



Yacht Management & Marine Services

Freedom To enjoy



Scheduled Maintenance Programme

What gets done to a motor yacht, and how often

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This is the maintenance programme Marine HQ works to on the motor yachts it looks after, set out so you can run the same programme on your own yacht. It says what is carried out and how often. It is deliberately not a record — the moment you write a date on a schedule it is out of date, so what gets done when lives here, and what has actually been done belongs in your own log.

Every interval below is a real one, worked to by real crew. Where an interval depends on hours run rather than the calendar, the hours are given. Where the work belongs to the annual out-of-water period, it says so.

The programme at a glance

Fortnightly	Washed down, rinsed and dried; interior aired; deck and tender checks.	11 items
Monthly	A deeper clean, systems run under load, bilges and strainers.	40 items
Quarterly / 6-monthly	Wax and polish, water-maker and filter work.	5 items
Annually	Servicing, safety and compliance, electrical and electronics. Includes the annual out-of-water work.	59 items
By hours run	Engine and generator servicing, set by the hour meter rather than the calendar.	6 items

How to use it

Work down the fortnightly list first — it is the one that actually keeps a yacht right, and it is the one most often let go. The annual items are the ones worth diarising now, because they need a contractor booked ahead. The anti-foul, anodes and running-gear items fall in the annual out-of-water period, and are best quoted as one package rather than job by job.

Your yacht fill this in once; the hours-based items run from it

Vessel: _____ Main engines: _____ Generator: _____

Engine hours at start: _____ Generator hours at start: _____

Programme started: _____

ENGINES & PROPULSION

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Check & top up tender fuel	Fortnightly	
Check gearbox oil level & cleanliness	Monthly	
Check primary fuel filters for debris	Monthly	
Drain water from fuel filters	Monthly	
Engine room intake vents — clean	Monthly	
Engine-room detail	Monthly	
Lubricate gearbox external moving parts	Monthly	
Record engine hours (port / mid / stbd)	Monthly	
Start engines — check for unusual sounds, movement or vibration	Monthly	
Check tightness of fuel fittings at deck filler & vents	Annually	
Fit soaker pads under main engine	Annually	
Inspect / replace raw-water pump impellers	Annually	Replace at annual or haul-out
Inspect drive-shaft / gearbox bolts for security	Annually	
Inspect exhaust hangers & water-injection pipes	Annually	
Inspect exhaust lagging (replace ~5 yrs)	Annually	
Pre-launch checklist	Annually	
Propeller inspection (hue, clearance, scan)	Annually	
Replace gearbox oil filter	Annually	
Sea trial — full trial run & checklist (pre-haul or post-launch)	Annually	
Shaft seal / stuffing box (PSS) service	Annually	
Change engine oil (per engine manual)	100 hrs	MAN dealer
Engine service — main engines	250 hrs	
Replace fuel & oil filters (per manual)	250 hrs	Replace at each engine service

GENERATOR

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Generator service (oil, filters, impeller, anode)	250 hrs / Annual	

STABILISERS, THRUSTERS & STEERING

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Check hydraulic fluid levels, top up	Quarterly	Check oil level and quality
Check thruster fuses & main DC connections	Annually	
Earth-bonding checks (anode–shaft–prop–rudder)	Annually	
Remove & replace anodes — hull, shaft, rudder, trim tabs & lift platform	Annually	Replace at haul-out
Shafts, cutlass bearings, P-brackets, stern glands & rudder bearings — inspect	Annually	
Stabiliser heat exchanger anodes — inspect & replace	Annually	
Stabiliser service & valve checks	Annually	Seakeeper dealer — 2x Gyro 16
Steering & hydraulics — inspect & bleed	Annually	
Thruster Anodes	Annually	Replace at haul-out
Thrusters — remove/refit props, clean tunnels & renew anodes	Annually	Side Power dealer
Waxoyl hydraulic packs (Topwax)	Annually	

HULL & RUNNING GEAR

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Non-skid scrub	Monthly	
Cut, wax & polish — hull	6-monthly	Detailer
Anchor & chain — inspect, measure & re-mark	Annually	
Antifoul prep (acid wash, sand, QC crew)	Annually	At haul-out
Boot stripe & waterline — prep & paint	Annually	
Engine alignment check (post haul-out)	Annually	

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Haul-out & launch (travel lift)	Annually	
Inspect bottom paint — blisters / moisture meter	Annually	
Service thru-hulls & seacocks (open/close, free seized)	Annually	

ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Battery banks — check & test	Monthly	
Check & charge water-toy batteries (Seabob etc.)	Monthly	
Check battery charging units & DC systems	Monthly	
Check battery electrolyte, terminals & restraints	Monthly	
Battery banks — load test & inspect	Annually	Voltage, capacity, connections
Check RCDs, shore-power lead / socket & connections	Annually	
Check turbocharger oil pipes for cracks / damage	Annually	
Electronics / MFDs — power-on, software & charts	Annually	Charts + firmware
Inspect alternator & PTO drive belts for wear / tension	Annually	
Nav, anchor & deck lights — test	Annually	
Re-grease battery terminals	Annually	
Shore power, inverter & charger — check	Annually	
Wiring & connections — inspect	Annually	

CLIMATE, WATER & DOMESTIC

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Operate sea cocks (cycle) — weekly	Fortnightly	
Surface wipe-over — heads, benches, surfaces	Fortnightly	
Back-flush sea-water intakes	Monthly	

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Bilge clean	Monthly	
Check calorifier / hot-water system	Monthly	
Check main coarse water strainer	Monthly	
Clean bilge strainers & sump boxes	Monthly	
Empty & reposition dehumidifier	Monthly	
Engine room & bilge checks	Monthly	
Fill / drain / flush freshwater tanks	Monthly	
Flush water maker / desalinator	Monthly	
Freezers — check, clean out & check seals	Monthly	
Fridges — check, clean out & check seals	Monthly	
Galley deep clean	Monthly	
Ice makers — check, clean out & test	Monthly	
Pump out grey / black water	Monthly	
Water maker — replace filters	Quarterly	
Air-conditioning — service & gas check	Annually	
Descale / back-flush A/C system	Annually	
Flush black-water tank with fresh water + chemicals	Annually	
Heads & sanitation — service	Annually	
Inspect fresh-water pipes & connections	Annually	
Replace black-water tank carbon filters	Annually	
Replace ice-maker water filter	Annually	
Test bilge system alarm	Annually	Test pumps + float switches
Water maker service	Annually	
Water maker — membrane service / replace	Annually	
Fresh-water flush, refuel, test-drive tender	Annual / 100 hrs	Per Williams schedule

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
EPIRB — battery & registration	Annually	Confirm expiry + AMSA rego
First-aid kit — check & restock	Annually	
Fit / check EPIRB, life rings, extinguishers	Annually	Confirm provider
Flares — check expiry & replace	Annually	
Gas system — leak test	Annually	
Life jackets & safety gear — inspect	Annually	Inspect bladders and cylinders
Out-of-water inspection & survey	Annually	Schedule shipyard period
Seafire Engine Room Suppression	Annually	Confirm service history
Life raft install / service	Per certificate	

TENDER & TOYS

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Tender wash down	Fortnightly	
Tender detail	Monthly	
Davit / lifting gear — inspect & load test	Annually	Inspect lifting points

ROUTINE CARE & INTERIOR

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Chamois dry-off	Fortnightly	
Dry under flybridge mattresses / ventilate	Fortnightly	
Full vacuum (carpets, floors)	Fortnightly	
Full vessel wash down	Fortnightly	Crew routine
Make beds & cabin tidy	Fortnightly	
Quick rinse	Fortnightly	
Window & glass clean	Fortnightly	
Clean / replace A/C strainer basket	Monthly	
Clean A/C air filters	Monthly	

SYSTEM / ITEM	HOW OFTEN	NOTES
Clean grey-water sump strainer	Monthly	
Clean out lockers, hatches, skippers	Monthly	
Clean raw-water sea strainers	Monthly	
Cushion & upholstery clean	Monthly	
Empty & clean shower trays; flush grey tanks	Monthly	
Fender & line care	Monthly	
Run Systems	Monthly	Run engines/genset, check bilges
Rust removal & S/S polish	Monthly	
Semco sealing	Monthly	
Spot cleaning / detailing (marks, stains, soot)	Monthly	
2-part teak treatment (clean & brighten)	6-monthly	Check caulking
Cut, wax & polish — superstructure	Quarterly / 6-monthly	
Inspect bonding straps (corrosion, cleanliness, security)	Annually	
Post-shipyard clean-up	Annually	
Vessel protection on & off (corflute, covers, masking)	Annually	

Intervals are a starting point, not a rule

Your engine and equipment manuals always take precedence, and a yacht worked hard, kept in the tropics or used commercially will need shorter intervals than one lightly used in temperate water. Treat this as the baseline a well-kept yacht is held to, then tighten it where your own yacht, your own waters and your own manuals say you should.

Marine HQ · Yacht Management & Marine Services · MHQ-SMP-001 · Issued 6 October 2026 · Part of The Yacht Owner's Kit · Sold as an information document; it is not a survey, a compliance certificate or a substitute for your manufacturer's servicing schedule.

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