

## SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL INFORMATION PACKAGE

**Section C - Lifesaving:**

- **Life Preservers**
- **Survival Craft**
- **Survival Craft Equipment and Identification**
- **Ring Life Buoys**
- **Pyrotechnic Distress Signals**
- **Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)**
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**Life Preservers - 46 CFR 180.71 - 180.78**

<b>Type Required</b>	Only Type I life preservers with Coast Guard Approval Numbers 160.002, 160.005 and 160.055 are approved for all passenger-carrying vessels.
<b>Quantity Required</b>	<p>One <b>adult</b> type life preserver is required for each person aboard the vessel.</p> <p>In addition, unless the service is such that children are never carried, there shall be provided a number of approved life preservers suitable for <b>children</b> equal to at least <i>10% of the number of adult life preservers</i> required to be carried. If the number of children carried exceeds the 10% number, then additional child size life jackets must be carried so that each child has an appropriate size life preserver.</p> <p>A child is any person weighing less than 90 lbs.</p> <p>In addition to those required above, all vessels on an international voyage while carrying more than 12 passengers shall be provided with approved type life preservers for 5% of the persons carried.</p>
<b>Markings</b>	Each life preserver must be marked with the vessel's name.
<b>Reflective Material</b>	<p>Retro-reflective tape applied after March 11, 1996, must be as specified by IMO Resolution A.658(16)</p> <p>Each life preserver must have at least 31 square inches of reflective material attached on its front side, and 31 square inches on its back side, and the same corresponding material on each of its reversible sides.</p>

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<b>Lights</b>	<p>Vessels with oceans or coastwise routes (more than 20 miles from a harbor of safe refuge) are required to have a light attached to each life preserver. The light must meet CG approval number 161.012.</p> <p>If the light is battery powered the battery must be changed when the battery date has expired or if not marked shall be changed annually at each COI or Reinspection.</p>
<b>Whistles</b>	<p>Vessels with international routes are also required to carry a whistle. The whistle must be SOLAS approved. A vessel on an international voyage is a vessel that makes trips to another country, such as Canada.</p>
<b>Stowage</b>	<p>Life preservers shall be distributed throughout the accommodation spaces in protected places convenient to the persons on board.</p> <p>Each stowage container must not be capable of being locked. If practicable the container must be designed to allow the life jackets to float free.</p> <p>If life jackets are stowed more than 7 feet above the deck, a means for quick release of operation by a person standing on the deck must be provided.</p> <p>If life preservers are not readily visible to the passengers, the containers in which they are stowed shall be marked "Life Preservers" with the number contained therein.</p> <p>Children's life jackets must be labeled and stowed separate from adult life preservers, so that child life jackets are not mistaken for adult life jackets.</p>

**Survival Craft 46 CFR 180.200 - 180.208**

<b>Type Required</b>	<p>A sufficient number of life floats or inflatable buoyant apparatus must be carried as required by the chart below.</p> <p>Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus and Life Floats are required to be marked with CG Approval numbers. Inflatable life rafts of 6 person or greater can be substituted for either.</p>
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**Quantity Required**

Route	Water Temp	Vessel Constructed of	With or Without Subdivision	Float free 406 EPIRB	Survival Craft Required
Oceans	cold water	-----	without	-----	100% Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus
			with	-----	100% Life Floats
	warm water	-----	-----	-----	67% Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus
Coastwise	cold water	wood	without	-----	67% Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus
			with	-----	100% Life Floats
	warm water	other than wood	-----	-----	100% Life Floats
		-----	-----	-----	100% Life Floats
Coastwise Not more than 3 miles from shore	-----	-----	without	without	100% Life Floats
				with	50% Life Floats
			with	-----	50% Life Floats
Limited Coastwise	cold water	wood	without		67% Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus
			with		100% Life Floats
	warm water	other than wood	-----		100% Life Floats
		-----	-----		50% Life Floats
Limited Coastwise Not more than 3 miles from shore	cold water	-----	without	without	100% Life Floats
				with	50% Life Floats
	warm water	-----	with		50% Life Floats
			without		50% Life Floats
			with		None
Lakes, Bays, and Sounds	cold water	wood	without	-----	100% Life Floats
			with	-----	50% Life Floats
	warm water	other than wood	----	-----	50% Life Floats
		-----	-----	-----	None
Not more than 1 mile from shore	-----	-----	-----	-----	None
Rivers	cold water	-----	without	-----	50% Life Floats
			with	-----	None
	warm water	-----	-----	-----	None

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**Survival Craft Equipment and Identification**

<b>Vessels on International Routes</b>	Vessels on international routes are required to have life rafts or inflatable buoyant apparatus of sufficient total capacity to carry 100% of the persons on board.
<b>Wooden Vessel</b>	Wooden vessel, for the purposes of subdivision and lifesaving equipment requirements in this section, a traditionally built, plank-on-frame vessel, where mechanical fasteners (screws, nails, trunnels) are used to maintain hull integrity.
<b>Markings</b>	Each life float or inflatable buoyant apparatus must be marked with the vessel's name and number of persons allowed on each.  They shall be conspicuously marked or painted in letters and numbers at least 1-1/2 inches high.
<b>Paddles</b>	Each life float must be provided with two paddles not less than 4 feet long and must be lashed to the life float to which they belong.
<b>Water Light</b>	Each life float must be fitted with a water light, CG approval 161.010. It must be attached with a 12 thread manila or equivalent synthetic lanyard, at least 18 feet long.
<b>Painter</b>	Each life float or inflatable buoyant apparatus must be fitted with a painter 100 feet long.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The painter must have a breaking strength of at least 1500 lbs. If the capacity of the life float or inflatable buoyant apparatus is 50 persons or more, the breaking strength must be at least 3,000 lbs.</li> <li>• If synthetic, the painter must be of a dark color and certified to be resistant to deterioration from ultraviolet light.</li> <li>• The painter must be stowed in such a way that it runs out freely when the life float or inflatable buoyant apparatus floats freely away from the sinking vessel.</li> </ul> <p>Note that if the vessel carries more than one life float, they may be grouped together to a single painter provided the combined weight of each group does not exceed 400 lbs. Each life float must be attached to the painter with line of equivalent strength as that required for the painter and of sufficient length so that each can float without contacting another life float.</p>
<b>Weak Link</b>	The painter must be attached to the vessel with a weak link of the proper strength for the size of the life float(s) or inflatable buoyant apparatus.
<b>Annual Servicing</b>	Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus are required to be serviced by an authorized servicing facility annually.

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**Ring Life Buoys 46 CFR 180.70**

<b>Type Required</b>	<p>Ring life buoys must meet CG approval 160.050. Those ring life buoys used on an oceans or coastwise route must be orange.</p> <p>All ring life buoys must be a minimum of 24 inches in diameter, except that vessels less than 26 feet long may use one ring life buoy of not less than 20 inches in diameter.</p>
<b>Quantity</b>	<p>A vessel of not more than 65 feet in length is required to carry one ring life buoy. The ring life buoy must have attached a buoyant line.</p> <p>A vessel greater than 65 feet in length is required to carry 3 ring life buoys; one shall be fitted with a buoyant line.</p>
<b>Markings</b>	<p>Each ring life buoy must be marked with the name of the vessel.</p> <p>Each ring life buoy must be marked with retro-reflective material.</p>
<b>Water Lights</b>	<p>Each vessel must carry one water light which meets CG approval 160.010, unless the vessel is restricted to daylight operations.</p> <p>Each water light must have a lanyard attaching it around the body of the ring life buoy of at least 3 feet and no longer than 6 feet.</p> <p>On a vessel carrying only one ring life buoy, the water light must be attached to the lanyard with a corrosion resistant clip. The clip must have a strength of at least 50 pounds, to allow the water light to be quickly disconnected from the ring buoy.</p>
<b>Buoyant Line</b>	<p>The buoyant line attached to the ring buoy must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least 60 feet in length</li> <li>• Buoyant</li> <li>• Non-kinking</li> <li>• A diameter of at least 5/16"</li> <li>• A breaking strength of at least 1,124 pounds</li> <li>• A dark color if synthetic, or of a type certified to be resistant to deterioration from ultraviolet light.</li> </ul>
<b>Stowage</b>	<p>Ring life buoys must be stowed so as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be readily accessible</li> <li>• Be stowed in a way that is can be rapidly cast loose</li> <li>• Not be permanently secured in any way.</li> </ul>

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**Pyrotechnic Distress Signals 46 CFR 180.68**

<b>General Requirements</b>	<p>Pyrotechnic distress signals are required on all small passenger vessels, except those on short runs of less than 30 minutes.</p> <p>Pyrotechnic signals are marked with an expiration date and must be replaced at the first COI or reinspection after the date the flare has expired.</p>
<b>Number Required</b>	<p>Vessels on Lakes, Bays and Sounds, or Rivers routes are required, 3 hand red flare distress signals, and 3 orange smoke distress signals.</p> <p>Vessels on Oceans or Coastwise routes are required to carry, 6 hand red flare distress signals, and 6 orange smoke distress signals.</p>
<b>Stowage Requirements</b>	<p>The flares are required to be stored in a portable watertight container of bright color, marked in legible contrasting color in at least 1/2" letters "DISTRESS SIGNALS".</p> <p>As an alternative the signals may be stored in a pyrotechnic locker located above the freeboard deck, away from heat, in the vicinity of the operating station.</p>

**Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) 46 CFR 180.64**

<b>General Requirements</b>	<p>Vessels that operate on the high seas, or that operate beyond three mile from the coastline must have on board a Category I, 406 EPIRB.</p> <p>The battery installed in the EPIRB must be replaced on or before its expiration date.</p>
<b>Stowage Requirements</b>	<p>The EPIRB must be stowed in a location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in the armed position,</li> <li>• readily accessible for testing and use,</li> <li>• installed so it will automatically float free and activate.</li> </ul> <p>If a hydrostatic release is provided as the float free device it must be changed when expired.</p>
<b>Markings</b>	<p>The EPIRB must be clearly marked with the vessels name.</p> <p>A <a href="#">NOAA registration sticker</a> must be affixed to the EPIRB.</p>

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**Rescue Boat 46 CFR 180.210**

<p><b>General Requirements</b></p>	<p>Vessels greater than 65 feet in length are required to have a rescue boat unless it is determined that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vessel is sufficiently equipped to allow the crew to recover a helpless person from the water.</li> <li>• Recovery of a helpless person can be observed from the operating station.</li> <li>• The vessel does not regularly engage in operations that restrict its maneuverability.</li> </ul> <p>Vessels of not more than 65 feet are not required to carry a rescue boat unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vessel carries passengers on an open or partially enclosed deck; and</li> <li>• The OCMI determines that the vessel is designed, arranged, or involved in operations so that the vessel itself cannot serve as an adequate rescue craft.</li> </ul>
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