

LIGHTS FOR SMALL CRAFT

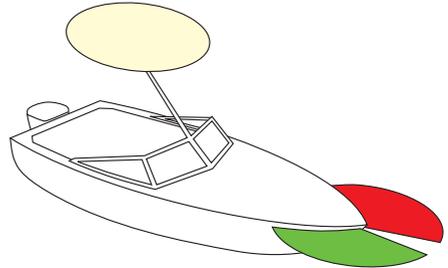
At night all boats are identified by the pattern of lights they display. This pattern of lights also helps you to know which way a boat is heading.

All boats must comply with the regulations concerning lighting. Check that the lights fitted to your boat are showing through the correct arc.

Lights must be switched on from sunset to sunrise and in rain and fog.

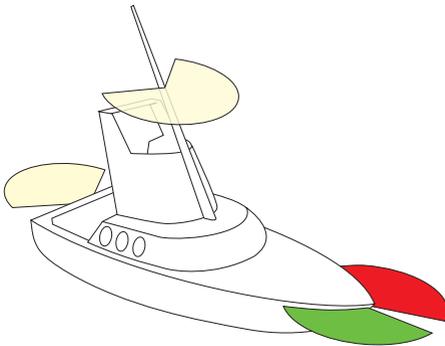
Failure to display the correct lights may result in fines or prosecution.

These are the lighting requirements for all vessels underway:



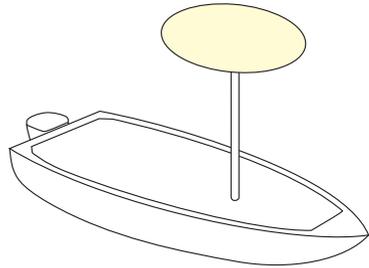
Powerboats less than 12m in length

May combine their stern and masthead lights to one all round white light.



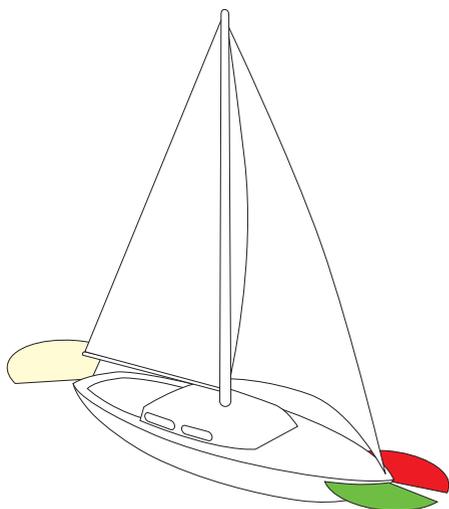
Powerboats over 12m in length

This includes a sailing boat if it is operating its engine. Display red and green sidelights, a white sternlight and a white masthead light.



Powerboats less than 7m in length and not capable of speeds over 7 knots

Need only display an all round white light.

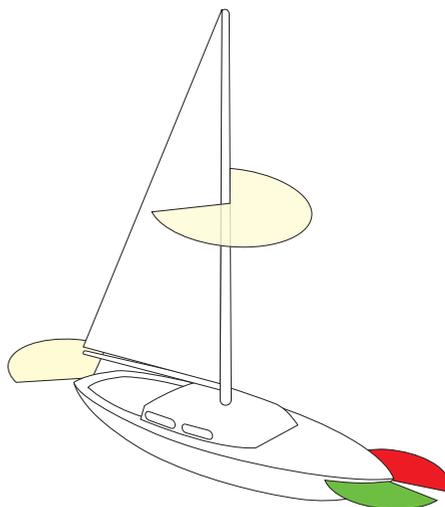


Sailing boats

Must show red and green sidelights and a white sternlight. These three lights may be combined into a single tri-colour light mounted at the top of the mast on yachts less than 20m in length.

Dinghies and Kayaks

All non-powered boats under 7m in length, such as a rowing dinghy, canoe, kayak or sailboat must show a white light or torch to indicate its presence.



Sailing boats motoring or motor-sailing

Considered to be powerboats and must display sidelights, a sternlight and a masthead light.

MASTHEAD LIGHT

Masthead lights shine forward in a 225 degree arc and must be at least 1m above the sidelights.

ANCHOR LIGHT

Every boat at anchor must show only a white light visible from all directions between sunset and sunrise.

RANGE OF LIGHTS

On boats up to 12m in length, white lights must have a range of 2 miles and side lights a range of 1 mile.

BUOYS AND BEACONS

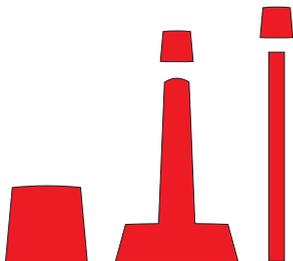
These are the road signs on the water. The meaning of each navigational buoy, or beacon, is found in its shape, symbol on the top (topmark) and its colours.

Take time to study the buoys to familiarise yourself with their meanings.

CHANNEL MARKERS

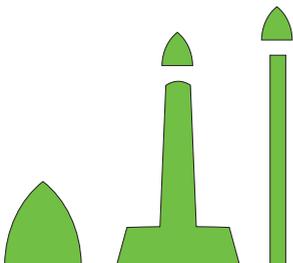
These show well-established channels and indicate port (left) and starboard (right) sides of the channels. One of the following may be used;

Lateral Marks (Red or Green)



Port Mark

A red can shape. At night, a red flashing light may be shown.



Starboard Mark

A green conical shape. At night, a green flashing light may be shown.

Coming In

Upon entering harbour the red port mark should be kept on the boat's port (left) side and the green mark on the boat's starboard (right) side.

Going Out

When leaving harbour the red port mark should be kept on the boat's starboard (right) side and the green mark on the boat's port (left) side.



Water Ski Access

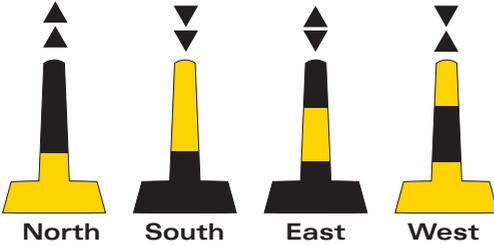
Black and orange bands.



Reserved Areas

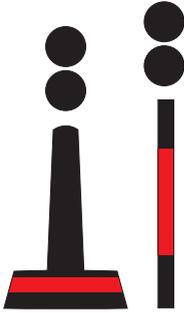
Black and white bands.

CARDINAL MARKS



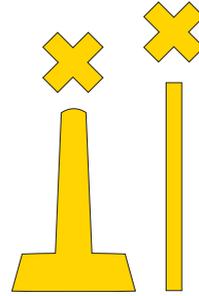
Yellow and Black

Each indicates where there is deep water close to a danger and they show this relative to the compass. i.e. deep water is to the North of a North Cardinal Mark, to the East of an East Cardinal Mark.



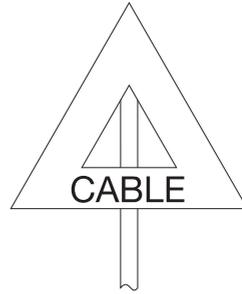
Isolated Danger – Red and Black

Indicates an isolated danger, such as a submerged rock and so tells you not to pass too close. Coloured black with one or more horizontal red bands. If lit at night, it shows a group of two white flashes. The top mark has two black spheres.



Special Marks – Yellow

Indicates a special area and that you should beware. Coloured yellow. If lit at night, it shows a flashing yellow light. The top mark is a single yellow cross. Check your chart to identify what is special in that area.



Underwater Cable Marks

These are indicated by a white triangle on the foreshore. When in pairs, they indicate the direction of the cable. Do not anchor near these cables. The skipper of a boat that damages a cable will be held responsible, with fines up to \$100,000.

For further information, refer to the Maritime NZ book, New Zealand's System of Buoys and Beacons.