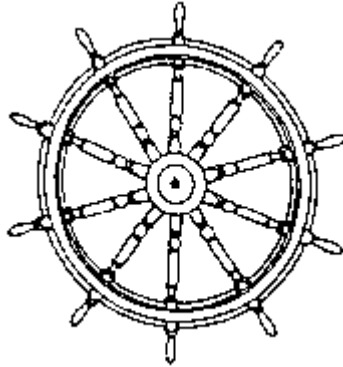


General Sailing Terminology



A

Aft:

toward the rear, or transom, of a ship.

Anchor:

a heavy iron instrument, usually connected to the vessel by a chain or rope, that is used to grip the sea bottom to hold the boat in place.

B

Bank:

underwater plateau that rises up from the ocean floor, creating shallow water where fish feed.

Beam:

a boat's widest point, usually near the middle of the boat.

Beam trawling:

method of fishing which uses a beam to hold open a net at its mouth.

Below:

beneath or under the deck.

Block and tackle:

arrangement of pulleys and line which increases hoisting power for heavy work, such as pulling in the sail in a strong breeze.

Boom:

long piece of wood which runs perpendicular to the mast, to which the foot (bottom edge) of the sail is attached.

Bow:

the front section of a boat.

Buoy:

a distinctively marked object that floats in the water as a navigational marker.

Buoyancy:

ability to float or rise in a fluid.

C**Chart:**

a map of part of the sea, showing currents, depths, islands, coasts, etc.

Compass:

an instrument for showing the directions of north, south, west, & east.

D**Dragging:**

method of fishing in which a net is pulled behind the boat.

F**Fathom:**

unit of water depth equivalent to 6 feet.

Flotsam:

any "stuff" floating - trees, driftwood, wreckage, etc.

Forward:

toward the bow or stem.

H**Hull:**

the body of a boat.

J**Jetsam:**

those things that sink in the water - they don't float like flotsam.

Jettison:

to throw overboard.

K**Knot:**

speed through water; the velocity in nautical miles (6,080 feet) per hour. Also, turns taken in a line for fastening.

L**Landlubber:**

what you are if you're not a seaman.

Ledges:

underwater rock ridges and mountains that rise near the surface of the sea.

Legend:

a group of symbols and definitions on a chart or map.

Log:

a record of details of a voyage made by a ship's captain or crew. Also. A device for measure.

M**Maiden voyage:**

a new boat's first trip.

Maritime:

located on or near the sea.

N**Nautical mile:**

a measurement used by sailors that equals 6,080 feet (a land mile is 5,280 feet) .

Navigate:

to steer or manage a ship, to sail or voyage over water.

P**Port:**

left side of vessel when facing forward.

S

Shoal:

an area of the sea that is shallow, especially at low tide.

Skipper:

the captain of a ship.

Starboard:

right side of the vessel when facing forward.

Staterooms:

private cabins in a ship.

Stern:

the rear section of the boat.

W

Windjammer:

large ship powered by wind and sails, used for pleasure cruising.