing here makes every later log entry quicker and every gauge meaningful.

What's Aboard

What's Aboard builds the Gear list for you, with the maintenance jobs that go with each piece. It is a page in onboarding, and the Start From What's Aboard button on an empty Gear list opens the same page.

It starts from the boat's Specs, so set those first. Check the profile it shows:

- Power or sail; single, twin, outboard or no engine; and the fuel.
- What else is fitted: generator, watermaker, air conditioning, LPG galley, bow or stern thruster, stabilizers or gyro, trim tabs, hydraulic steering, autopilot, offshore gear (EPIRB and life raft), and a tender with an outboard.

Below the profile is the equipment it will add, all ticked, each with its type and the number of jobs that come with it. Untick anything that isn't aboard, then tap Save. Each piece is added with the library jobs that fit it: a diesel gets no spark-plug or outboard jobs, twin engines get port and starboard sets and the synchronizer, and each engine's jobs count that engine's own hours. A tender becomes a boat of its own, with its outboard.

Equipment already aboard under the same name shows as Already aboard and is not added again. In onboarding, the page waits until your iCloud data has arrived before it offers anything.

Record What You Started With

Boat Manager measures change over time, so its numbers are only as good as the baseline you give it. Three things are worth entering before you make your first log entry.

- Current engine hours, on the Specs tab. Every later log entry adds hours run to this figure rather than replacing it, so start it honest.
- The equipment you actually maintain — engines, batteries, the generator, the watermaker — rather than a full inventory of the boat in one sitting. You can add the rest as you touch it. See Chapter 5, Gear & Spares.
- The documents you would be asked for at short notice: insurance certificate, registration, documentation. See Chapter 9, Documents.

Make Your First Log Entry

The Day Log is the master record. Fuel, pump-out, generator hours, maintenance and expenses are all filtered views of what you enter here, which is why the first entry is worth doing properly.

1. Open the boat's Log tab and tap Add (+).
2. Set the date, and write a short narrative — where you went, or what you did.
3. Set the port, and the position. Position can come from GPS, your waypoints list, or Apple Maps.
4. Enter hours run if the engines were used.
5. Tap the weather button to pull current conditions from Apple Weather. Wind, sea state and an estimated Beaufort force are filled in for you, and every field can be overwritten.
6. Save.

   Result *Engine hours, costs and tankage from this entry are now visible on the Helm, the Upkeep dashboard and the Expenses log.*

> **IMPORTANT — Four fields are mandatory**
> A log entry needs a date, a narrative, a port and a latitude/longitude before it can be saved. The Save button stays disabled until all four are present — it is the most common reason a first entry appears to refuse to save.

It Gets Faster From Here

From the second entry on, a new log copies forward the port, position, berth, USCG details and engine hours from the previous one. You adjust what changed and save. That is the whole daily routine, and everything else in this guide is built on top of it.

- After a week, the Helm opens with your position, the forecast, and what needs attention.
- After a month, the Maintenance Dashboard starts flagging intervals as they come due. See Chapter 12, Maintenance.

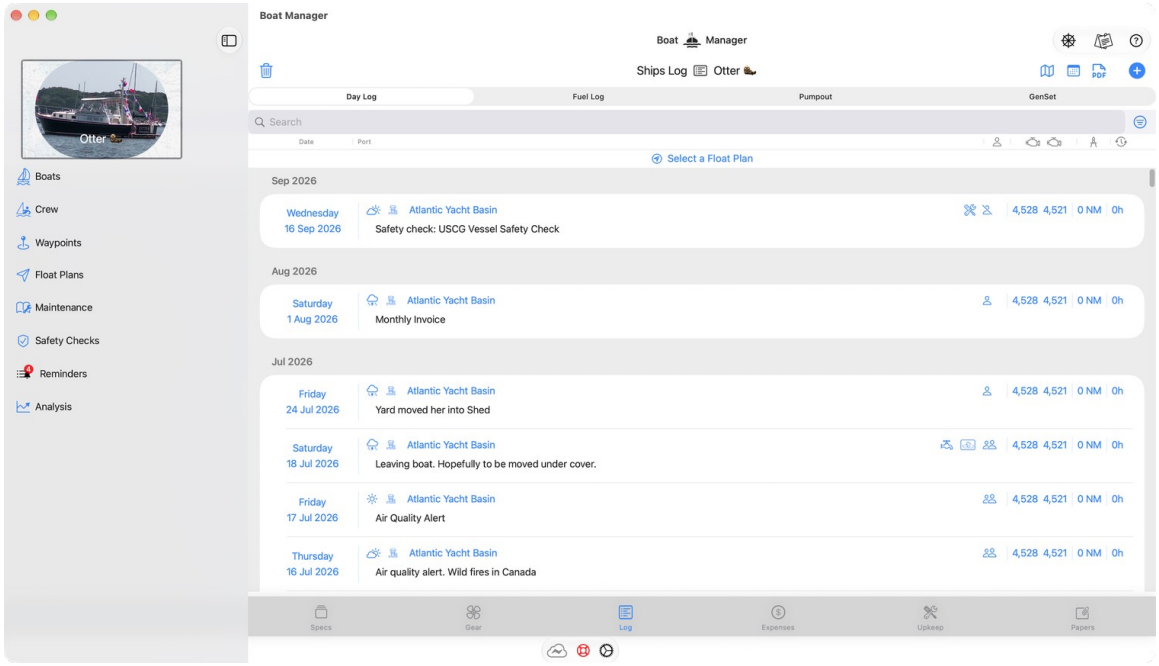
- After a season, the Expenses log and Analysis have enough in them to be worth reading. See Chapter 7 and Chapter 15.

Add the Boat → **Set It Default** → **Enter Baselines** → **First Log Entry** → **It Runs Itself**

Boat Manager on the Mac

Boat Manager runs on the Mac as well as on iPhone and iPad, and it is included in your purchase — if you already have the app, there is nothing more to buy. Download it from the Mac App Store and sign in to the same iCloud account: every boat, log entry, maintenance record and document is already there, and anything you change on the Mac is on your phone before you cast off.

- The sidebar stays open, so Boats, Crew, Waypoints, Maintenance and Safety Checks are always one click away
- A full-size window suits the jobs that are easier sitting down: planning a season of maintenance, working through a refit list, reconciling fuel and expenses, or filing the paperwork you photographed at the dock
- Everything in this guide applies to the Mac. Where it says tap, click; where it says swipe, scroll



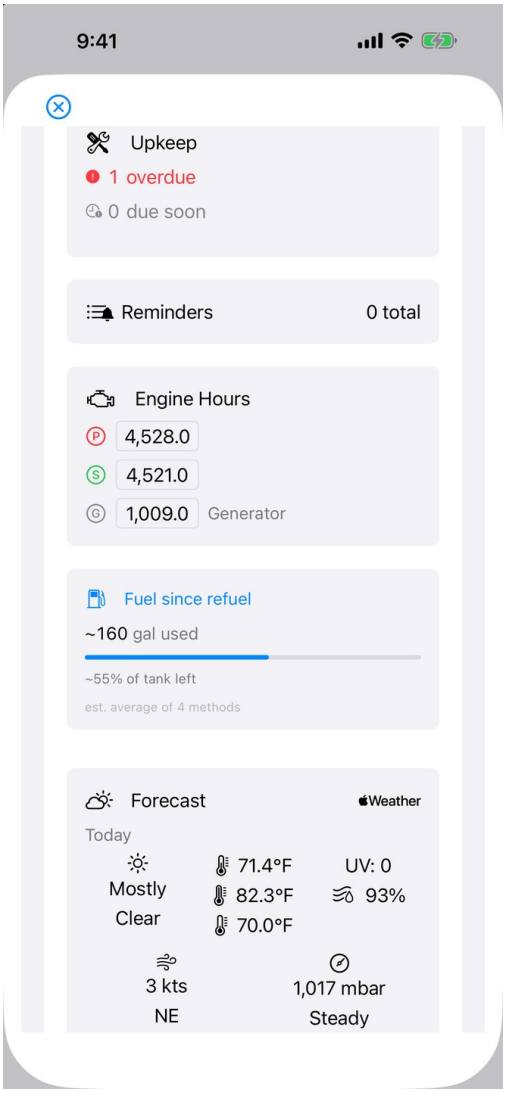
The Mac companion app — the same boats, logs and papers, with room to work.

CHAPTER 3

The Helm — Your Dashboard

One screen to answer: where am I, what's due, and what happened last?

The Helm is a popover dashboard that opens automatically when you start the app (this can be turned off in Settings). It's designed to be the first thing you check before a trip and the last thing you glance at afterward.



The Helm — position, hours, fuel and what is due, at a glance.

What the Helm Shows

Every card is the same shape and sits level with its neighbour. Drag anywhere on the Helm to scroll; the lot is designed to be read in the time it takes to finish a coffee.

- Your current position and the last logged position side by side, each with Open in Maps
- When you last took on water and last pumped out, and the engine hours since the last oil change — tap any of them to open the log that figure counts from

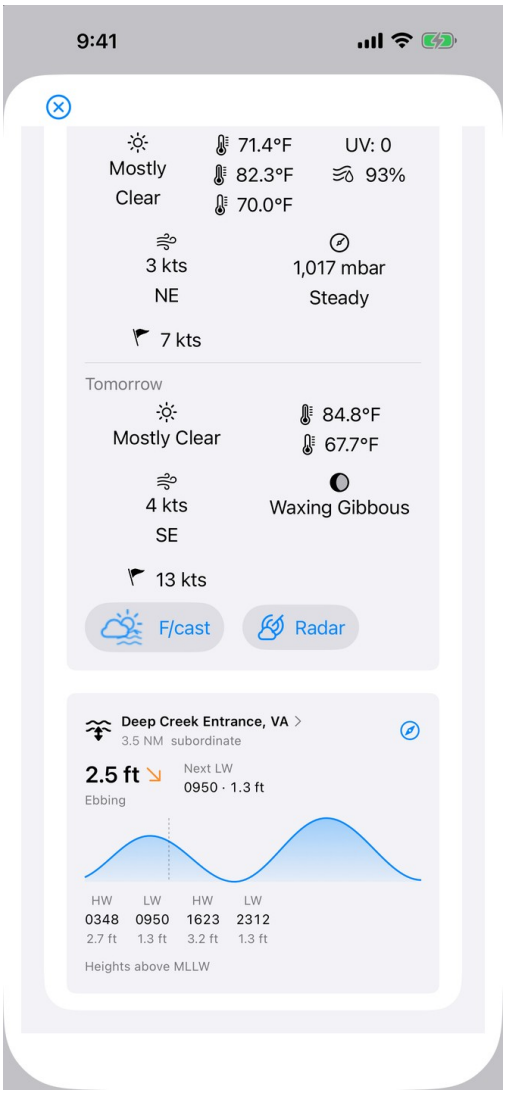
- Upkeep — what is overdue and what is due soon on the Maintenance Dashboard — and the reminders coming up
- Engine hours for each engine and the generator
- Fuel since refuel: an estimate of what has been burned, the fuel left (the tankage less that estimate) and the range it gives at your boat's own miles per gallon, with the working a tap away
- Today's and tomorrow's forecast from Apple Weather, with the National Weather Service marine forecast and radar a tap away
- National Weather Service alerts near the boat: gale warnings, small craft advisories and the land alerts that reach a marina, including the marine zones within 15 NM, each saying how far off it is. Alert details opens the full text
- The tide at the nearest NOAA station — see below

Open the App → **Helm Shows Position & Weather** → **Check What's Due** → **Head Out Informed**

Tides on the Helm

The Helm reads NOAA tide predictions for the station nearest your position: the height now, whether it is flooding or ebbing, and every high and low of the day, drawn as a curve. Predictions are stored on the device once fetched, so a station keeps working with no signal. If you are heading somewhere else, pin that station instead — tap Choose station — and the Helm shows its tide until you unpin it. The card also says whether the tide is at springs or neaps, worked out from the station's own range.

- In a log entry, tap the tide button to fill the day's tide from the same station in one tap
- NOAA covers US waters only. Elsewhere, turn Tide Predictions off in Settings and the Helm shows the link to your own tide website instead
- The station's own page on the NOAA site is a tap away from the card, for the full table



The Helm — forecast, and the tide curve for the nearest NOAA station.

> **TIP — Pin the station you are heading for**
> The nearest station is right for where you are, not for where you will be at slack water. Pin the destination's station the night before and the Helm answers the question you actually have.

Nearby

Under Current Location, Nearby lists the closest marinas, fuel, anchorages and towing — TowBoatUS and Sea Tow — within 25 NM, from Apple Maps.

- Each place shows its distance, a call button where Apple has a number for it, and Open in Maps.
- Your towing memberships, BoatUS / TowBoatUS, Sea Tow or another service, entered in your Profile, are shown with each one's 24-hour dispatch. With none, both national dispatches are listed: either will tow a non-member.
- Nearby is for finding a marina, fuel or a tow. In an emergency, call on VHF channel 16.

ToDo List, Shopping List, and Notes

The button at the top right opens the To-Do list, the Shopping list and Notes. The To-Do and Shopping lists work like Apple Reminders.

- Tap the round checkbox to tick an item off; Show Completed and Hide Completed are in the ••• menu
- Type in the New To-Do row at the foot of the list to add one quickly. Tap an item to open it in full: notes, a tag for a boat, crew member or waypoint, a reminder, photos and files
- Drag the grip on a row to put the list in your own order. New Section, in the ••• menu, groups items under a heading, and Move to Section, in an item's menu, files one; deleting a section keeps its items
- Add to Shopping List, in a to-do's menu, copies it to the Shopping list. The to-do stays open: buying the part doesn't finish the job
- Log as maintenance task, in an open to-do, records the work on today's log and ticks the to-do off
- A Note is a ToDo without a completion flag, for anything worth jotting down but not tracking
- Shopping list items can be added straight from the Spare Parts form when something runs low
- Share a photo into Boat Manager — from Photos or a message — and it becomes a new ToDo with the picture attached, or is filed against a boat, a piece of equipment, a task, a waypoint or a crew member
- Every to-do and shopping item is a reminder in Apple Reminders too: to-dos in the “Boat Manager 2” list, shopping items in “Boat Manager Shopping List”, kept in step both ways with nothing to press. Tick off, rename or date one in either app and the other follows; a reminder added to either list becomes a to-do, and one deleted in Reminders deletes its to-do. Sections, your order and tags stay in Boat Manager

TIP — Make it a habit

Open the Helm before and after every trip. A few seconds’ review keeps maintenance, fuel, and expense records accurate without extra effort later.

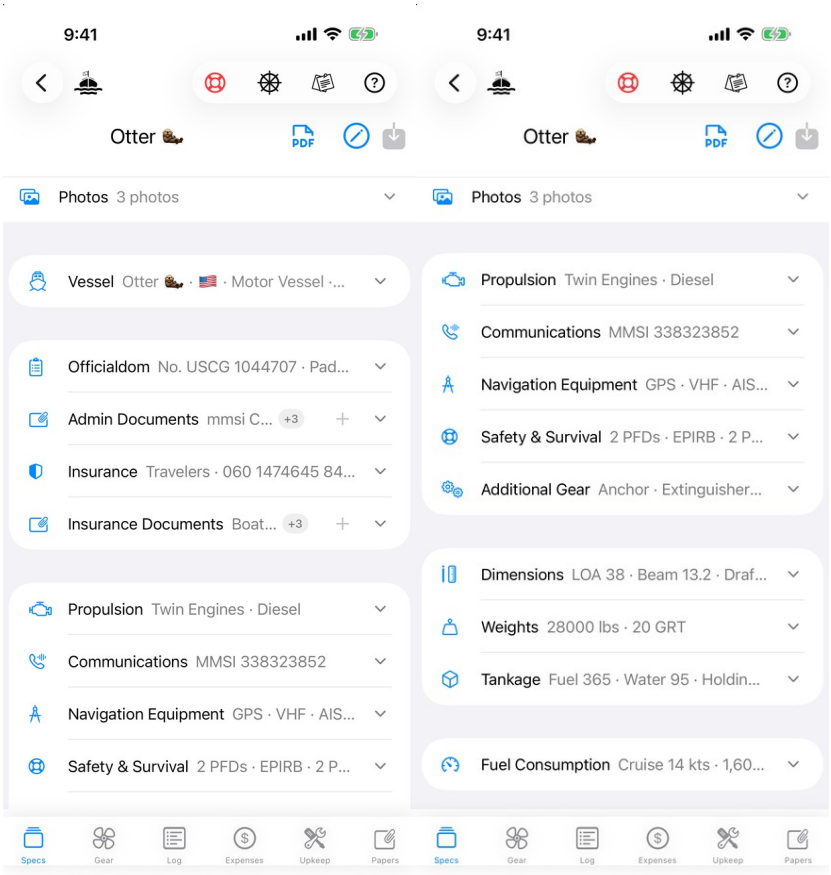
CHAPTER 4

Boats & Specs

Every boat is unique. Its record should be too.

You can add any number of boats — you need at least one, and one is always set as your Default Boat from Settings. That's not just for owners running more than one boat at a time: it's also where a dinghy or tender lives alongside its mothership, and where the history of boats you've owned or served on before can stay on record instead of disappearing when you move on to the next one.

The default boat is what shows on the Helm and is used for shortcuts throughout the app. From the main menu, tapping the default boat's photo takes you straight to its details.



The Specs tab — photo, identity, and administrative details.

Six Tabs, One Boat

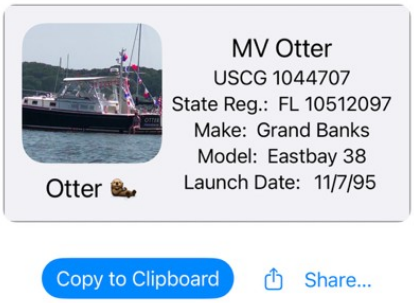
- Specs — the boat's technical data
- Log — the day, fuel, pumpout, and generator logs
- Gear — equipment, spare parts, and tools
- Expenses — cost ledger for all that it costs to stay afloat

- Upkeep — completed maintenance tasks and a dashboard of what's due
- Papers — every electronic document attached to the boat

What Lives on the Specs Tab

- Up to 3 photos — the first fills the width and the others sit as thumbnails in its corner. Add Photo is in the corner too, and a photo's ⋯ menu replaces or deletes it
- Basic details: motor or sail, single or twin engine, and similar essentials
- Administrative details — make, model, VIN, MMSI, official number — with any related documents listed alongside
- Insurance details, with insurance documents attached directly
- The date and price you bought the boat for and, when you sell her, the date and price of sale — her record stays on file
- Dimensions, weights, and tankage capacities
- Trolling, cruising and full-throttle speeds and fuel burn; the Helm's fuel estimate reads straight lines between them
- A PDF export you can share

> **TIP — Where tank sizes matter later**
> The tankage capacities you enter here drive the quick-add steppers in the logbook — they move in 20% increments of whatever capacity you set.



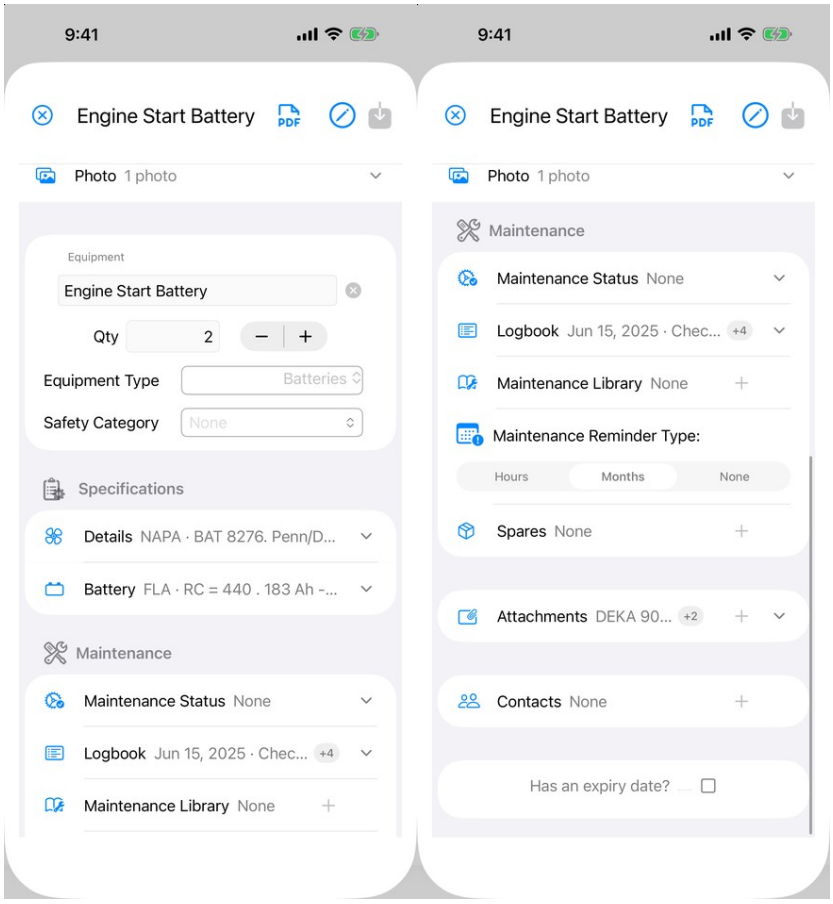
Boat Cards

CHAPTER 5

Gear & Spares

Most maintenance starts with a piece of equipment, not a form.

You rarely think "I need to update my maintenance records." You think "I need to pickle the watermaker" or "I need to change the oil." The Gear tab is built around that reality: equipment, spares, and tools live together, and maintenance is logged directly against the piece of gear it was performed on.



Equipment Details, Specifications, Log history, status and more.

- Select the tasks from the maintenance library that apply
- Configure if you want to see it on the maintenance dashboard
- Set an expiry date on anything that needs one (a fire extinguisher, a PLB), and Remind Me puts it in Apple Reminders a month, two weeks or a week before it lapses
- Tag gear with the safety requirement it satisfies — an extinguisher, flares, a PFD — and its record shows when it was last checked and how it did (Chapter 13)
- Each piece of equipment shows an icon for its job — a windlass, a strainer, a bilge pump, an oil change — taken from its maintenance items, its name or its type

The Equipment List

Equipment types are configurable under Settings → List Categories. A handful of categories — batteries, engines, generators, transmissions, propellers — get their own pre-built sub-forms for the details specific to that type.

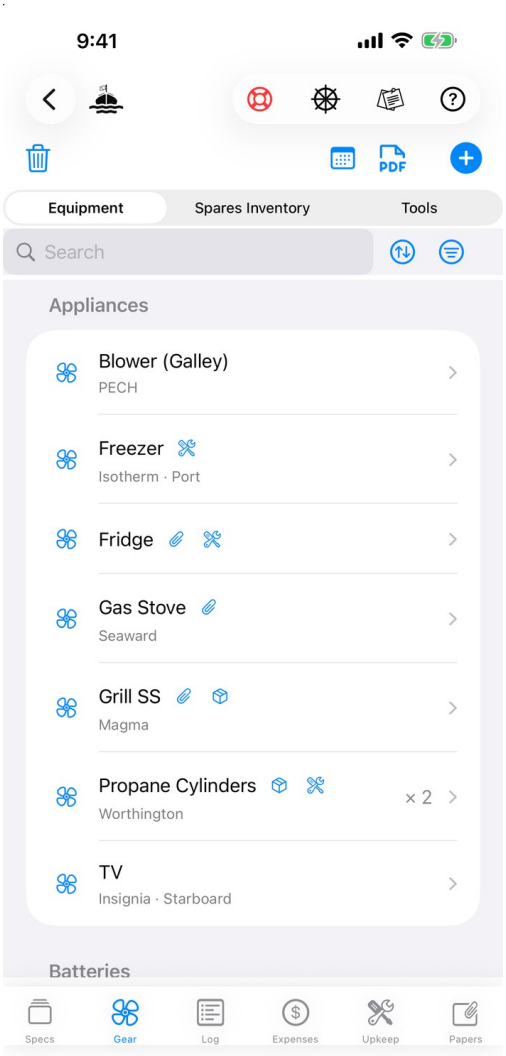
- See at a glance if you have an attachment, spares or maintenance logs for that part
- Attach documents — manuals, wiring diagrams, warranty cards — from the Documents tab
- Link related spare parts, either from the equipment or from the spare itself
- Copy a piece of equipment to another boat: long-press it, choose Copy Equipment, and pick the destination boat
- Generate a PDF of the equipment list for your insurer
- Generate a PDF report of one piece of equipment for whoever is servicing it — see A Report for the Technician

Copying Equipment to Another Boat

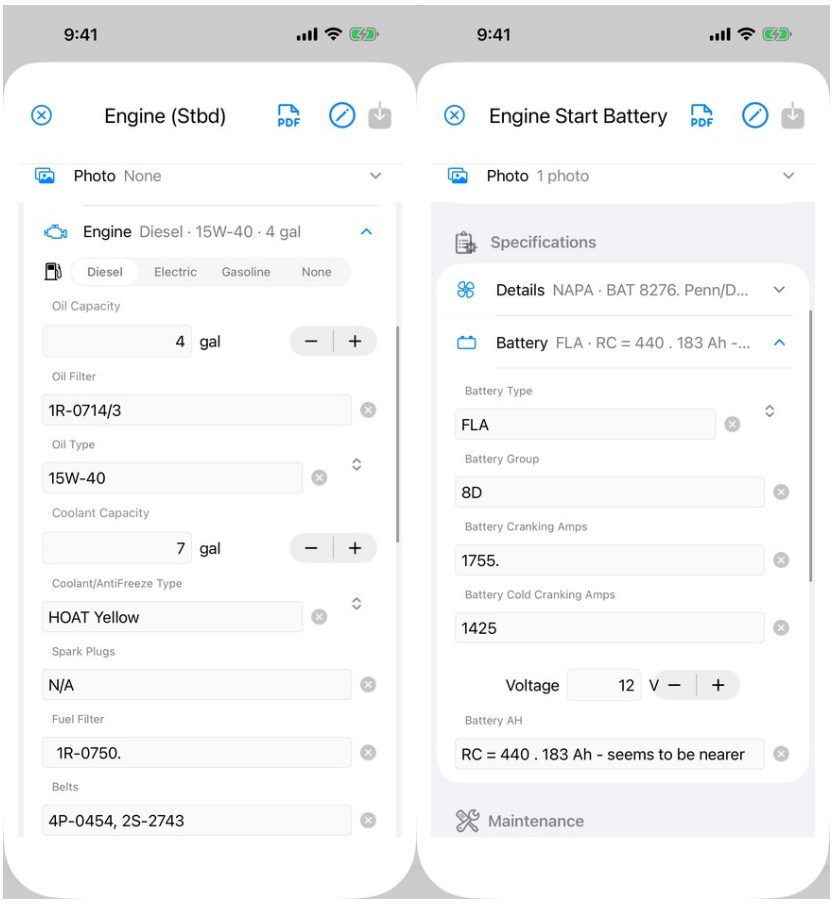
Sister ships, or a tender that carries the same gear, do not need the record typed twice.

1. Open the boat that already has the equipment, and go to the Gear tab.
2. Long-press the piece of equipment in the list.
3. Choose Copy Equipment from the context menu.
4. Pick the destination boat.

   Result *The specification copies across. Maintenance history stays with the boat it was performed on.*



Equipment grouped by category — Propulsion, Communications, Navigation, Safety & Survival, and more.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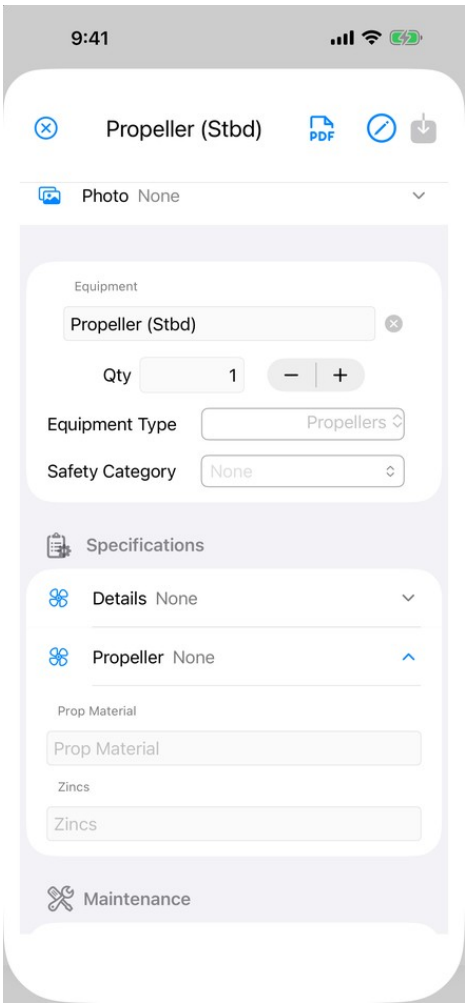
Maintenance



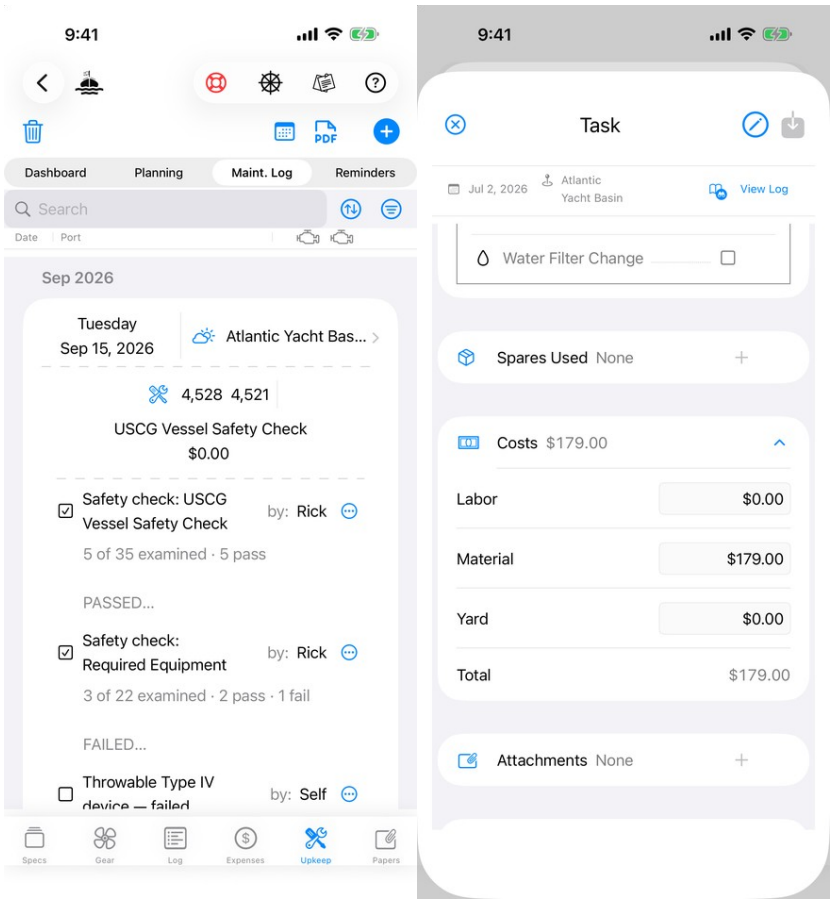
Equipment Type Specific data

The Equipment Maintenance Log

Any maintenance logged on the Day Log against a piece of equipment shows here automatically (see Chapter 6) — you don't maintain two separate records. Set a maintenance frequency and Maintenance Status will show the last service date against pre-defined checklist items for that equipment type, with the option to surface it on the Helm-adjacent Maintenance Dashboard.

Each task you save is linked to the piece of equipment it names on that boat, so renaming the equipment — Hull to Hull & Topsides, say — does not lose its history. Tasks written before version 1.5.1 are matched by name until you next edit them; if one names equipment the boat no longer has, Data Health lists it and offers the link. Two boats that each carry an Air pump keep separate histories.

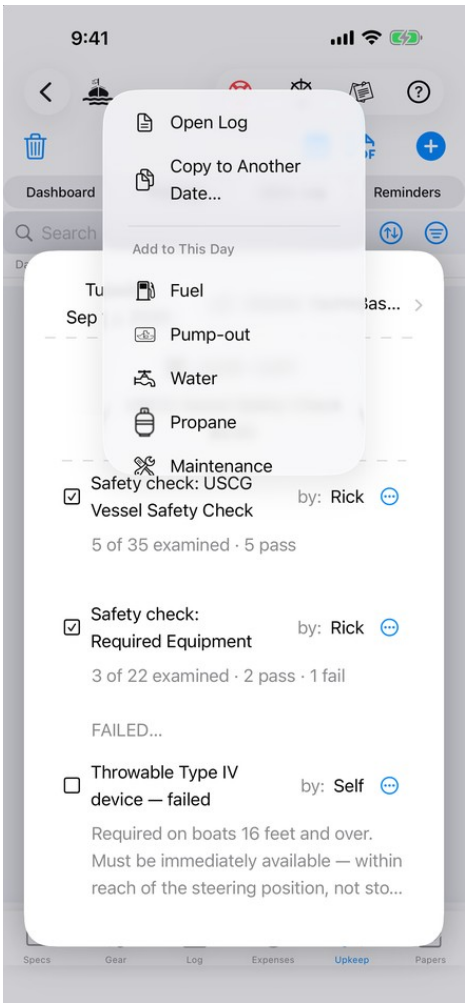
The small blue badges on an equipment row are shortcuts too: the paperclip opens its attachments, the box its spares, the wrench its maintenance and the link its website. On the Maintenance Log, the gear beside a task's equipment opens that equipment.



The Maintenance Log — the jobs done, the checks made and the costs incurred

TIP — Photograph the installation, not just the part

A photo of how something was actually wired or plumbed on your boat is often more useful two years later than the manufacturer's stock image.



The log's long-press menu — open it, copy it to another date, or add fuel, pump-out, water, propane or maintenance to the same day

A Report for the Technician

Open a piece of equipment and tap the PDF button at the top of its form for a report of everything on its record — the thing to send a mechanic before they come aboard, or to hand a surveyor or a buyer.

- The specifications, and the details for its type: oils, filters, zincs, belts and impellers for an engine or generator; voltage, capacity and cranking amps for a battery
- How it is maintained, and how each job stands — when it was last done and when it is next due
- Every task logged against it, newest first, with the date, the hours, who did it, the parts and the cost
- Its spares with their part numbers, its maintenance items, its contacts, and the names of its documents

Empty fields are left out, and a long service history simply runs on to further pages. Share it from the preview.

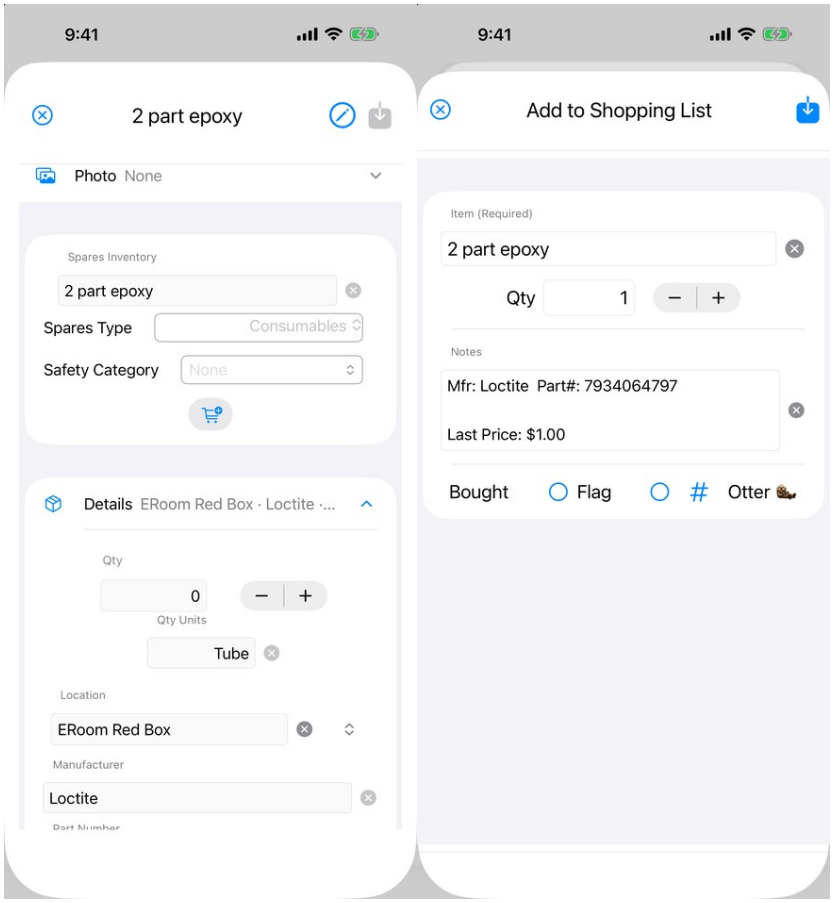
Spares & Shopping List

Know what's aboard before you're standing in a chandlery guessing.

The Spares menu stores name, manufacturer, manufacturer's part number, cost, and quantity for everything you keep on board. Location is configurable under Settings → List Categories, so your inventory can mirror how your own lockers are actually organized.

- The shopping-cart icon adds a spare straight to the Shopping list — found next to ToDo at top right
- Spares can be linked to equipment, given an expiry date, and have documents attached
- Paint, glue, epoxy and sealant go off once opened: check Goes off once opened, choose how long it lasts, and tap Opened Today. The use-by date counts as its expiry, in the list and its reminder; Opened a New One starts the next tin
- A spare lists every maintenance task that used it, how many, and when it was last used
- Filter the inventory by out-of-stock items, or by storage location

Notice Low Stock → **Tap Shopping Cart** → **Item Joins List** → **Buy Before You Need It**



Adding Spares to the Shopping List

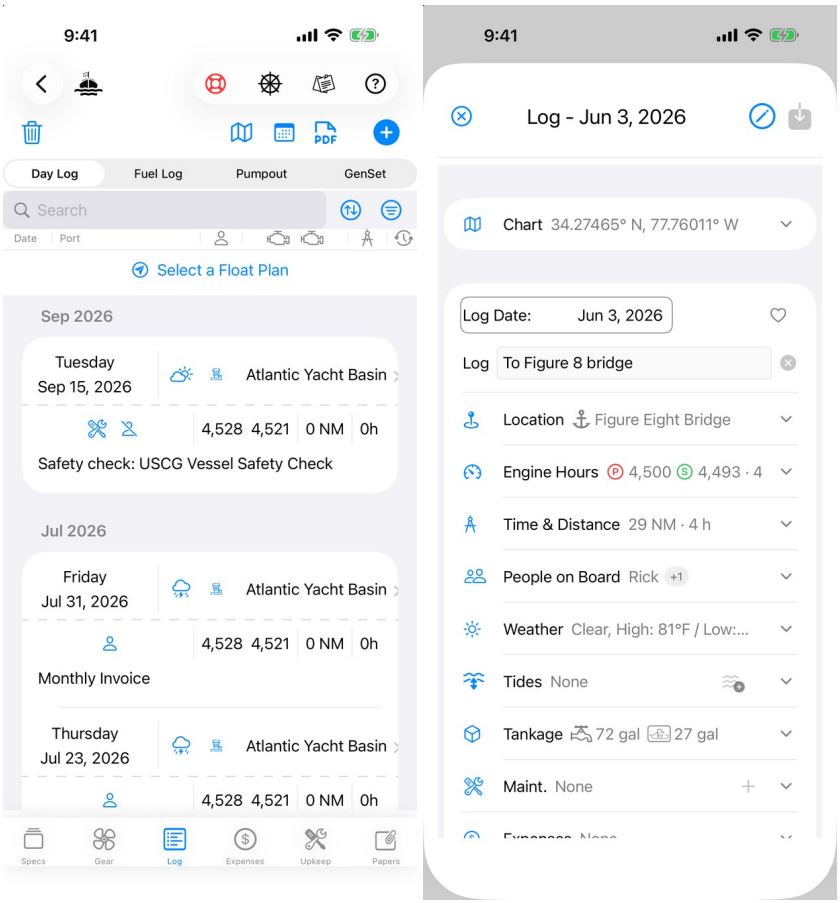
CHAPTER 6

The Logbook

One entry a day, and everything else — fuel, maintenance, expenses — follows from it.

There are six logs, but only one master record: the Day Log, usually completed at the end of each day. The Fuel, Pumpout, GenSet, Upkeep, and Expenses logs are all filtered views of that same underlying data — nothing is entered twice.

The blue icons on a log row are shortcuts. Tap the weather, the berth, the fuel pump, the wrench or a cost and the entry opens at that section, already expanded; a paperclip on an expense opens the receipt itself.



The Day Log — Fuel, Pumpout, and GenSet are filtered views of the same entries.

A New Log Starts With Yesterday's

Rather than a blank form, a new log entry copies forward the port, position, berth, USCG details, and engine hours from the previous entry. You adjust what changed and save.

Yesterday's Log	→	Details Copy Forward	→	You Adjust	→	Save

IMPORTANT — Why can’t I save?
A log needs a date, a narrative, a port, and latitude/longitude before it can be saved — the Save button stays disabled until all four are present.

Location, Engine Hours, and Distance

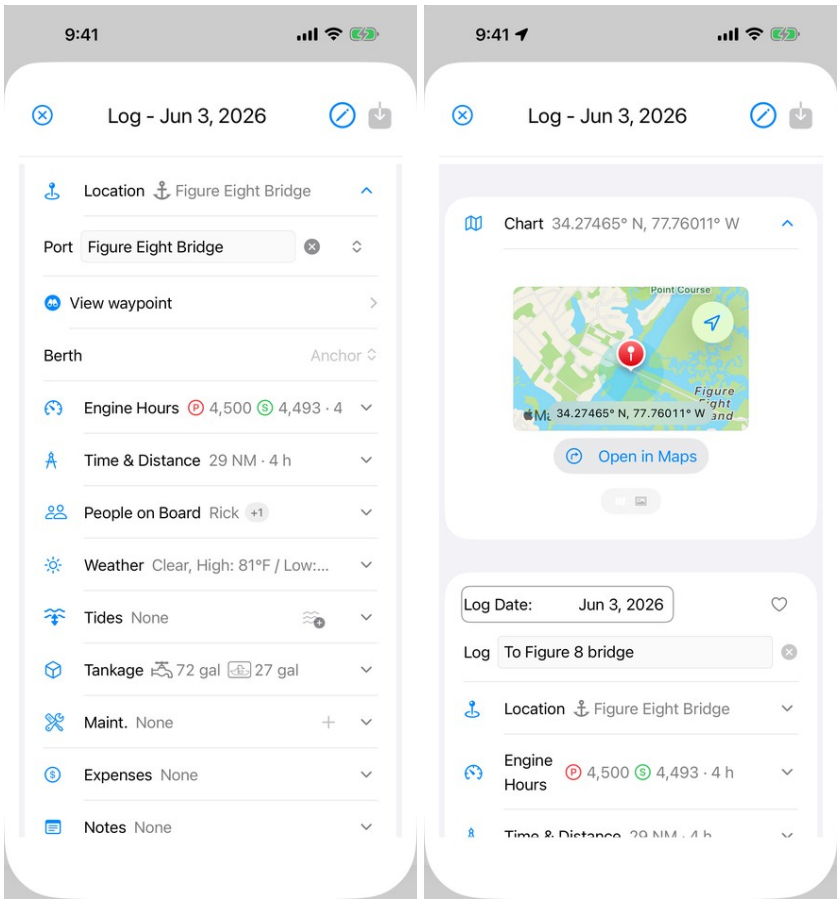
- Position can come from GPS, your waypoints list — the port picker puts the three nearest first — or Apple Maps: open Maps, drop a pin, long-press the coordinates, copy, then paste back into Boat Manager. Choose on Map, under the log's chart, picks a saved waypoint or any spot you long-press
- Engine hours default to the previous entry; entering hours run adds to the total and updates the boat record and Helm gauge automatically
- always a slight underestimate, so overwrite it with your chart plotter's actual figure
- Speed over ground and estimated fuel consumption both use whatever distance and time you’ve entered
- A night at a marina you didn't pay for — a Safe Harbor free night, a friend's dock — can be ticked Complimentary night under Location; Safe Harbor's figures count it
- A log keeps its day when you change time zone, so a log written in Europe isn't a day early back home. Turn on Show Time Zones in Settings to see each log's zone as ZD +4 beside the date, and the crossing marked in the log

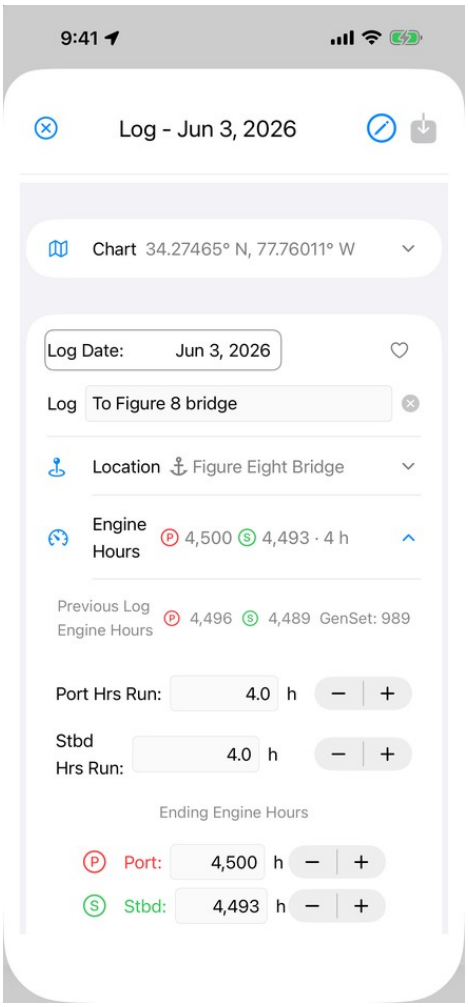
Taking a Position From Apple Maps

Useful when you are logging a spot you did not have the app open for.

1. Open Apple Maps and drop a pin on the position.
2. Long-press the coordinates shown for the pin, and copy them.
3. Return to Boat Manager and open the log entry or waypoint.
4. Paste the coordinates when prompted.

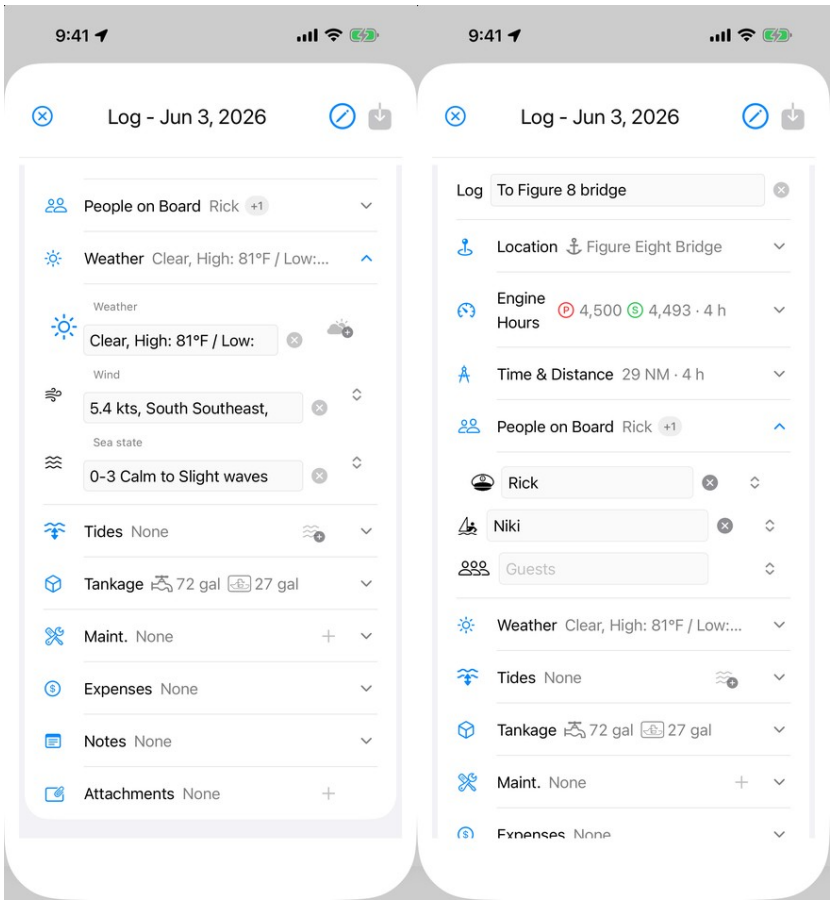
   Result *Latitude and longitude are filled in, and distance run recalculates against the previous entry.*


9:41
Log - Jun 3, 2026
Location Figure Eight Bridge
Port Figure Eight Bridge
View waypoint
Berth Anchor
Engine Hours 4,500 4,493 · 4
Time & Distance 29 NM · 4 h
People on Board Rick +1
Weather Clear, High: 81°F / Low:...
Tides None
Tankage 72 gal 27 gal
Maint. None
Expenses None
Notes None
9:41
Log - Jun 3, 2026
Chart 34.27465° N, 77.76011° W
Point Course
34.27465° N, 77.76011° W
Open in Maps
Log Date: Jun 3, 2026
Log To Figure 8 bridge
Location Figure Eight Bridge
Engine Hours 4,500 4,493 · 4 h

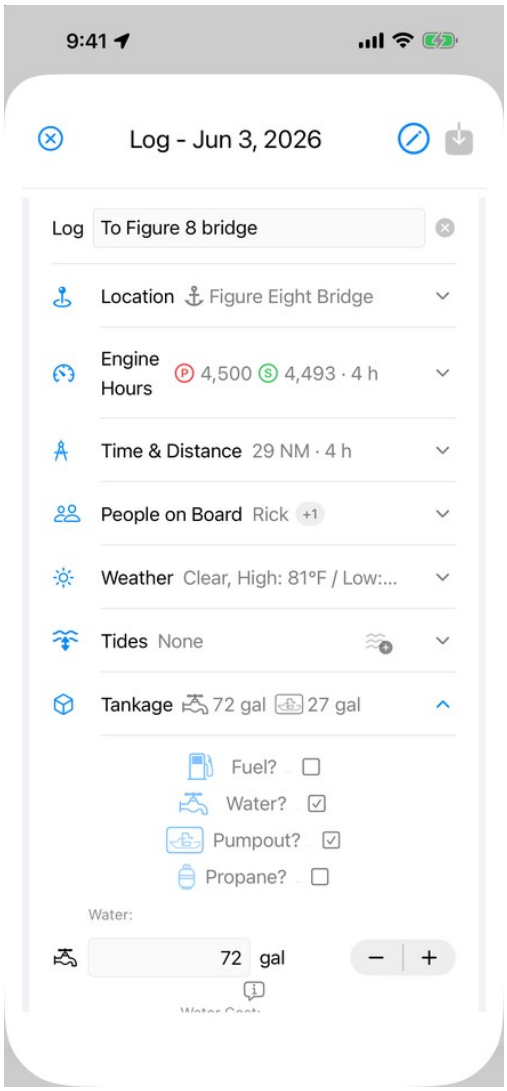


A single log entry — location, engine hours, distance, weather, all in one record.

Weather, Crew, and Tankage



- Tap the weather button to pull current conditions from Apple Weather — wind, sea state, and an estimated Beaufort force are calculated automatically, and every field can be overwritten
- People on board defaults from your Crew list, or type names separated by commas
- Tankage entries record fuel, water, and pump-out activity, with steppers sized to your boat's actual tank capacities from the Specs tab

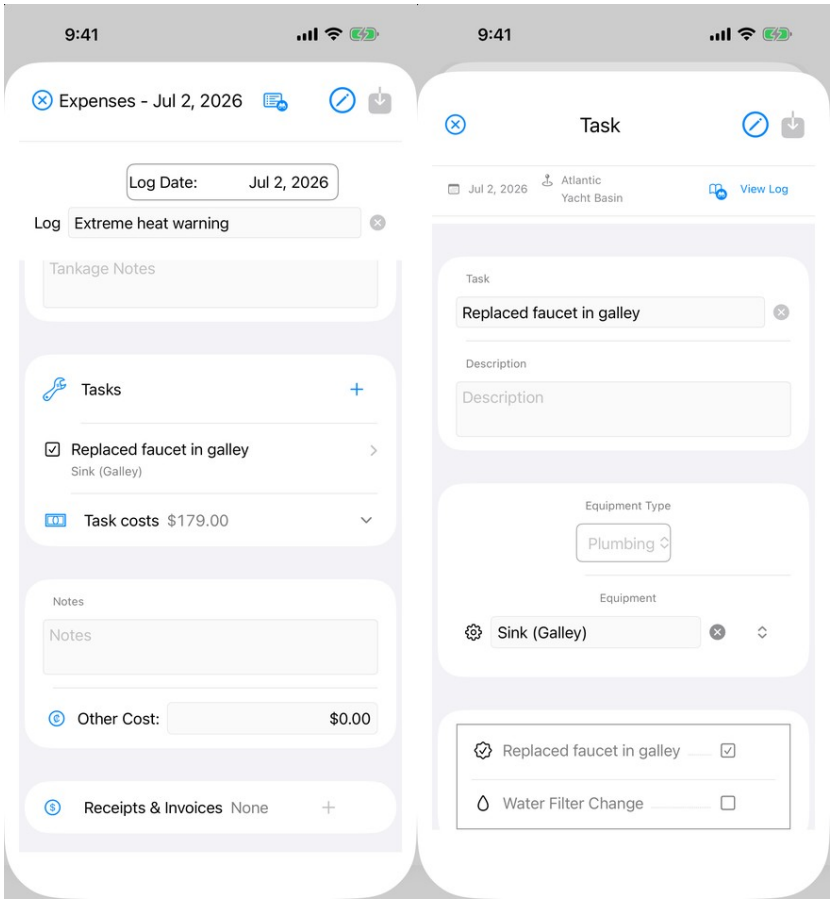


The tide button, below the weather, fills the day's tide from the NOAA station nearest the log's position, or one you choose for that log, so a log written later still gets the right place: height and state at the time of the entry, and the highs and lows of the day. The station picker has a list and a map.

Fill weather records the day's average wind and direction, with the day's peak gust when it is 5 knots or more above it: “14 kts gusting 27, NE”. So the log doesn't depend on the hour you write it.

Maintenance and Photos, From the Log

Anything typed into a log's Maintenance field shows on the Maintenance Log automatically, and is costed in Upkeep (Chapter 8). Full maintenance tasks — with labor, materials, and yard costs — can be added directly from a log entry, pulling from the Maintenance Library or from a Reminder. A log opens on a wide chart of its position, with its photo in the corner; on iPad the position sits beside the chart. Add Photo, in that corner, switches the log to editing and adds one; the photo's ⋯ menu replaces or deletes it. A task can name several pieces of equipment, both engines for an oil change: tick each in the Equipment list and tap Done. Upkeep's + goes straight to the job list, on today's log or another day's, and a day without a log gets one: record the work first. Move to Another Log…, on a task's menu, moves it and its expenses later.



Finding Checklist Runs

When you run a maintenance checklist or a safety check, the run is filed in the log under the day it was done — not the most recent log entry — with every item and its answer. To find them again, use the filter at the top of the Day Log: Checklist Run shows maintenance checklist runs, Safety Checks shows the safety runs. Each filtered entry opens the report, and the report links back to the checklist that produced it.

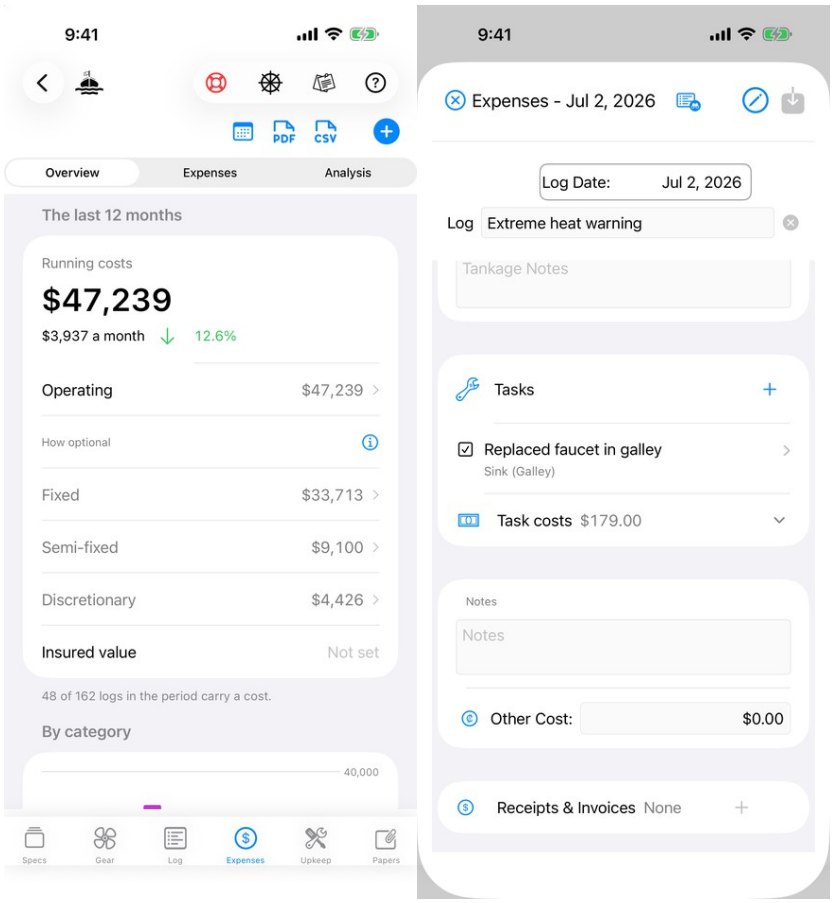
CHAPTER 7

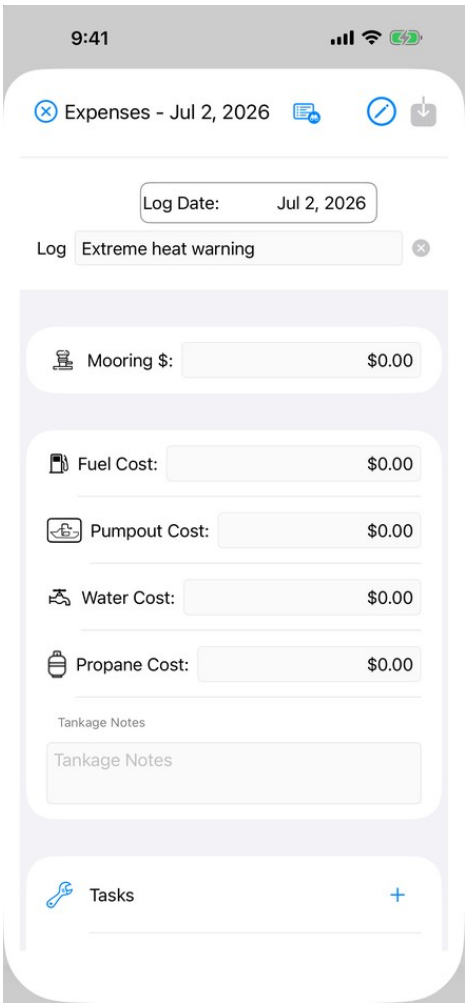
Expenses

Every cost is an expense, and what the boat costs falls out of them.

Expenses is its own tab, at the same level as Logs, Gear, and Upkeep. Every cost is an expense of its own: fuel, berths, pumpouts, labour, parts, yard bills, insurance, registration, subscriptions. Each has an amount, a date, a category, who was paid — a vendor, or the place itself for a berth or fuel — what it was for (a log, a maintenance task, a piece of equipment), a note and its receipts. Mark one reimbursable if someone else will pay you back. Costs entered on logs and tasks before 1.8 were moved over once, and a cost typed on a log or a task is still an expense, kept in step both ways. Money coming back, a refund, a returned deposit or an insurance payout, is an expense too: choose Money back at the top of the form and file it under the cost it repays, so that cost shows what the boat paid after it. It shows in green. On a log, a cost with an expense behind it has a › beside it that opens the expense, and Maintenance lists the day's task expenses.

The tab has three views. Overview is what the boat costs: the last 12 months and what is coming, split into fixed, semi-fixed and discretionary, with capital kept apart. Tap any figure for the expenses behind it, a year for its expenses by category, and ⓘ for what the terms mean. Expenses is the list, sorted by date, amount, place or class and filtered by category, class, vendor, place, date or what is still to review, with a paperclip on every expense that has a receipt. Analysis charts spending over time, fuel included. PDF and CSV export the lot for taxes, budgeting, or a bookkeeper. The categories are yours to add to, rename or delete, under Settings → List Categories; the built-in ones stay.


9:41
Overview
Expenses
Analysis
The last 12 months
Running costs
$47,239
$3,937 a month
12.6%
Operating
$47,239
How optional
Fixed
$33,713
Semi-fixed
$9,100
Discretionary
$4,426
Insured value
Not set
48 of 162 logs in the period carry a cost.
By category
40,000
Specs
Gear
Log
Expenses
Upkeep
Papers
9:41
Expenses - Jul 2, 2026
Log Date: Jul 2, 2026
Log Extreme heat warning
Tankage Notes
Tasks
Replaced faucet in galley
Sink (Galley)
Task costs $179.00
Notes
Notes
Other Cost: $0.00
Receipts & Invoices None



Left, the Overview: what the boat costs over the last 12 months. Then a log's cost fields: each one is an expense, kept in step with the Expenses list.

Recurring Costs

A monthly slip, insurance, a subscription: tap + in Expenses and choose Add Recurring Cost, then give it a name, the amount, how often — monthly, quarterly or yearly — and who is paid. When it comes round it is listed as due: Record makes the expense in one tap (open it afterwards if this time's amount differed), or Skip passes it by. Deleting a recurring cost keeps the expenses it has already recorded. An expense already paid can start one: Make Recurring, on the expense, sets the bill up from it.

Filing a Receipt or Invoice

The receipt and the figure it proves, in one place.

From Files, Photos or Mail, share the PDF or photo to Boat Manager and choose Expense. Four questions follow, each with a default you can simply accept:

- Which boat — skipped if you have only one
- Which day — today unless you change it; the form names the log it will go on, and starts one with yesterday's hours and position if the day has none

- What kind of cost — Mooring, Fuel, Pumpout, Water, Propane or Other
- How much — as typed on the receipt; it is needed

The receipt is filed as an Invoice on that day's log, and an expense is made for it with the receipt attached. A yard bill is different: choose Maintenance, pick the task and whether the money is Labour, Parts or Yard, and the expense and the invoice go on the task.

When the file is a PDF or a photo, Boat Manager reads the total, the date and the vendor from it and fills them in. The reading is done on the device; nothing is sent anywhere. It looks for a total or amount-due line, and takes the largest amount if it finds neither — so check each figure, and change it if needed, before you save.

From inside the app, open an expense and add a receipt under Receipts. The picker opens on Invoices and shows each document's details. A document, in turn, lists the expenses it backs up, and can start one.

CHAPTER 8

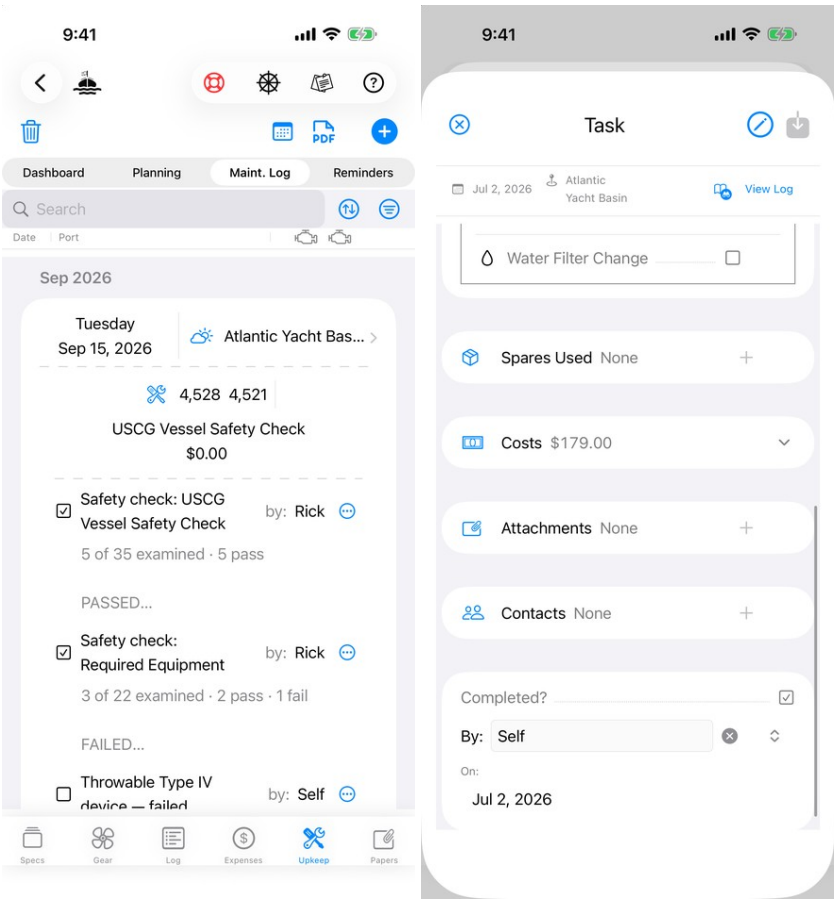
Upkeep

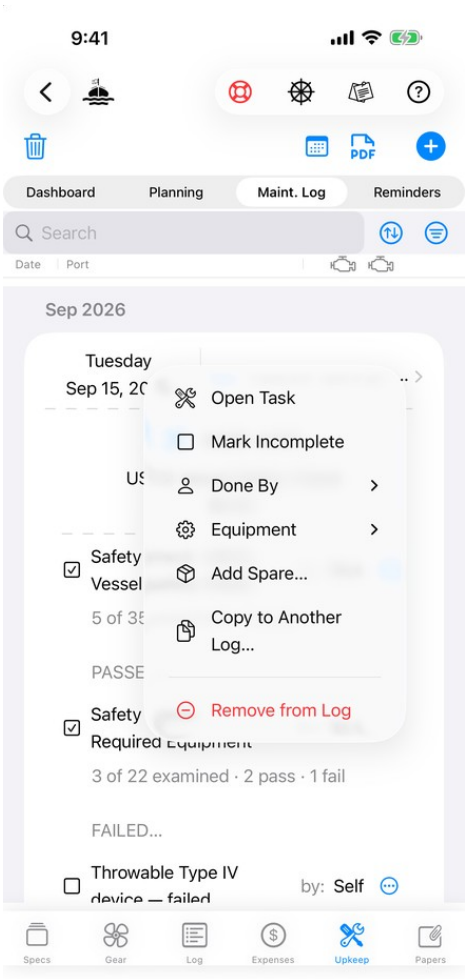
What gets logged once the work is actually done, and what it costs.

The Upkeep tab has four views. Dashboard shows the equipment you have chosen to watch. Planning looks ahead — what falls due month by month, the jobs you have planned, and the projects you have gathered work into. Maint. Log is the history: every job done and what it cost. Reminders lists what this boat has set in Apple Reminders.

What are Maintenance Task Records

- What the work was, who did it, and when
- The jobs it covered — the maintenance item's own jobs are listed to tick, with Show All Jobs for the extra one done while you were there
- Which piece of equipment it applies to, and any spares consumed — the Maintenance Log lists them under the task, and the box opens the spare. Remove one with ⊖, and say whether it goes back into stock
- Labor, material, and yard costs — each one an expense, totaled and shown on the Upkeep log
- Whether it was completed, and when
- For an anode, the % remaining at each inspection. The task shows the earlier readings with the wear a month and the months left, and flags wear faster than before: often stray current at a new berth


9:41
Dashboard
Planning
Maint. Log
Reminders
Search
Date
Port
Sep 2026
Tuesday
Sep 15, 2026
Atlantic Yacht Bas...
4,528 4,521
USCG Vessel Safety Check
$0.00
Safety check: USCG Vessel Safety Check
by: Rick
5 of 35 examined · 5 pass
PASSED...
Safety check: Required Equipment
by: Rick
3 of 22 examined · 2 pass · 1 fail
FAILED...
Throwable Type IV device — failed
by: Self
Specs
Gear
Log
Expenses
Upkeep
Papers
9:41
Task
Jul 2, 2026
Atlantic Yacht Basin
View Log
Water Filter Change
Spares Used None
Costs $179.00
Attachments None
Contacts None
Completed?
By: Self
On:
Jul 2, 2026



Each task's ⋯ menu — open it, mark it done, say who did it, set its equipment, add a spare, copy it to another log or delete it

The Maintenance Dashboard

Choose which equipment matters most (Boat → Equipment → Maintenance → Maintenance Status → Show on Dashboard) and the Maintenance Dashboard will show days or service hours since the last recorded work on each one — the fastest way to see what needs attention without opening a single log.

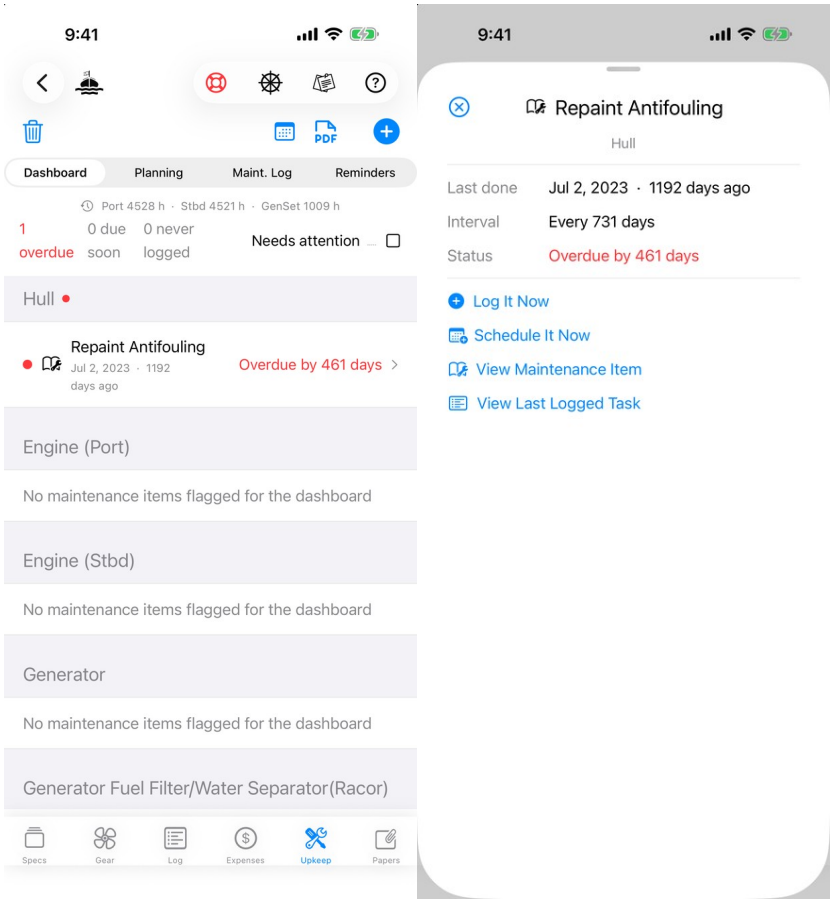
A job that has never been logged has no date or hours to count from, so it reads Not started yet, in grey. It is left out of the overdue and due-soon counts and out of Planning's Due now, and the Outlook lists it in a Not started yet group of its own. Log it once and its interval starts from that entry.

Putting an Item on the Maintenance Dashboard

The dashboard only shows what you tell it to, which is what keeps it worth looking at.

1. Open the boat and go to the Gear tab.
2. Select the piece of equipment, then open Maintenance.
3. Open Maintenance Status.
4. Check Show on Dashboard.

   Result *The item appears on the Maintenance Dashboard as overdue, due soon, or never logged.*



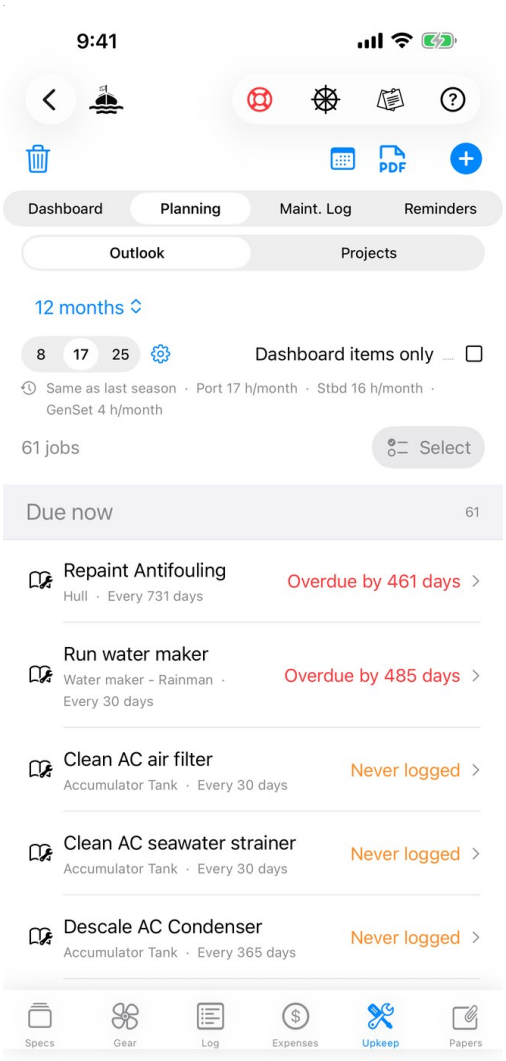
The Maintenance Dashboard — overdue, due soon, and never-logged items at a glance.

An overdue job you have decided to leave can be set aside: tap it on the dashboard and choose Set Aside Until Next Logged. It stops counting against the boat until the work is next logged. The set aside count at the top of the dashboard shows those jobs again, and Bring Back undoes it.

Planning: The Outlook

Planning's first half is the Outlook: every maintenance task on the boat, laid out by when it next falls due, for the next six, twelve or twenty-four months. Tasks with a date interval are placed by the calendar. Tasks with a service-hours interval are placed by how fast the hours accrue — choose 9, 18 or 26 hours a month as a planning figure, or leave it to the boat: one with enough logged engine hours uses its own history instead, per counter, and says so at the top.

- Due now collects everything overdue; the months that follow show what each will bring, and jobs never logged wait under Not started yet
- Dashboard items only narrows the list to the equipment you watch on the Maintenance Dashboard
- Tap Select, tick the jobs you intend to do, and schedule them in one pass — as planned jobs on a date or in a project, each with its reminder in Apple Reminders if you like
- Each job carries the budget set on its maintenance item, so a month's total is a first estimate of what the season will cost



Planning — the Outlook. What falls due, month by month, from the intervals and the hours you have logged.

Planned Jobs

A planned job is a job to do on a day: the work, the equipment, a budget, notes, and a project if it belongs to one. It is not a log entry — the log is for what happened — so it carries none of a day's position, weather or engine hours until it is done. Make one from the Outlook, with Schedule It Now on a job on the dashboard, with Plan a Job (the + under Planning), or with Plan Job on a library job or a checklist.

A job due on engine hours is planned at a reading — say 4,600 hours — and its date is estimated from how fast your hours accrue. If the hours get there first, the dashboard says so, and the job counts as due. The job shows how many hours are left.

- Log It Today puts the job on today's log as a task, starting the log with yesterday's hours and position if there isn't one, and opens it for the labour, parts and invoice. The job is done, and its next due date moves
- A checklist's job has Run Checklist instead: finishing the run marks the job done

- Reschedule moves the date, and for an hours job the reading; Skip It passes the job by without doing it
- A job whose day passes without being logged shows on the dashboard as Overdue (planned 3 Oct), rather than slipping out of sight; on the Upkeep calendar a planned job is marked ⏱
- If the job has a reminder in Apple Reminders, marked with the orange mark, it moves when you reschedule and is ticked off when you log, run or skip. If it was deleted in Reminders, Make It Again puts it back; a job without one has Add to Apple Reminders. Settings says whether a new job starts with one

Scheduled maintenance from before 1.8 was a placeholder log on a future date. Those still show until their dates pass, and Data Health offers to turn each one into planned jobs. It does the same for maintenance and checklist reminders, keeping the reminder.

Projects

A Project gathers a set of jobs into one piece of work: a haul-out, a refit, a winter list, a yard visit. Give it a name, dates and a budget; select jobs in the Outlook and schedule them into it, or start an empty project and add jobs as you plan them. The project tracks what has been done and what it has cost against the budget, and the jobs it holds still appear in the Outlook and on the dashboard like any others.

A haul-out has a ready-made start:

1. Tap New Project, and under Start from choose Haul-out.
2. Set the start date. The name, the notes and a week from the start date are filled in for you.
3. Check the jobs: haul out and pressure-wash, bottom paint, replace hull and shaft anodes, inspect and clean propellers, check shafts and cutless bearings, check rudder and rudder bearings, inspect through-hulls and seacocks, and clean and check transducers. Thruster and stabilizer jobs are ticked only if that equipment is aboard.
4. Tap Save.

   Result *Each job becomes a planned job on the start date, in the project. Library jobs among them are linked to the equipment that tracks them, so logging one moves its due date.*

To delete a project, long-press its row and choose Delete Project, or use the trash button. Work already done stays on its logs; its planned jobs not yet done go with it.

> **TIP — Plan the yard visit before you ring the yard**
> Schedule the season's jobs into a project, note the budget, and you arrive at the yard with a list and a figure rather than a memory. Log each job as it is done and the project closes itself out.

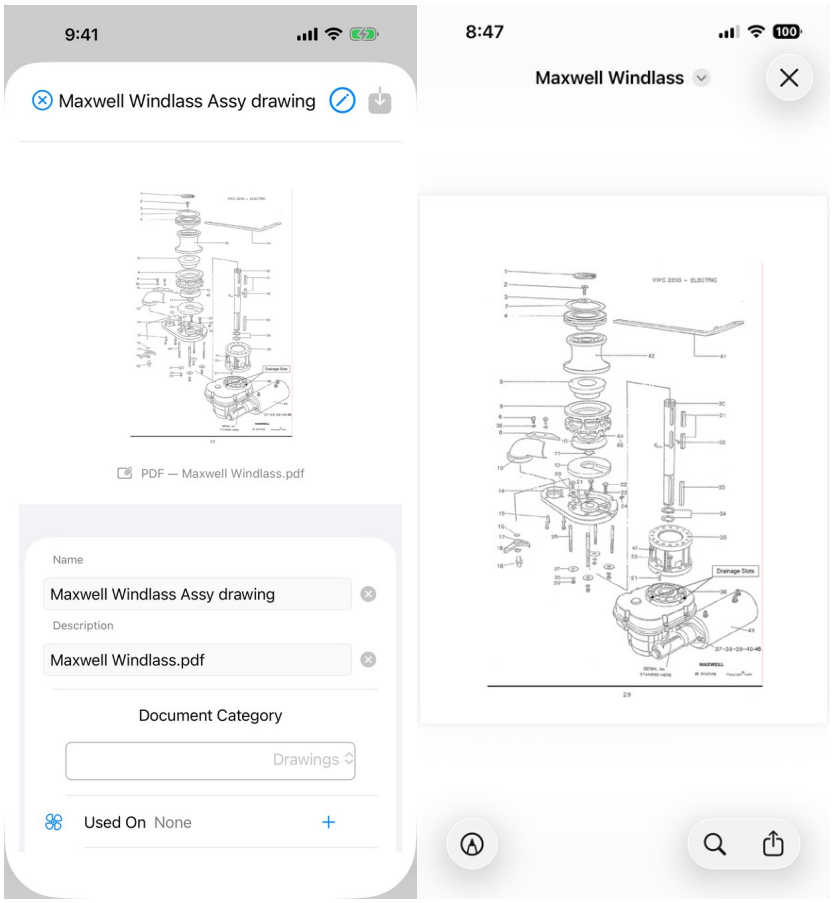
CHAPTER 9

Documents

One place for every manual, receipt, and certificate — findable from a marina office, not just your desk at home.

Any document — file, photo, or video — can attach to a boat, a log entry, a piece of equipment, a spare part, a crew member, or a waypoint. Uploads sync to the cloud and can be viewed, printed, or shared from wherever you are.

- Documents can carry an expiry date — built for things like insurance policies. Remind Me under the date puts it in Apple Reminders, alerting ahead; Renewed moves it on to the next expiry, and a document with a reminder shows the orange mark in Papers
- The Ships Papers tab on each boat collects everything attached to that boat in one list
- Share a file or photo into Boat Manager from any other app and choose what it attaches to — a boat, a new ToDo, an expense, equipment, a task, a waypoint or crew
- An expired document can be set aside in Papers so it stops counting against the boat; Show Set Aside lists it again
- Show on all boats lists a document, the insurance, a cruising guide, the rules of the road, on every boat's Papers: one copy rather than one per boat
- Link a document to the records it belongs with — equipment, spares, logs, tasks, checklists, contacts, crew, tools and waypoints. Each picker suggests what fits and says why (a record named in the document, or a log from the week it was added), lists the ones you linked last, and the ⓘ opens a record to read before you link it



A document attached to a piece of equipment — found right where you need it.

TIP — Pair documents with equipment

Attaching a manual or wiring diagram to the piece of equipment it belongs to — rather than a generic Documents pile — means it surfaces right where you'll look for it during a repair.

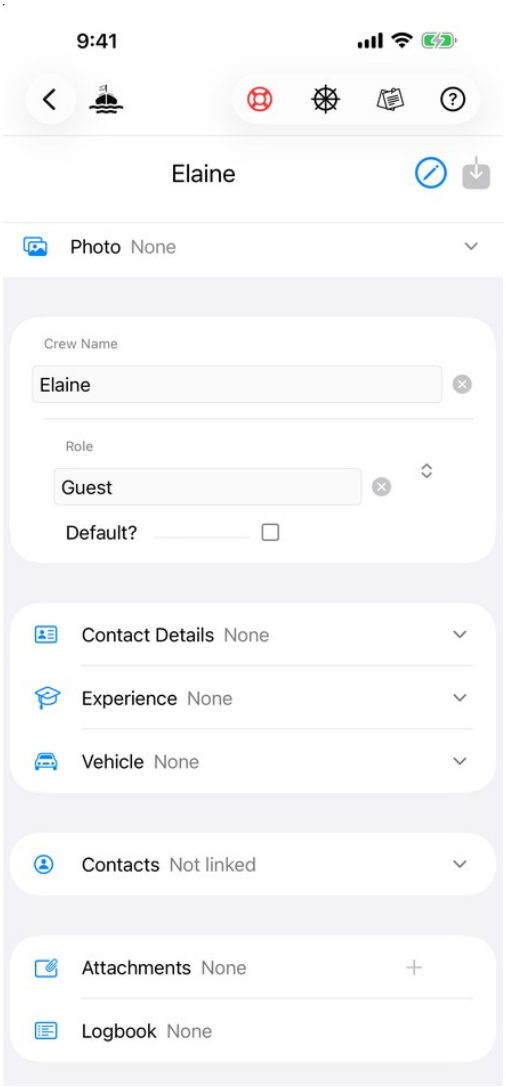
CHAPTER 10

Crew

Know who was aboard, and reach them without leaving the app.

The Crew section stores name, address, phone, email, and experience notes for the people who sail with you — on any of your boats.

- Marking someone as a default crew member auto-fills their name into every new log entry
- Add crew directly from your phone's Contacts, or sync an existing entry so it's always reachable from your phone
- Every log entry a crew member was aboard for is tracked against their record
- Give someone a Display Name — a first name or nickname — and that is the name logs and lists show. Rename a crew member and every log, task and passenger list follows



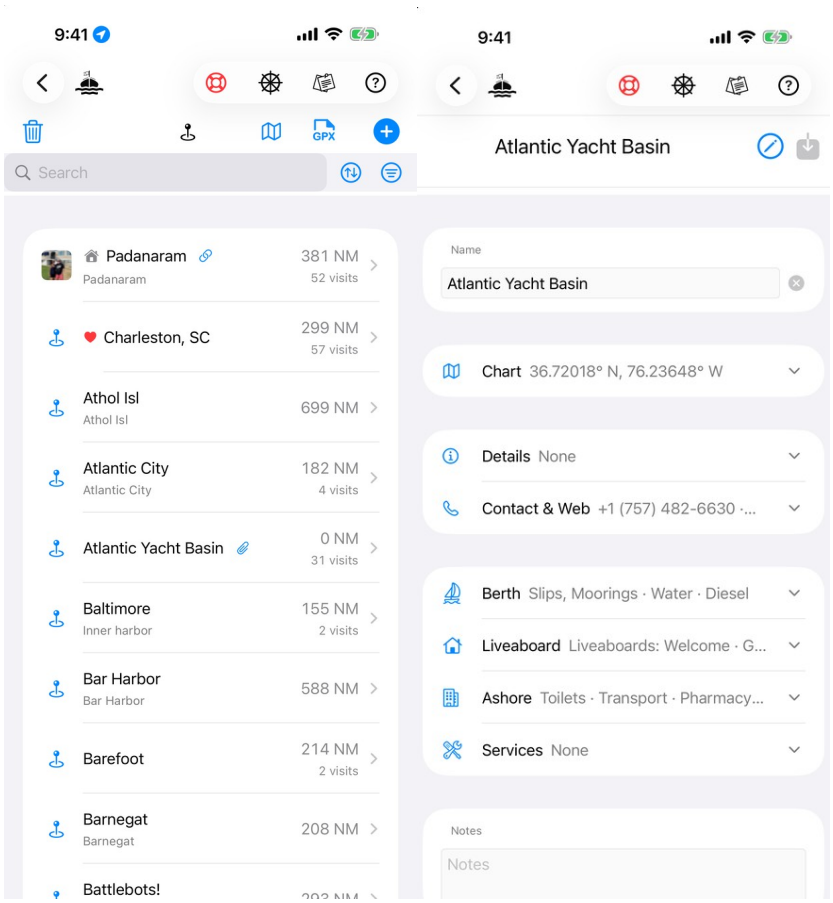
CHAPTER 11

Waypoints & Float Plans

A float plan is the one piece of paperwork you hope you never need — which is exactly why it should take thirty seconds to file.

Waypoints

- Import from a chart plotter using the industry-standard GPX format, or from a CSV file
- Populate coordinates from Apple Maps: open Maps, drop a pin, long-press the coordinates and copy, then paste back into Boat Manager when prompted
- Favorite a waypoint to pin it to the top of the list — your homeport (set in Settings) appears there too
- Record your own view of a place under Berth, Liveaboard, Ashore and Services — berths, shore power, fuel, liveaboard welcome, what is within reach ashore. Fill from Maps adds the address, phone, website and nearby places; the rest is yours to judge
- Filter the list by what a place has — shore power, diesel, a dinghy dock, a pharmacy — and each row shows how many times you have visited; a blue link or paperclip opens its website or its attachments
- Each type of waypoint has its own icon — marina, anchorage, mooring, lock, bridge — and badges such as groceries, pharmacy and medical show what is nearby. Sort by Most visited first to put your regular stops at the top
- Rename a waypoint, perhaps after Fill from Maps suggests a better name, and every log entry, to-do and your homeport follow it
- Spend Here totals what you have paid at a place — berths, fuel, anything whose expense names it — and the cost per night over the nights you stayed, counting a berth paid by the week or month as that many nights. Each figure opens its expenses, and a warning says when a night has no charge or a charge no night



Waypoints with distance and visit counts, and one waypoint's facilities grouped under Berth, Liveaboard, Ashore and Services.

Voyages

Voyages, the second tab under Waypoints, plans where the boat goes over the coming weeks and months: the stops, the days between them, and what the trip will cost and burn.

- New Voyage starts one, and Add Stop adds a port from your saved waypoints or anywhere on the map. Hold a Day and Leave a Day Early move the dates
- Each stop can carry its dockage and contact, a note, a fuel stop and whether it's booked, and shows the weather the day you arrive and the day you leave. Totals, cost by month and the longest day come from your boat's figures and what you've paid at a place before
- Duplicate as Alternative copies a voyage to try another route; Compare sets them side by side
- Send to Calendar adds the stops to a calendar, and Show My Calendar Beside the Voyage shows what else is on. Share as Text, View as PDF and Export Spreadsheet (CSV) send it on; Paste Rows from a Spreadsheet brings in a plan you already have
- Share Voyage invites people to plan it with you, with messages stop by stop. They need Boat Manager or the free VoyagePlan app, which holds the same voyages; accepting in Boat Manager opens Voyages on it

Voyages are for planning only, not for navigation.

Float Plans

The USCG recommends filing a float plan before every departure. It records your destination, expected arrival, and critical details about the captain, crew, and vessel — exactly what rescue authorities need if you don't arrive on schedule.

- A plan belongs to a boat. Its Boat and Skipper rows, from your Boats and Crew, fill the PDF's vessel and operator details; a new plan starts on the default boat, leaving from your home port with its position
- Save a plan for future use; it's independent of any one trip, and goes out and comes back with CSV Export and Import
- Generate a PDF and share it by email or messenger before you leave
- Send an "Arrived" message the moment you're safely in — it also drafts a log entry for you to complete

Filing a Float Plan

Thirty seconds before you leave, and one tap when you are back.

1. Open Float Plans from the main menu and create a plan.
2. Check the boat and skipper, then fill out the essentials or a full USCG-style plan.
3. Generate the PDF and share it by email or messenger with whoever is keeping an eye out for you.
4. When you are safely in, open the plan and tap Arrived.

   Result *Your contact gets the arrival message, and a draft log entry is waiting for you to complete.*

File the Plan → **Depart** → **Arrive Safely** → **Tap "Arrived"** → **Log Entry Waiting**

CHAPTER 12

Maintenance

The hard part was never doing the work. It was remembering it was due.

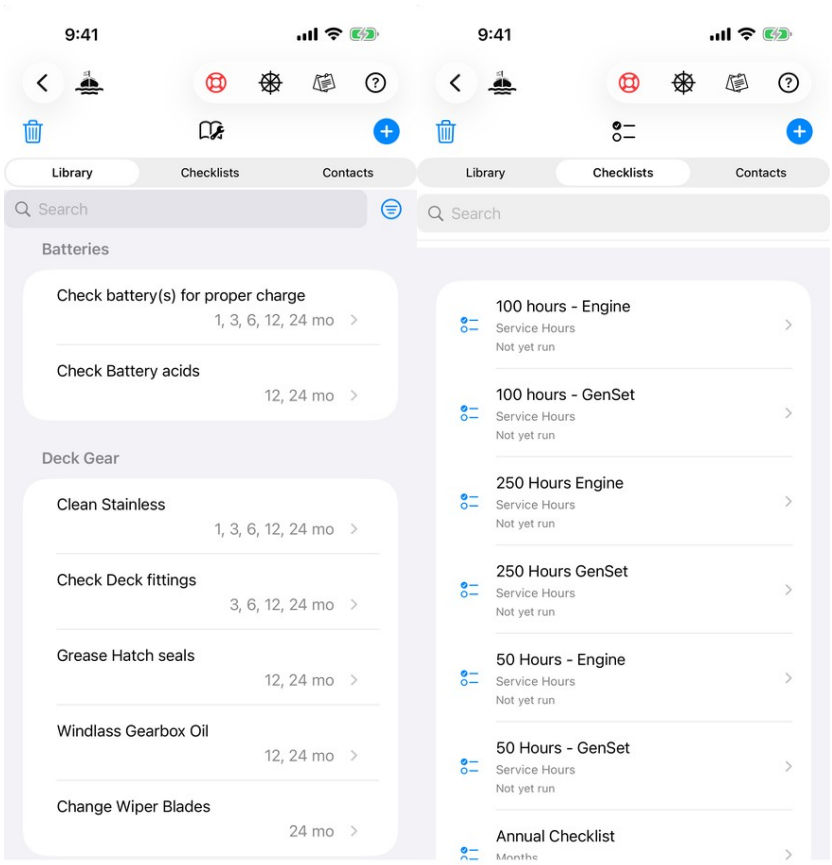
The Maintenance Library comes pre-populated with typical tasks sorted by equipment type, each with a recommended interval — daily, every 1, 3, 6, 12 or 24 months, or every 50, 100, 250, 500 or 1,000 service hours. The columns pair hours with months: 50 / 100 / 250 / 500 / 1,000 hours over 1 / 3 / 6 / 12 / 24 months. The filter on the Library finds tasks by how often they recur.

Each item lists the jobs it tracks, each with its icon: change the oil, replace the impeller, check the belts. Add Job finds the rest — the common ones, those for the item's equipment type, or any job at all — so a watermaker can have an impeller check. An item with no job listed is its own job, ticked off by name, and can be due by engine hours.

Release 1.7 added 36 jobs to the library, among them the smoke alarm, the EPIRB self-test and registration, the impeller, coolant, the shore-power inlet, the ELCI, the LPG leak test, air conditioning, the watermaker, rigging, thrusters, and the tender outboard on Yamaha's schedule. A job can be due on hours or on months, whichever comes first. Its detail shows where the interval comes from: the maker's schedule, Yamaha's, or Practice — confirm for your boat.

IMPORTANT — Before you rely on the Library

The Library's recommendations are a starting point, not a guarantee — edit each task and its interval to suit your own boat and situation before relying on it.


9:41
Library
Checklists
Contacts
Search
Batteries
Check battery(s) for proper charge
1, 3, 6, 12, 24 mo
Check Battery acids
12, 24 mo
Deck Gear
Clean Stainless
1, 3, 6, 12, 24 mo
Check Deck fittings
3, 6, 12, 24 mo
Grease Hatch seals
12, 24 mo
Windlass Gearbox Oil
12, 24 mo
Change Wiper Blades
24 mo
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Library
Checklists
Contacts
Search
100 hours - Engine
Service Hours
Not yet run
100 hours - GenSet
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250 Hours Engine
Service Hours
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Service Hours
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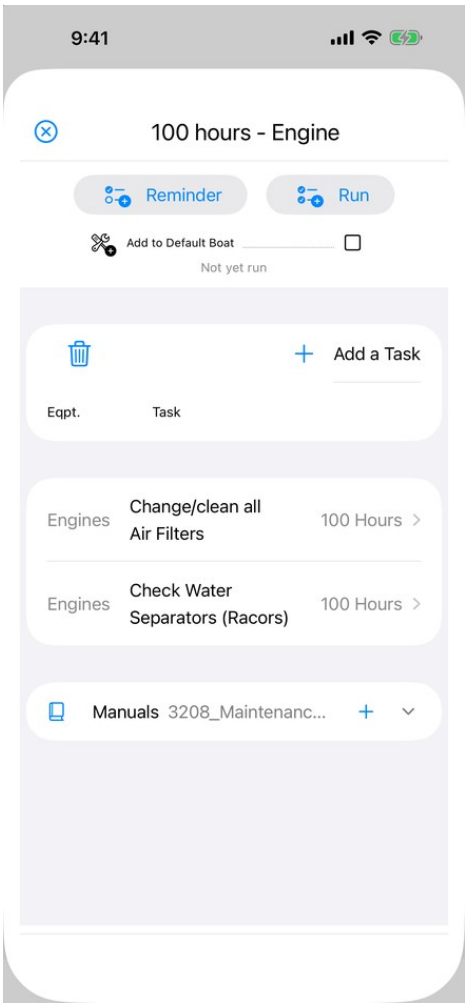
Annual Checklist



The Maintenance Library, grouped by equipment type with recommended service intervals.

From Library to Planned Job to Logged Work

Pick a Task → **Set the Interval** → **Get a Reminder** → **Log the Work** → **Cost posts to expenses**

- Selecting a Maintenance Item and tapping Plan Job plans it for a boat, with its reminder — check "Add to Default Boat" to skip the boat-selection step every time
- The Logbook button on the same item adds it directly to a boat's last log entry
- Checklists group several tasks; a checklist's Plan Job plans a run, done when you run the checklist, and adding its tasks to the Log makes each item its own logged task
- Vendors — the yards, mechanics, marinas and suppliers you deal with, listed by business with their people beneath — sync with your phone's contacts the same way as Crew. Share a contact card from Contacts to bring someone in as a vendor or as crew. A vendor's page totals what you've paid them, by year, and each total opens its expenses; the list shows how many expenses each business has, and sorts by name, nearest, most expenses or most spent

Planning a Job From the Maintenance Library

The library already knows the usual intervals. You are choosing which ones apply to your boat.

1. Open the Maintenance Library from the main menu.
2. Find the task under its equipment type and select it.
3. Tap Plan Job.
4. Check Add to Default Boat to skip the boat-selection step, or pick the boat yourself.
5. Choose the date, or for an hours job the reading, and leave Add to Reminders on to have it in Apple Reminders.

   Result *The planned job appears in the boat's Upkeep tab, on its calendar and Reminders list, and its reminder in the "Boat Manager 2" list in Apple Reminders.*

Starter Checklists

Eleven checklists come with the app: Lay-up (Winterization), Recommission (Spring), Engine oil change, Generator oil change, Pre-departure, Engine-room rounds (underway), Leaving the boat, Leaving the boat (long absence), Named storm, Fueling, and Winter aboard.

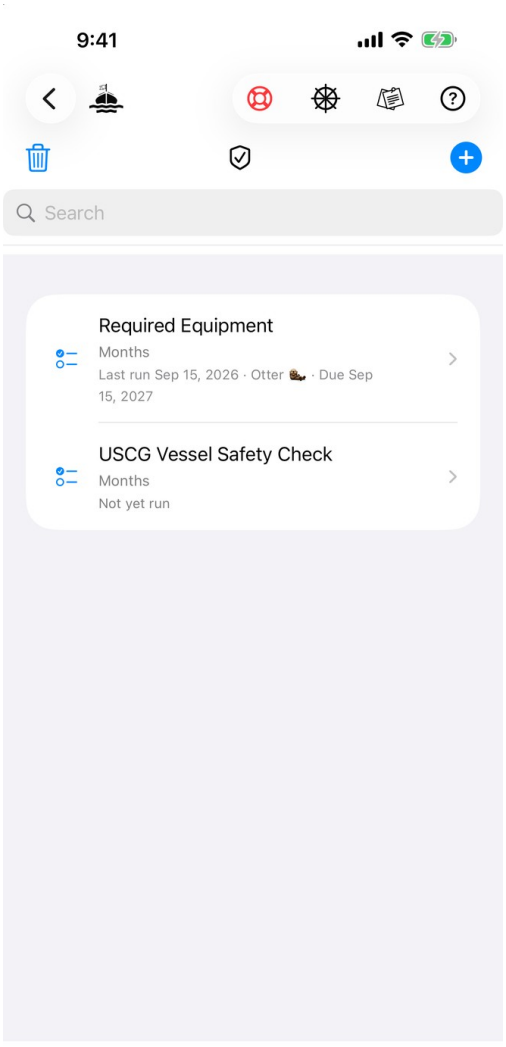
- Each one is run step by step. Mark every step Done, Not done or N/A; its how-to is under it.
- A step that is also a library job logs that job when you mark it Done.
- If you had checklists before, the Checklists list offers to add the starter ones you don’t have. Tap ✕ to hide the offer.
- Filter the list to checklists due within a month or overdue, not yet run, run step by step, or lists of library jobs. Sort it by name, next due or last run.

CHAPTER 13

Safety Checks

The check the Coast Guard would do, done by you first — and filed where you can find it.

Safety Checks is its own section, beside Maintenance in the main menu. It holds checklists that ask a question of each item rather than record a job: is it aboard, is it in date, does it work. Two come ready to run. The USCG Vessel Safety Check is the same list a Coast Guard Auxiliary or Power Squadron examiner works through, each item explained in the form's own words. The federal Required Equipment list is the minimum the law asks of a boat your size. Add your own checklists alongside them — a pre-departure check, a laying-up list — from the same screen.



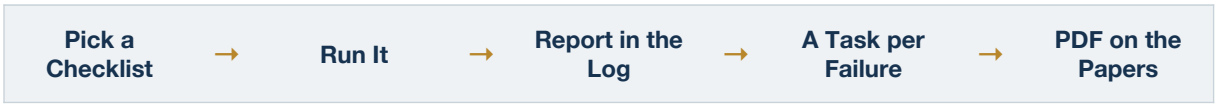
Safety Checks — the two built-in lists, with when each was last run and when it is next due.

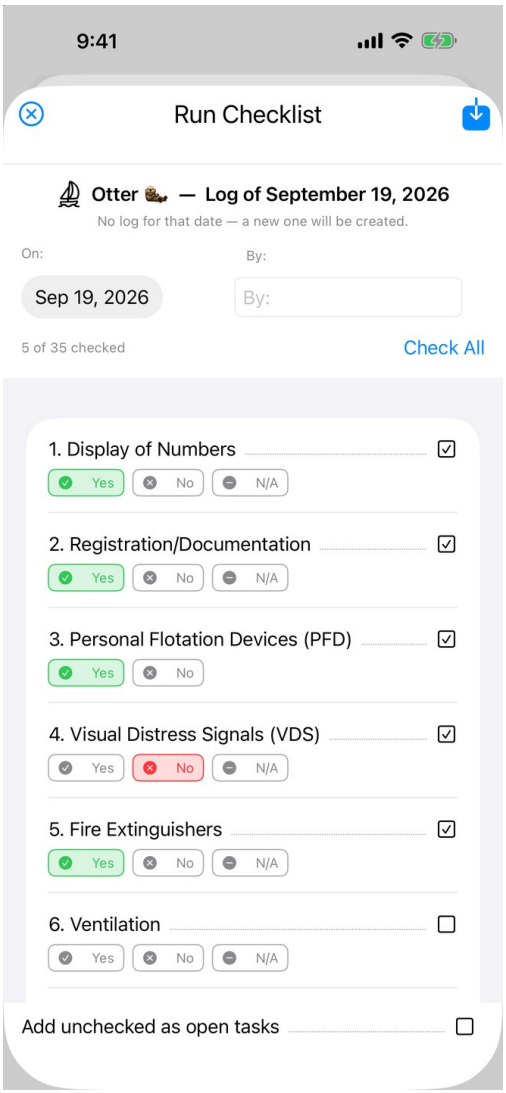
Running a Safety Check

Twenty minutes with the boat, and a record that answers for itself.

1. Open Safety Checks from the main menu and select a checklist.
2. Tap Run, and choose the boat — or check Add to Default Boat to skip that step every time.
3. Work through the list, answering Yes, No or N/A for each item. Check All marks everything examined in one go.
4. Tick Add unchecked as open tasks if you want anything you did not get to raised as a task rather than forgotten.
5. Save.

   Result *A report is filed in the boat's log under the date of the check, an open task is raised for every item that failed, and a PDF of the whole check is placed on the boat's papers.*





A run in progress — Yes, No or N/A for each item, and the failures become tasks.

What the Check Fills In

Half the answers, before you walk the deck.

Open a check and it answers what the boat's records can before you start, with the reasons shown under each item:

- Gear tagged with the requirement — its name, where it is kept, how many, and when it expires. Anything past its date marks the item as a likely failure, and says so
- What the boat record says is aboard — horn and bell, navigation lights, placards, anchor and rode, flares carried
- Fire extinguishers — how many the boat's length requires under the form's table, against how many you have recorded

Suggested answers are drawn dashed and do not count as checked until you tap an answer, or Check All. Nothing you answer changes the boat record: if the check shows the boat's details are wrong, correct them on the boat.

Gear That Knows Its Requirement

Most safety items are pieces of equipment you already keep on the Gear tab: extinguishers, flares, PFDs, the throwable, the horn. Open one and tag it with the requirement it satisfies. From then on its record shows when it was last checked and how it did, and the checklist knows which piece of gear each question is about. Set an expiry date on the ones that lapse — flares, extinguishers, the EPIRB battery — with a reminder before they do. The same picker marks hazardous materials: Hazardous Material, at its top, has the nine hazard classes, Class 3 for fuel, 2.1 for propane, 8 for battery acid. Tools can carry one too. The class's symbol shows after the name in the Gear, Spares and Tools lists.

Keeping It Current

Each checklist shows when it was last run, on which boat, and when it is next due. Tap Plan Job on a checklist to plan its next run, with its reminder in Apple Reminders. The Vessel Safety Check decal is good for a year; the Required Equipment list is worth running whenever something aboard changes. A failed item stays marked on the checklist until its job is done, then reads Fixed with the date, and the job starts on the piece of gear the item is about. Hurricane Plan and Storm Prep checklists can be loaded from Safety Checks.

IMPORTANT — An aid, not a substitute

A clean run here does not replace a Vessel Safety Check by an examiner, and the Required Equipment list is the federal minimum — state and local rules may ask for more. Use it to arrive at the real examination already knowing the answer.

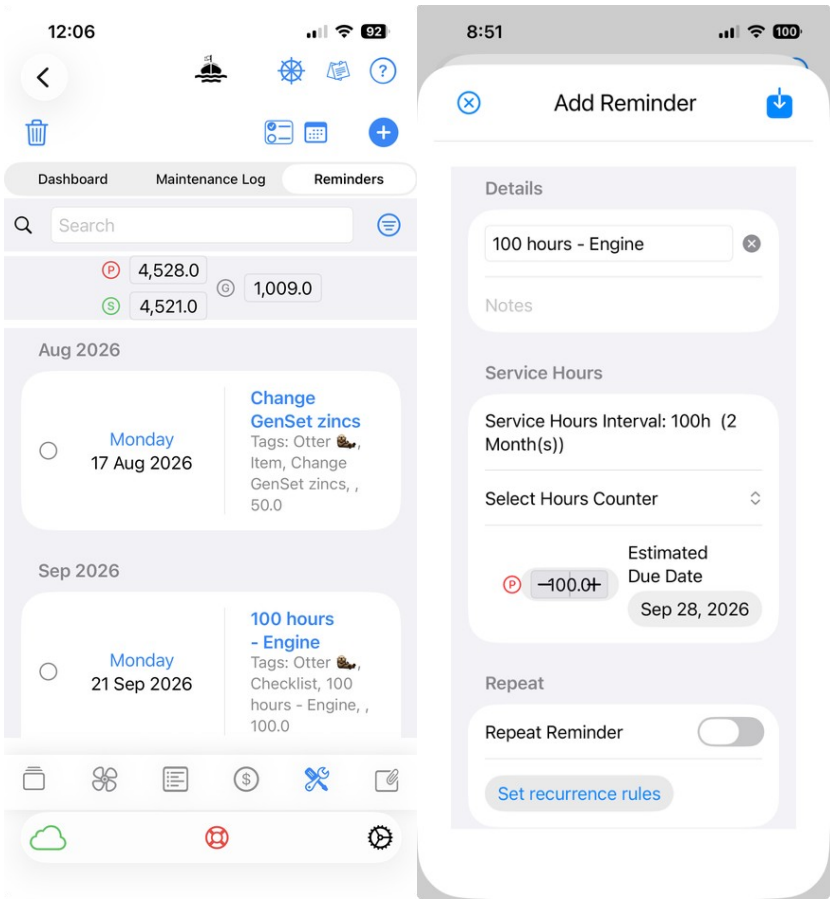
CHAPTER 14

Reminders

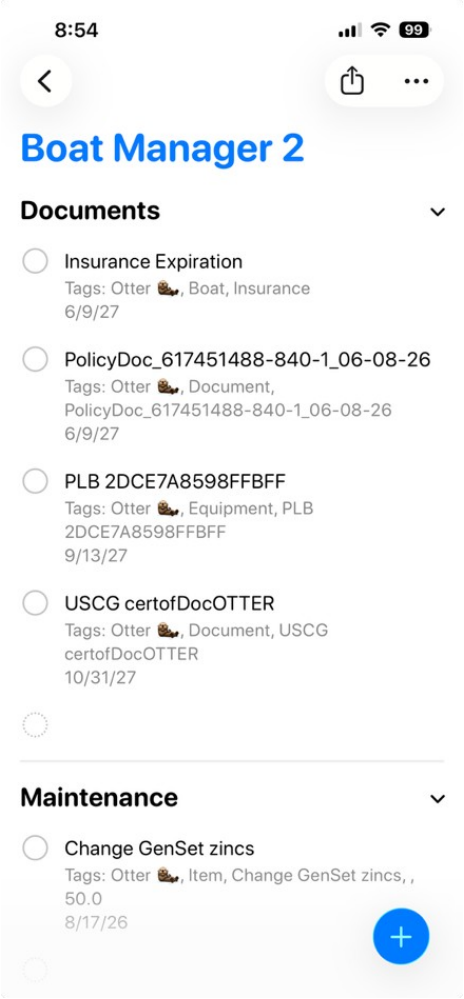
A reminder that only lives inside an app is a reminder you'll eventually miss.

Boat Manager keeps everything it reminds you of, so nothing lives only in Apple Reminders: an expiry with its record, a job as a planned job, anything else as a to-do. Each reminder goes in a list called "Boat Manager 2" inside Apple Reminders, so it also shows up wherever you already check reminders and can be shared or added to Apple Calendar like any other.

- The Reminders list shows them all by date, planned jobs among them, each saying what it belongs to; the orange mark shows what's in Apple Reminders, and a reminder's first line opens what it belongs to
- Reminders from the main menu cover every boat; a boat's Upkeep, Reminders shows only that boat's, and its + offers Plan a Job or a To-Do with a Reminder
- Remind Me under an expiry date alerts a month, two weeks or a week ahead and follows the date if it changes; Renewed moves it on to the next expiry. A reminder deleted in Reminders shows red, Reminder missing, and Make It Again puts it back
- Reminders from before 1.8 that nothing here keeps say Only in Apple Reminders; Data Health gives each one a home, and the Reminders Calendar shows planned jobs too



Upcoming reminders and planned jobs, each linked back to what it belongs to



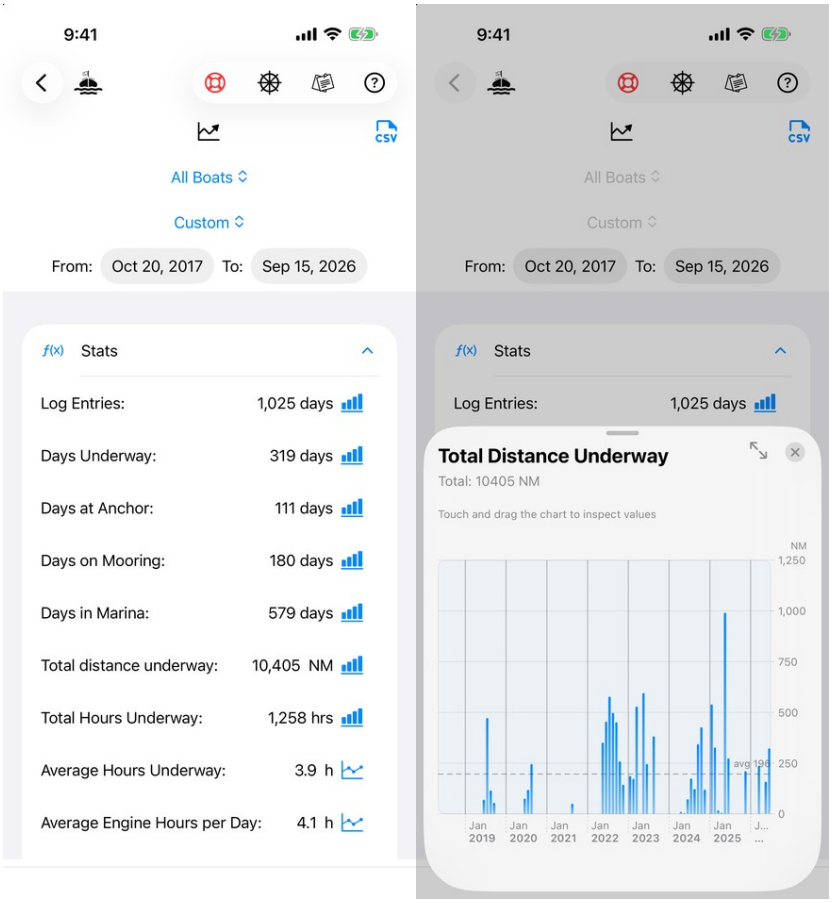
Upcoming reminders in Apple Reminders.

CHAPTER 15

Analysis

Every log entry adds up to a bigger picture — where you've been, what it's cost, how the boat performs.

Across one boat or your whole fleet, Analysis calculates days underway, time at anchor or a marina, distances, fuel usage and cost, and a carbon-footprint estimate (1 liter of fuel burned works out to about 2.5 kg of CO2, based on distance run in the logbook). A CSV button exports everything to Excel or Numbers for your own records.



TIP — Tracking USCG sea-service days

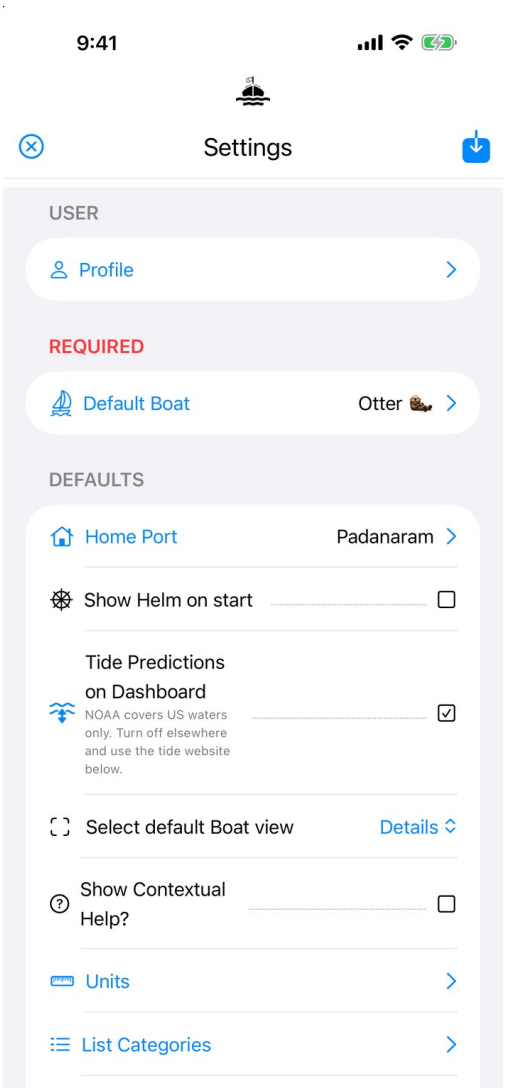
Turn on "Track USCG Days" in Settings to code each log entry by body of water. Analysis then generates the figures needed for a CG-719S Small Vessel Sea Service report.

CHAPTER 16

Settings — Making It Yours

The only required setting is your default boat. Everything past that is tuning.

- Default Boat & Homeport — every piece of gear, every log, every document links to whichever boat is set as default
- Unit Settings — controls how data displays, not how it's stored; changing a unit does not convert existing values
- Fuel Consumption Method — choose how the Helm estimates fuel remaining: logged GPH average, logged MPG average, the Specs-page fuel figures, interpolated, or an average of all methods
- Engine Hours per Month — defaults to 50, used to estimate elapsed time for hour-based reminders
- List Categories — customize the categories for equipment types, spares, tools, documents, boat storage locations and expenses
- CSV Import/Export — import data set by data set, in the order shown, to avoid confusing parent/child relationships
- Appearance — System, Light or Dark. System, the default, follows the device; Dark keeps the app usable at night without ruining your night vision
- Show Time Zones (ZD) — off by default. On, each log shows the ship's zone as a logbook records it, ZD +4 beside the date (UTC–4 beside it in the list), and the first log in a new zone is marked ZD +4 → +5. Logs keep their day across time zones either way
- Delete My Account — deletes everything, on this device and in iCloud, and starts the app afresh with a default boat and the starter library



Settings — home port, default view, units, and defaults for the logbook.

IMPORTANT — About unit settings

Data is stored unit-less. Switching a display unit changes how numbers are shown, not the underlying value — all calculations use the raw stored data.

Safe Harbor Membership

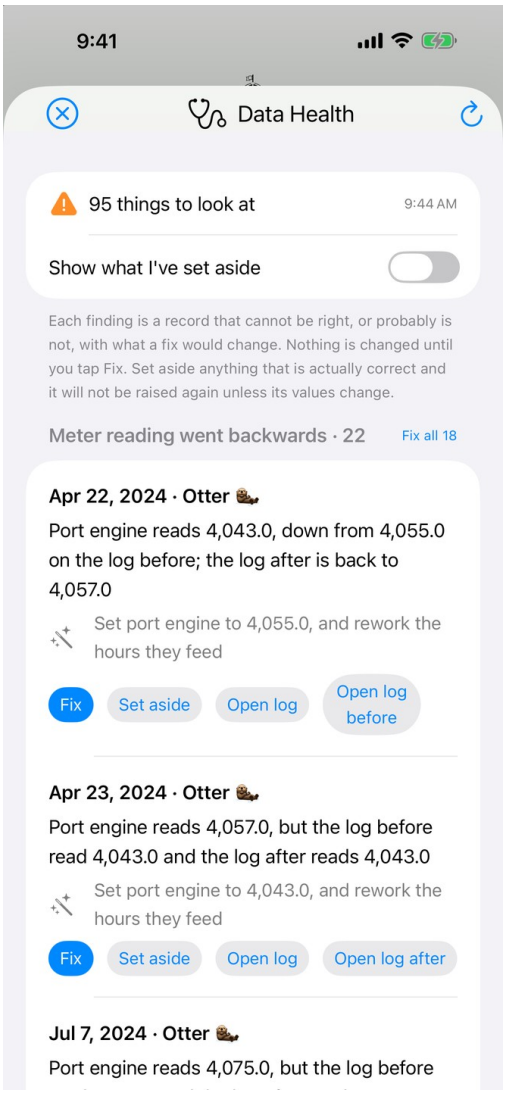
If your Profile records a Safe Harbor membership, it shows the last 12 months from your own logs: the nights you spent at Safe Harbor marinas, what you paid in dockage, and the fuel price you paid there against what you paid elsewhere.

Data Health

Years of logs pick up slips: a meter reading typed a digit short, a refuel with no quantity, a run with hours but no distance. Each one is small, and each one drags a fuel estimate or a service interval slightly wrong. Data Health, under Settings, reads the logbook for what cannot be right, groups what it finds, says why each matters, and proposes the fix. Nothing changes until you tap Fix and confirm, and each finding is checked again first: one that has changed since is skipped.

It also finds the same record twice — a boat, waypoint, vendor, checklist or piece of equipment that reached iCloud twice after a restore — and Fix keeps the copy with the most links, moving the other's links onto it. It lists maintenance tasks naming equipment the boat does not have, and passages where the engines ran well past the hours underway, leaving alone any log with maintenance on it: the engines were run to test the work. It also finds ports logged with no waypoint, waypoints never visited, engine hours of zero after real readings, vendors with nothing in them, the same maintenance task stored twice, and scheduled logs from before 1.8 that could be planned jobs. Since 1.8 it also turns maintenance and checklist reminders into planned jobs, gives a reminder kept only in Apple Reminders a home with its record or as a to-do, and links a planned job to the library job of its name.

- Fix applies the proposed change to that one record; Fix all applies it to every finding in the group, where that is safe — a fix that deletes something you made is one at a time
- Set aside marks a finding as correct — some readings really did go backwards — and it is not raised again unless its values change
- Open log, and Open log before or after, show the entries a finding is judged against, so you can decide with the record in front of you
- The badge on the Data Health row in Settings is the count of open findings; the refresh button at the top reads the logbook again



Data Health — each finding says what cannot be right, why it matters, and what the fix would change.

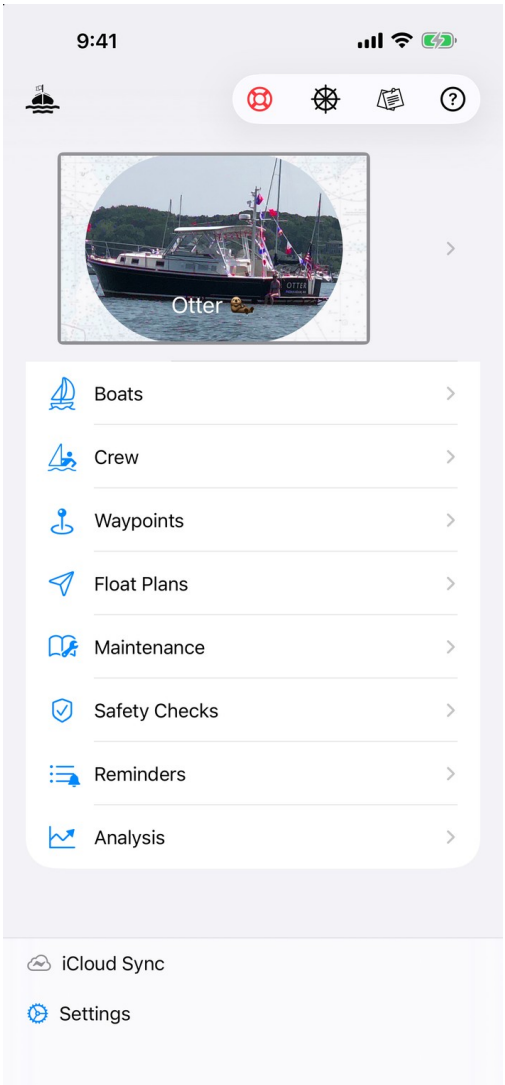
CHAPTER 17

The Toolkit — Buttons & Navigation

The same handful of controls repeat across every screen in the app.

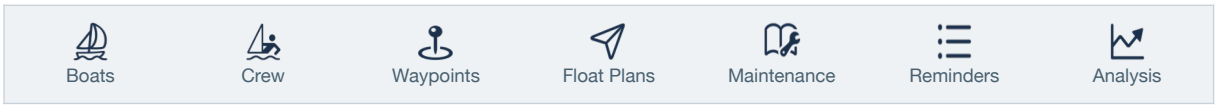
Getting Around

- The sidebar menu holds Boats and everything shared across boats: Crew, Waypoints, Float Plans, the Maintenance Library, Safety Checks, Reminders, and Analysis — with iCloud Sync and Settings at its foot
- Inside a boat, the bottom tab bar switches between Specs, Gear, Logs, Expenses, Upkeep, and Papers — swipe left or right to move between tabs
- A long press on any list opens a context menu of quick actions; a task on a log has its own ··· button for the same
- Blue icons on a row are shortcuts: tap one and the record opens at that section, already expanded — or the attachment, website or linked equipment it stands for opens directly



The main sidebar — Boats, and everything shared across boats.

The Sidebar



The Boat Tab Bar



The Core Buttons

	Add (+) creates a new record of whatever type the current screen shows
	Edit unlocks a form for changes, and enables copy/paste from its fields; until then its + buttons and pickers are greyed out
	Save commits your changes — once saved, a change can't be undone
	Dismiss (x) closes the screen without saving anything entered since it opened
	Trash: Delete Row shows a red icon beside each item; tap one to delete it. Delete All deletes everything the list is showing, after its search and filters, and says how many first. Every delete asks you to confirm, and says what goes with it

IMPORTANT — Before you delete a boat

Deleting a boat deletes everything that is its — logs, equipment, spares, tools, papers, expenses and planned jobs. Crew, waypoints, vendors and the library are shared between boats, and stay. Your last boat cannot be deleted.

Everywhere Else

- A small downward chevron marks a drop-down list — tap it to expand and select. A list you pick from never ends empty: it says what's missing and offers Show all, when it has been narrowed to one boat or type, or Add. Lists that take several, such as a task's equipment or the crew aboard, tick each choice and close with Done
- Every main list has Search, then Sort (the up-and-down arrows) to set the order, then Filter (the lines) to narrow it; the Filter icon fills in while a filter is on, and each list keeps its own search
- Sections in longer forms expand and collapse to save space; opening one closes whichever was open
- The red lifebelt at the top of every screen, beside the Helm wheel, sends an emergency email with your default boat, crew, and last known location to the contact set in your Profile

CHAPTER 18

Getting the Most from Boat Manager

A few last questions, answered plainly.

Is Boat Manager free?

The first month is free. After that, a subscription keeps unlimited boats and logs active, along with Apple Reminders/Calendar sync and PDF exports of boats, equipment, logs, crew, and maintenance records.

What if I lose connectivity?

Boat Manager works fully offline and syncs to iCloud the moment you're reconnected. The iCloud Sync icon at the foot of the main menu shows sync status — green when synced, a blue circling cloud while a download is under way, red when there is a problem. Tap it for the details.

How do I back everything up?

Automatic iCloud backup is standard. For a manual backup, go to Settings → Data Import And Export → CSV Export — photos and documents are included as encoded data, which makes the export slower but ensures nothing is left out.

Taking a Manual Backup

iCloud handles this automatically. Do it by hand before a major change, or when you want a copy off the device.

1. Open Settings, then Data Import And Export.
2. Choose CSV Export.
3. Wait for the export to finish — photos and documents are included as encoded data, which makes it slower but complete.
4. Save or share the resulting file somewhere off the phone.

   Result *A complete copy of your data, including attachments, outside iCloud.*

Will it keep improving?

Yes — Boat Manager is actively developed, refined by the same day-to-day use that started it. If something in this guide doesn't match what you see on screen, or a feature you rely on could work better, that feedback goes directly into what gets built next.

> **TIP — Welcome aboard**
> The goal is simple: spend less time searching for information, and more time on the water.

APPENDIX A

Troubleshooting

Eleven things that look like faults, and what each one actually is.

Most of what looks wrong in Boat Manager is a setting doing exactly what it was asked to. These are the ones owners hit most often.

The Save button on a log entry is greyed out

A log entry needs four things before it can be saved: a date, a narrative, a port, and a latitude/longitude. The Save button stays disabled until all four are present. Check the position first — it is the one most often left empty.

The iCloud Sync icon is red

Red means a problem syncing; a blue circling cloud means a download is under way; green means up to date. A red icon offshore is expected: Boat Manager works fully offline and syncs to iCloud the moment you are reconnected. Tap the icon for the details — the last download and upload, and any problem, in words.

A device is behind the others

A device that has been away, or kept closed, can have a lot to catch up on. Keep Boat Manager open and in front, on Wi-Fi and ideally on power, until the icon turns green; the sync details show how many batches have come in so far. A download that is cut off — the app closed, the device locked, an update installed — carries on where it was next time.

I changed a unit setting and my numbers did not convert

Unit settings control how data is displayed, not how it is stored. Data is held unit-less and every calculation uses the raw stored value, so switching from gallons to litres changes how a number is shown, not what was recorded. Nothing has been lost, and nothing needs re-entering.

A CSV import produced records that are not linked to anything

Import one data set at a time, in the order shown on the Import screen. That order exists because records reference each other — equipment belongs to a boat, spares link to equipment — and importing a child before its parent leaves the link unresolved.

Reminders are not appearing in Apple Reminders

Boat Manager creates and syncs a list called "Boat Manager 2" inside Apple Reminders. If nothing is arriving, check that the list still exists and is visible in the Reminders app, and that Boat Manager still has permission to reach it. If a record's reminder line says Reminder missing, the reminder was deleted in Reminders or Reminders was reset; Make It Again puts it back.

The Maintenance Dashboard is empty, or missing equipment

The dashboard shows only equipment you have opted in. Open the boat, then Gear, select the equipment, then Maintenance, then Maintenance Status, and check Show on Dashboard. Items with no maintenance frequency set have nothing to become due against.

Distance run looks shorter than the trip felt

Distance run defaults to the great-circle distance between yesterday's position and today's — the straight line, ignoring the course you actually steered. It is always a slight underestimate. Overwrite it with the figure from your chart plotter.

Data Health says a meter reading went backwards

An engine-hours meter cannot count down, so when one entry reads lower than the one before, one of the two is mistyped. Data Health shows both, proposes the value that fits the entries either side, and reworks the hours run that depend on it when you tap Fix. If the lower reading is genuine — a replaced meter, say — tap Set aside and it will not be raised again.

The Helm's tide card is empty, or shows the wrong place

NOAA publishes predictions for US waters only, so outside them there is no station to find; turn Tide Predictions off in Settings and the Helm shows your own tide website link instead. Inside US waters the card uses the station nearest your current position, which may not be where you are going — tap Choose station and pin the one you want. Predictions are stored once fetched, so a pinned station keeps working without a signal.

The same boat, contact or checklist appears twice

Usually one record that reached iCloud twice — after restoring a backup, or importing on a second device before it had synced. Data Health, under Settings, lists each pair; Fix keeps the copy with the most links and moves the rest onto it. Do not delete a duplicate boat by hand: deleting a boat deletes its logs.

APPENDIX B

Glossary

The vocabulary this guide assumes, and what Boat Manager means by it.

Beaufort force	An empirical scale relating wind and sea conditions to a number from 0 (calm) to 12 (hurricane force). Boat Manager estimates it from the wind speed it pulls from Apple Weather; you can overwrite it.
Capital	Spending on something that lasts — a new inverter bank, an engine. Shown apart from running costs in what the boat costs.
Cost of ownership	What the boat costs to keep and use: the Expenses tab's Overview, split into fixed, semi-fixed and discretionary, with capital kept apart.
Data Health	The check under Settings that reads the logbook for records that cannot be right — a meter reading that went backwards, a refuel with no quantity — and proposes the fix. Nothing changes until you tap Fix.
Day Log	The master log entry for a date. The Fuel, Pumpout and GenSet logs are filtered views of the same underlying entries, not separate records.
Default boat	The boat the Helm opens on and that every shortcut in the app assumes. Set in Settings. There is always exactly one.
Discretionary	Spending that is your choice — eating ashore, upgrades. One of the three classes of running cost.
Expense	One cost: an amount, a date, a category, who was paid, what it was for, and its receipts. Every cost in Boat Manager is one.
Fixed	A cost that comes round whatever you do — insurance, a slip contract, registration.
Float plan	A record of where you are going, when you expect to arrive, and who is aboard, left with someone ashore. The USCG recommends filing one before every departure.
GenSet	Generator set — the auxiliary engine and alternator that makes AC power aboard. Logged separately from propulsion engine hours.
GPX	GPS Exchange Format. The industry-standard file format for moving waypoints and routes between chart plotters, apps and PCs.
Great-circle distance	The shortest distance between two points on the earth's surface. Because it ignores the course actually steered, it always understates distance run.
Homeport	Your base marina or mooring, set in Settings. It is pinned to the top of the waypoints list alongside your favourites.
MMSI	Maritime Mobile Service Identity. The nine-digit number identifying your vessel's DSC-equipped VHF radio and AIS transponder.

Official number	The number assigned to a documented vessel by its national registry — in the US, the Coast Guard. Distinct from a state registration number and from the hull identification number.
Outlook	The first half of a boat's Planning tab: every maintenance task laid out by when it next falls due, with service-hour intervals turned into dates by the hours you actually log.
Pickling	Flushing a watermaker through with a preservative solution so the membrane can be left unused without spoiling.
Planned job	A maintenance job to do on a day, or at an engine-hours reading, with its equipment, budget and project. It becomes a task on a real log when you do it.
PLB	Personal Locator Beacon. A small emergency beacon carried by a person, which transmits a distress alert and position via satellite. Carries an expiry date worth tracking.
Project	A named set of maintenance jobs with dates and a budget — a haul-out, a refit, a winter list — tracked as one piece of work on the Planning tab.
Pumpout	Emptying the holding tank ashore. Recorded under tankage on a log entry.
Recurring cost	A bill that comes round — monthly, quarterly or yearly — recorded or skipped each time it falls due.
Safety check run	One pass through a safety checklist, answering Yes, No or N/A for each item. A run files a report in the log, a task for every failure, and a PDF on the boat's papers.
Sea-service time	Documented days underway, used when applying for or renewing a USCG credential. Analysis totals these from your log entries.
Semi-fixed	A cost that has to be paid but varies with use — fuel, routine maintenance.
Ships Papers	The tab on each boat collecting every document attached to that boat in one list.
Station	A NOAA tide station. The Helm uses the nearest one to your position unless you pin another; predictions are stored on the device once fetched.
Suggested answer	On a safety check, the answer the boat's own records propose before you look — drawn dashed, and not counted until you confirm it.
Tankage	Your tank capacities — fuel, water and holding — and the log entries that record filling or emptying them.

Upkeep	The boat tab holding completed maintenance task records and the dashboard of what is due. The Maintenance Library, which supplies the tasks, lives at the main-menu level instead.
Vendor	A business or person you pay — a yard, mechanic, marina or supplier — listed by business with its people beneath.
Vessel Safety Check	The USCG Auxiliary and Power Squadron examination of a recreational boat's safety equipment. Boat Manager ships the same list, ready to run, with each item explained in the form's own words.
VIN / HIN	The hull identification number moulded into the hull, unique to the boat. Boat Manager labels this field VIN; on a boat the correct term is HIN.
Zone description (ZD)	The ship's time zone as a logbook records it: what you add to ship's time to get UTC. US Eastern Daylight Time, UTC–4, is ZD +4.

APPENDIX C

Bringing In Your Own Spreadsheets

Years of Excel sheets into a full logbook, without typing it all again.

If, like me, you started with everything in a set of Excel spreadsheets — a log on one sheet, equipment on another, spares somewhere else — this is how to get it into Boat Manager in an afternoon rather than a season. For each table the app gives you a blank template: the exact columns its import reads, with one example row filled in. You paste your own data into a copy of that row, save the file as CSV, and import it.

Before You Start

- Make a backup first: Settings → Data Import And Export → Backup & Restore. An import saves to your iCloud data and reaches every device you own.
- Create the boat before anything else, in the app or with the Boats template. Every other table finds its boat by name, so the name in your sheet must match the app exactly — **Otter** 🦦 is not **Otter**.

Import in the order the Import screen lists: Boats, then Documents, Equipment, Spares and Tools, then Logs, then Tasks and Task Parts. Records point at each other — equipment belongs to a boat, a task to its log — and a record imported before the one it points at has nothing to link to.

Step by Step

1. Open Settings → Data Import And Export → CSV Import, and pick the table you are bringing in.
2. Tap Blank Template and save the file — to Files on an iPhone or iPad, or to any folder on a Mac.
3. Open it in Excel or Numbers. Row 1 holds the column names: leave it exactly as it is. Row 2 is the example record, with every column already in a form the import reads.
4. Copy the example row down once for every record you are adding, then paste your own data over it, column by column. The tables below show which column is which.
5. Delete the example row, unless you have made it into a real record.
6. Save as CSV. In Excel: File → Save As → CSV UTF-8 (Comma delimited). In Numbers: File → Export To → CSV.
7. Back in CSV Import, pick the same table, tap its Import button and choose your file. The screen says how many rows came in.

Do one table at a time, and look at what arrived before moving on to the next.

The Rules Every Row Follows

id	Leave it blank: each row with no id becomes a new record and gets an id of its own — so import each file once, or everything in it arrives twice. A row whose id matches a record already in the app updates that record instead — which is how a file you exported, edited and import again goes back in.

boat, boatName	The boat's name, exactly as the app has it. Leave **boatID** blank; the import finds the boat by name.
Numbers	Plain numbers with no units, commas or currency signs: 1250.5, not $1,250.50. Use the units your Settings are set to. Put 0 rather than leaving a number blank — a blank number can stop the import at that row.
Yes / no	true or false. Excel's TRUE and FALSE read the same.
Dates	2026-07-04, or with a time and its offset from UTC: 2026-07-04T14:30:00-04:00. In Excel, format date columns as Text before you type into them; otherwise Excel rewrites the dates in its own form when it saves.
Text	Anything you like, commas and line breaks included: Excel and Numbers put such cells in quotes when they save, and the import reads them back as written.
Photos and files	Columns such as **imgData**, **thumbnailData**, **fileData** and **documents** hold pictures and attachments as encoded text. Leave them as the example has them, and add photos in the app afterwards.
Everything else	A column you have nothing for keeps the example row's value. Do not delete, rename or reorder columns.

Where Your Columns Go

Each table has more columns than most sheets will fill. These are the ones worth mapping; the rest can stay as the example row has them.

Logs

logDate	The day of the entry, and its time if you have it. Required: a row without a date is skipped.
narrative	The entry's headline — where you went, or what you did. Required: a row without one is skipped.
boat	The boat's name.
portOrigin, port	Where she started, and where she ended the day.
departure, arrival	Times of leaving and arriving, as dates with times.
distanceRun, hrsUnderway	Distance run and hours underway that day.
leftEngineHrs, rightEngineHrs, genSetHrs	Meter readings: port (or single) engine, starboard engine, generator. Leave 0 on a day you did not read a meter.
hrsEngine, hrsGenSet	Hours each ran that day: today's reading less the last one.

qtyFuel, costFuel	Fuel taken on, and what it cost. Water, oil, propane and pump-out have the same pair: **qtyWater**/**costWater** and so on.
costMarina, costOther	Dockage or mooring, and anything else that day cost.
captainsName, crewNames, guestNames	Who was aboard.
weather, wind, seaState	Conditions.
lat, lon	Position in decimal degrees: 41.52, -70.67. West and south are negative.
logNotes	Anything else.

Equipment

equipName	What it is: Windlass, Port Engine, House Bank.
equipType	Its type, as in the app's Equipment types list.
boatName	The boat's name.
mfr, mpn, serialNo	Maker, model or part number, serial number.
mfrYear	Year made, as a date: 2018-01-01.
location, qty, cost	Where it is aboard, how many, what it cost.
oilType, oilCapacity, oilFilter, fuelFilter, impellers, belts, zincs	Service parts and capacities, for engines and generators.
batteryType, batteryGroup, batteryVoltage, batteryAmpHrs	For batteries.
equipNotes, website	Notes, and the maker's page.

Spares and Tools

inventoryName, toolName	What it is.
inventoryType, toolType	Its type.
boat	The boat's name.
mfr, partNo	Maker and part number.
qty, qtyBU	How many, and the unit: each, quart, metre.
price, location	What one costs, and where it is stowed.

usedOn	What it fits.
desc, website	A description, and where to buy more.

Crew

crewName	Full name.
displayName	A first name or nickname, as the app shows it.
crewRole, qualifications	Role aboard, and certificates.
phone, mobilePhone, email	How to reach them.
note	Anything else.

Waypoints

waypointName	The place: Cuttyhunk, Menemsha Basin.
waypointLat, waypointLon	Position in decimal degrees, west and south negative.
waypointPort, waypointType	The harbor it belongs to, and whether it is a marina, mooring, anchorage and so on.
vhfChannel, phone, email, website	How to raise them.
lowWaterDepth, dockageRate	Depth at low water, and the nightly rate.
amenitiesNotes, transportNotes	What is ashore, and getting there.

Boats

The Boats columns follow the Specs screen: **boatName**, **boatMake**, **boatModel**, **boatLOA**, **boatBeam**, **boatDraft**, **tankageFuel** and the rest, one row per boat. Lengths are decimal feet: 35′5″ is 35.42.

If Something Doesn’t Come In

Stopped at row …	That row holds something the import can’t read: a blank or a word in a number column, or a date Excel rewrote. The rows above it are in, so fix the row, delete those above it from the file, and import again.
Rows missing	A row whose boat name doesn’t match a boat in the app is skipped, as is a log with no date or narrative.