

Navy Sailing Chart Preparation Checklist

Chart Number _____

1. Note the chart's sounding datum (X the appropriate box).

Fathoms _____ Feet _____ Meters _____

2. Box the Sounding Datum. Highlight in orange and verify that it's visible after the chart is folded for use. If not, annotate it where it can best be seen.

3. Enter the vessel's draft (i.e., 7.5 feet) _____

- Use the same units as the chart's sounding datum

4. Round up _____

5. Define your Risk Factor: _____

- Knowledgeable Crew/Racing Risk Factor = 1
- Novice Crew/Training Risk Factor = 2 or 3

6. Calculate minimum sounding line as follows:

- Multiply the number from line 4 by the Risk Factor defined in line 5
_____ X _____ = _____

(i.e., For a CSNTS Cruise: 8 feet times 2 = 16 ft)

7. Review the chart for actual sounding datum line. Choose one based on line 6 above, rounding up if required (typical depth contour lines are at 12 or 18 feet): _____

8. Mark this sounding line with a dark blue marker. Pay particular attention to the rate of change of depth, and mark the chart accordingly.

9. Visual Navigation Aids: Carefully review the chart, and identify visual nav aids:

- Circle, highlight in yellow, and label with an easily spoken, unmistakable short noun name **ABC**. (Thomas Point Light)

10. Navigation hazards: Carefully review the chart, and identify unlighted buoys and other navigation hazards.

- Circle, highlight in pink, and label **UNLIT (ABC)** or **NAVHAZ (ABC)** or **HAZ (ABC)**.

11. Radar Aids: Carefully review the chart, and identify radar navigation aids (points of land, lighthouses, RACON buoys, etc.).

- Triangle, highlight in orange, and label **ABC**
- Pay particular attention for RACON buoys. These should have a circle and a triangle, and be labeled **RACON ABC**

12. Track: Draw and label the track.

- Label the track with proposed Course and Speed
- The track can be drawn down the center of the deep draft channel to alert the watchsection to the expected location of merchant traffic.

13. Shoal Water: Using the blue line defined in line 8 above, slash the shoal water areas in dark blue, and cross slash those areas where rapidly shoaling water, and thus rapidly changing soundings, will not provide adequate warning.

14. Fold and label: Fold and label the chart as follows:

- Fold the chart in fourths
- Label the bottom right corner with the noun name of the chart in large legible letters. Immediately above/below write the next chart along the north/southbound track

15. Verify Currency: Immediately prior to use, verify the chart has been corrected and is up to date by querying the NIMA Notice To Mariners Database at:

http://pollux.nss.nima.mil/untm/untm_j_options.html?class_flag=N

Latest Chart Edition _____ On-hand Chart Edition _____

Latest Notice To Mariners _____

CHART UPDATED THROUGH NOTICE TO MARINERS _____ / _____
Number Date

Submitted: _____
Midshipman Navigator

Reviewed: _____
AOIC/Navigator

Approved: _____
Officer In Charge