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Checklist: Summerize engine

The best checklist (until you find a better one) for preparing your diesel inboard engine for a new season of sailing

Time	What you need	
Before launch: 1 hour	• Rags, clean • Tools	
After launch: 30 minutes	 Lubricant, control lever Engine oil 	
	• Transmission oil • Lighting	
	Assistant (optional)	
Before launch:		
1. ENGINE ROOM	Prepare your workspace	
2. EXHAUST	Remove baggie and cable tie	
3. FUEL TANK VENT	Remove baggie and cable tie	
4. ENGINE AIR INTAKE	Remove baggie and cable tie	
5. ENGINE MOUNTS	Inspect	
6. ENGINE OIL	Check level and top up if necessary	
7. TRANSMISSION OIL	Check level and top up if necessary	
8. RAW WATER COOLING	Inspect hose and clamps to raw water intake	
9. FRESH WATER COOLING	Inspect coolant	
10. ENGINE, RAW WATER DRAIN	Close	
11. ALTERNATOR BELT	Inspect & adjust tension	
12. WATER PUMP BELT	Inspect & adjust tension	
13. FUEL FILTER, TANK	Inspect	
14. FUEL TANK	Open fuel valve	
15. BATTERY	Connect engine cables	
16. RAW WATER INTAKE	Close seacock	
17. CONTROL LEVER	Inspect, lubricate, and adjust if necessary	
18. INSTRUMENT PANEL	Insert key, turn to ON position	
	Important Do not start the engine	
19. INSTRUMENT PANEL	Important! Do not start the engine Verify that warning lamps and buzzer are working	
20. INSTRUMENT PANEL	Turn and remove key	
21. ENGINE ROOM	Tidy up, close panels, turn off lighting	
	ridy up, close panels, turn on righting	
After launch:		
1. RAW WATER INTAKE	Inspect for leaks	
2. STUFFING BOX	Inspect	
3. RAW WATER INTAKE	Open seacock	
4. ENGINE	Open decompression levers	
5. INSTRUMENT PANEL	While pulling/pressing the stop lever/button, turn engine with starter for 2-3 seconds	
6. ENGINE	Close decompression levers	
7. INSTRUMENT PANEL	Start engine	
8. EXHAUST	Verify that raw water is exhausting	
9. ENGINE	Inspect for leaking coolant, raw water, oil, and fuel	
10. ELECTRICAL PANEL	Verify that engine alternator is producing electricity	
11. MAINTENANCE LOG	Update	
12. SUMMER	Fair winds, sailor!	

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Tips	
Read your engine's manual Just read it. Please. It lists the volume, grade, brands, and all that, for your engine's lubricants, filters, and cooling system.	Read your engine's manual again This time compare the storage and summerizing steps with this checklist. The manual wins.
Preparing your workspace Remove engine room panels, turn on the lighting. Spread out a clean rags next to the engine room to organize the materials.	
Notes	