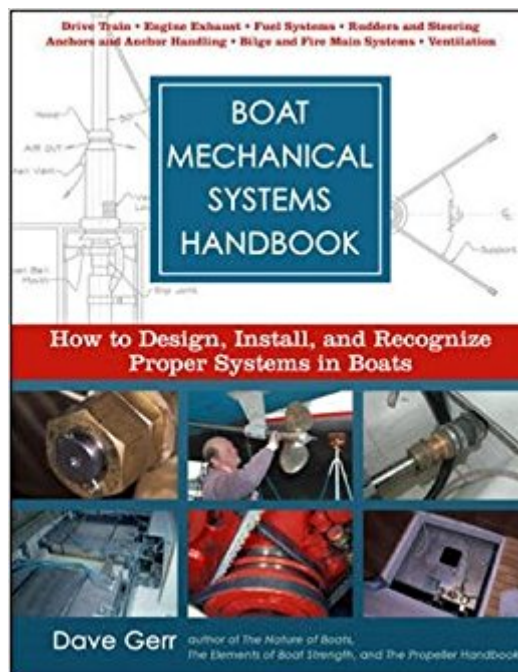


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Boat Mechanical Systems Handbook: How To Design, Install, And Recognize Proper Systems In Boats



Synopsis

The First Ever Guide for Optimizing Boat Systems This guide is invaluable for anyone designing or installing mechanical systems on a new boat, retrofitting an existing boat, or evaluating a boat's operating condition. Writing for designers, builders, owners, buyers, mechanics, surveyors, and insurers of sailboats, powerboats, and commercial vessels, Dave Gerr provides design and installation guidance for each major mechanical system plus pragmatic guidelines and real-world interpretations of American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) and European standards. No marine professional or serious boater should be without Boat Mechanical Systems Handbook. "Dave Gerr has a knack for breaking down the more esoteric concepts of naval architecture into language that's easily understood by the layman, which is one of the reasons why his writing often appears in the pages of SAIL. Another reason is his deep practical knowledge of the intricacies and subtleties of boat construction and systems, and the way they relate to each other. The subhead of Boat Mechanical Systems Handbook says it all--'how to design, install and recognize proper systems in boats.' Light reading this isn't, but if you're about to refit your boat or upgrade outdated systems, perhaps with some serious voyaging in mind, this book is a worthwhile investment. This is a unisex book, for both powerboaters and sailors; there's no mention of sailing rigs, but every other conceivable system is covered more or less exhaustively."--PETER NIELSEN, SAIL, November 2009 Praise for Dave Gerr's previous books: The Elements of Boat Strength: "Certain books, because of their thoroughness, tend to become industry standards; such is the case with The Elements of Boat Strength."--Ocean Navigator Propeller Handbook: "The best layman's guide we've ever read."--Practical Sailor "Gerr made a complicated topic understandable and put it into a handbook that is easy to use."--WoodenBoat The Nature of Boats: "Offers, in a disarmingly charming fashion, a look at all aspects of what makes a boat work. If you are not nautically obsessed prior to reading this book, you most certainly will be afterward."--Sailing

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Customer Reviews

Dave Gerr is the director of the Westlawn Institute of Marine Technology--the only accredited distance-learning school of small-craft design in the United States--and since 1983 the principal of Gerr Marine, Inc., a designer of yachts and commercial vessels. A fellow of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects, he is the author of Propeller Handbook, The Elements of Boat Strength, and The Nature of Boats, all from International Marine/McGraw-Hill.

From it's pages I've gleamed very useful information about the mechanics of most boats. The boats described seem to be much large than the average boat owner's vessels but the information is still applicable. It also provided me with knowledge of things I was unaware of, that will be very usable as I remodel my old boat. Bring it up to date with mechanics and utilities. ThanksMaxey

As the owner of a thirty year-old sailboat with aging systems I only wish Mr. Gerr would have written this book a few years earlier. It would have certainly saved me much time and expense in addition to the aggravation of having to re-do work previously performed by so-called professional boatyards (ever screw a ball valve onto a thru-hull fitting with incompatible threads, instead of installing a true seacock? Yup, that's been done).The author explains the best practices for the design and installation of most systems on boats. Of particular interest is his explanations of how to size system components and connections. For example: what size and how many bilge pumps do you need for your vessel? In my case, a lot more than I thought as most pump manufacturer's performance data is not reflective of real world conditions.Mr. Gerr also provides numerous formulas with which to calculate the proper size of various components from bilge pumps to fuel filters, hoses, heaters, anchors, etc. I am a testament that you don't need to be a math whiz to understand how to use these formula.As a fellow boat owner, even if you do not perform your own maintenance this book will prove invaluable in providing you essential information so you will understand and recognize proper installations performed by others. The piece of mind that comes from the knowledge that

your vessel is sound is priceless. Mr. Gerr's Propeller Handbook is also written in the same easy to understand style and is most useful for those considering re-powering their boat or trying to solve performance problems. Nigel Calder's Boat Owners Mechanical and Electrical Manual is also essential reading for the boat owner.

What can I say--I wish I was as knowledgeable as Dave Gerr. Certainly if you do maintenance on your boat you will need this book.

I admit I am a Dave Gerr fan. I also own his other books (The Propeller Handbook, The Nature of Boats, and the Elements of Boat Strength). I find his work to be very comprehensive and very accessible. I am relatively new to working in marine design and have picked up Dave's books to fill in some of the gaps in my knowledge. I have not been disappointed. This book would also be a good resource for boat owners and boat builders. I haven't poured over all the chapters, but my first impression is that The Boat Mechanical Systems Handbook does an excellent job of covering all the typical mechanical systems you'd find on a boat, including detailed drawings and rules/calculations for sizing boat parts. As the book covers boats, you won't find many details that are also applicable to larger commercial vessels (ships) but the principles are often the same anyways. A great value.

If you are doing a new buildout, restoration or planning to do either this book MUST join those by Nigel Calder (Boatowner's Mechanical and Electrical Manual: How to Maintain, Repair, and Improve Your Boat's Essential Systems) and other great authors, on your reference shelf. The details provided for various systems include historical examples, numerous sketches, photos and engineering formulas and careful attention to international standards and measurements. The boating world is a better place because of this book. I have a nautical library with over 700 volumes and this book will go immediately to "most treasured" status!

Absolutely amazing handbook. I think Dave Gerr can read in my mind and write directly about 99% of my designing troubles, problems and give me recipes. Very clear written, 110% useful. I live not in USA, not in England or other country with English language. For me very important is easy language. This book has easy for foreigners language and very good illustration. This is my third book of Dave Gerr. Once again the best choice. If I can, I give six stars for this book.

I'm in the middle of a major boat rehab project and every time I open this book I find another jewel.

Can't imagine tackling this project without it.

A great book densely packed with information and no padding or waffle. This is a book for those who want to understand the core issues of systems on small boats, it is not a 'how to fix a tap' book.

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