



Nautical Trivia



by Ginny Hauff

1. Did you know that while cruising in fog, if you hear a sound signal ahead of one long blast followed by three short blasts this indicates a vessel is being towed and manned?
2. Did you know that the constrictor knot is useful for gripping round objects; however, it is difficult to untie?
3. Did you know that it is usually a good practice for smaller vessels to enter a lock last and then raft alongside a larger vessel, thus minimizing line-handling/fending off efforts.
4. Did you know that a wind vane on a moving vessel indicates not the true, but apparent wind direction?
5. Did you know that when sailing close-hauled, if you ease the sheets, you will sail faster?
6. Did you know that when departing from a mooring with no wind or current you should back a few boat lengths and then proceed normally?
7. Did you know that green daymarks have a square shape since the silhouette resembles the top of a can buoy and are odd numbered?
8. Did you know that if executed properly, running a high, following sea on the back of a wave is quite effective; however, running too far ahead may result in broaching or pitch poling, or too far behind may result in being pooped?
9. Did you know that the first rule of safe anchoring is always anchor to the leeward, never to windward of the shore?



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