

# QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



## THE LATERAL SYSTEM

### STARBOARD (RED BUOYS)

Keep on the right side of your boat when heading upstream.



### PORT (GREEN BUOYS)

Keep on the left side of your boat when heading upstream.

#### MEMORY TIP:

### 'RED RIGHT RETURNING'

KEEP THE RED BUOY ON THE RIGHT SIDE WHEN RETURNING UPSTREAM



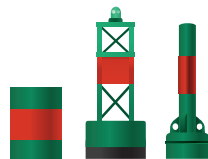
### JUNCTION BUOY (RED & GREEN BUOYS)

Pass on either side when heading upstream but the main or preferred channel is indicated by the color of the topmost band.



#### PORT-JUNCTION BUOY:

The preferred channel is to the right.



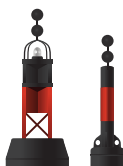
#### STARBOARD-JUNCTION BUOY:

The preferred channel is to the left.



### SAFE WATER BUOY

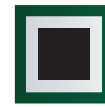
Used to mark fairways, mid-channels and offshore approach points. They indicate safe water on all sides.



### ISOLATED DANGER BUOY

Used to mark an isolated hazard or obstruction such as a rock, shoal or sunken island. Steer well clear of marked danger.

## DAY BEACONS



### PORT-HAND DAYMARK

Keep on the left side of your boat when heading upstream.



### STARBOARD-HAND DAYMARK:

Keep on the right side of your boat when heading upstream.



### PORT JUNCTION DAYMARK

Marks the junction of two channels and may be passed on either side. If the preferred channel is desired, then keep it on the left side of the boat when heading upstream.



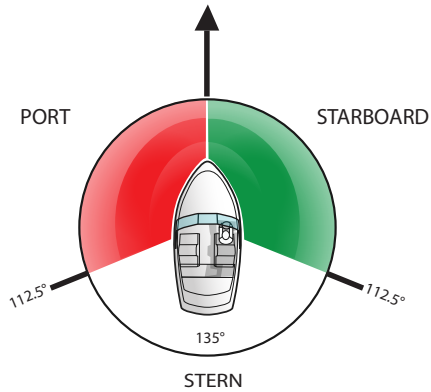
### STARBOARD JUNCTION DAYMARK

Marks the junction of two channels and may be passed on either side. If the preferred channel is desired, then keep it on the right side of the boat when heading upstream.

## HOMELAND SECURITY RULES

- Stay at least 100 yards away from any United States Coast Guard (USCG) naval boat, commercial fishing boat or cruise ship.
- Operate at minimum speed when within 500 yards of any USCG naval boat.
- Observe and avoid restricted areas (such as petroleum facilities, power plants and dams).
- Never dock, idle or stop your boat when under a bridge.
- Report any suspicious activities you witness to the USCG or to the local law authorities (never approach boaters who are behaving in a suspicious manner).

# QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



## SECTORS OF NAVIGATION

### OPERATING RULES:

**PORT:** If a power-driven boat approaches your boat from the port sector, you are the stand-on craft. Maintain your course and speed with caution.

**STARBOARD:** If a boat approaches your boat from the starboard sector, you are the give-way craft and must keep out of its way.

**STERN:** If another boat approaches you from the stern (from behind), you are the stand-on craft. Maintain your course and speed with caution.

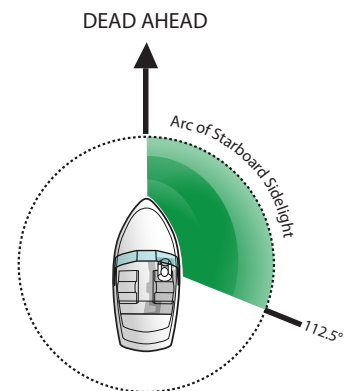
## MARINE RADIO DISTRESS SIGNALS

### DISTRESS CALL: CHANNEL 16 ON YOUR VHF RADIO

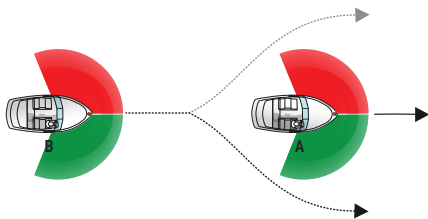
- Repeat 'Mayday' three times to signal immediate danger (life threatening)
- Repeat 'Pan Pan' three times to indicate your need for help (non-life threatening)
- Be prepared to provide the Coast Guard with the following information: Your location, the exact nature of the problem, the number of people on board, the boat name, color, type, size and registration and the safety equipment you have

## THE DANGER ZONE (GIVE WAY ZONE)

Your starboard sector (green sidelight) is the 'Danger Zone'. When another boat sees your green light, they will have the right-of-way. You must take early and substantial action to avoid a collision.

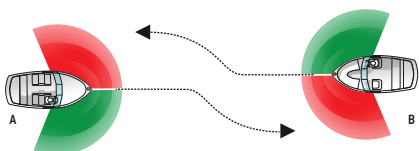


## IF YOU ARE VESSEL A:



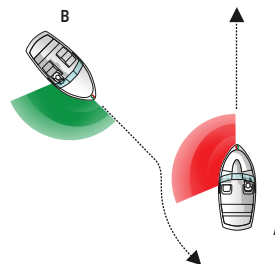
## OVERTAKING

You have the right-of-way.



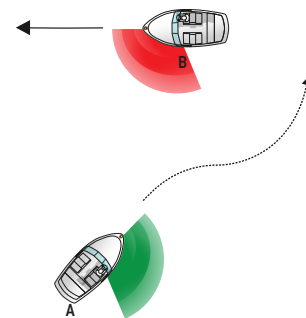
## HEAD-ON APPROACH

Neither boat has the right-of-way (both boats must turn to their right to avoid a collision).



## PORT APPROACH

You have the right-of-way.

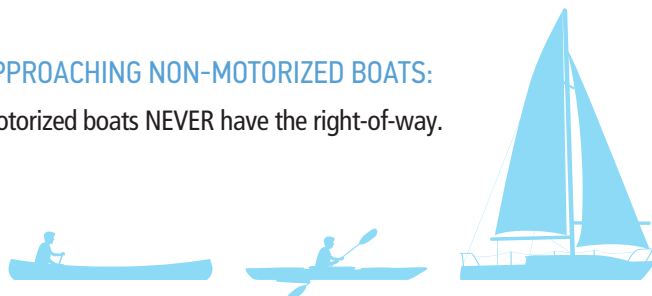


## STARBOARD APPROACH

You do NOT have right-of-

## APPROACHING NON-MOTORIZED BOATS:

Motorized boats NEVER have the right-of-way.



**REMEMBER:** Opposites attract when heading upstream! Your boat's green sidelight matches up with red buoys that your boat approaches, and your red starboard sidelight matches up with green buoys that your boat approaches. **RED/GREEN, GREEN/RED WHEN HEADING UPSTREAM!**