OUTBOARD MOTOR CARE

Regular maintenance will keep your motor running well for years to come. The following are general guidelines. Be sure to check your owner’s manual for manufacturer’s recommendations/procedures particular to your boat.

**AFTER EVERY TRIP**

- Flush out engine
  *(applies to both fresh and salt water boating)*
  - Slip “rabbit ears,” *(two flexible rubber seals connected with a clamp)*, onto water intake and attach a garden hose
  - Start engine and let water pump do the rest
- While flushing motor, check water pump flow
  - Feel water stream with your finger; it may be warm but should not be hot
  - If output is weak, shut down engine to prevent overheating/damage
  - Check outflow tube for debris; insert wire and work it back and forth
  - Restart engine/recheck output; if still weak, water pump may need to be replaced
- After flushing, disconnect fuel line and allow engine to burn all the fuel in the carburetor
- Turn off key and battery switch *(if you have one)*
- Remove engine cowling; check for fuel or water leaks *(Consult mechanic if you find any leaks)*
- Wipe motor down and spray with an anti-corrosive like WD-40 or Quick-Lube
- Replace cowling and wipe down. Cover motor with a canvas or plastic cover
- Always use fresh fuel; End-of-season maintenance should include draining your tanks and proper disposal of fuel

**REGULAR MAINTENANCE**

- Check fuel line for cracks and worn spots periodically
- Inspect fuel primer bulb for cracks; make sure it is pliable
- Ensure fuel line fittings seat properly and don’t leak
- Inspect clamps on the fuel line for rust or corrosion
- Check the tank vent to make sure it aspirates properly
- Regularly check for water in the fuel

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