



The Boat Safety Scheme would like you and your crew to have a happy and safe time boating, free from carbon monoxide (CO) dangers and never having need to react to a CO alarm activation!

So please try this self-check, safety quiz.

NB: if you tick any box, you are at risk of CO poisoning!



Carbon Monoxide Kills

How safe are you
from CO poisoning?
Take this quiz

Have you ever ignored the smell petrol-engine exhaust fumes in the cabin space? I have done this at least once

Petrol engines, including generators and outboards, produce dangerous levels of CO. Know not to ignore the smell of exhaust gases in the cabin - see page 9 of the booklet 'Carbon Monoxide Safety On Boats'

Have you ever used the LPG hob, grill or oven for space heating? I have done this at least once

Appliances consume oxygen; gas cooking equipment cannot be used safely for space heating - see page 2 of the booklet 'Carbon Monoxide Safety On Boats' to learn about other factors that can lead to CO

Are your cabin ventilators blocked to prevent draughts? Yes to keep warm I have done this previously

Appliances need adequate ventilation, or they may produce CO; know never to block ventilators - see page 10 of the booklet 'Carbon Monoxide Safety On Boats' for other things never to do!

Do you run a solid fuel stove with its door open?

Most days Occasionally

A clean chimney and burning the right fuel and dry fuel should mean you never have to operate the stove with its door open. Keep store doors closed and stay protected from the dual dangers of CO and fire - see pages 6, 8 & 10 for more tips about staying safe with stoves.

Have you ever 'bodged' a repair of an exhaust or chimney, or even 'never got around to it'? Every time Sometimes

Gash fixes and delayed repairs have led to boaters being hurt and lives lost! If there's a problem, don't use the engine or appliance, get it fixed properly by a competent fitter or technician - see page 7 about prevention

How often do you bring a lit or cooling charcoal BBQ into a cabin or covered deck space? Recently Hardly ever

Hot charcoal gives off dangerous amounts of CO, know that charcoal is only safe when its stone-cold! Never bring a lit or cooling BBQ aboard, see page 10 for other things that you should never do if you want to stay safe

So you reached the end without ticks, great, but don't drop your guard. Complacency can be a killer.

But if you have ticked even one of those boxes, be careful, please don't do it again as we want you to keep 'happy boating'. Stay safe!



If you don't have our booklet 'Carbon Monoxide Safety On Boats', view it online at www.boatsafetyscheme.org/co

Look after your CO alarm:

- o Test the alarm when you first board the boat
- o Test the alarm monthly when the boat is in use

If your CO alarm goes off - this is what to do:

- o Open doors, windows and awnings to allow fresh air into the boat
- o If possible, turn off all fuel burning equipment, such as ovens, heaters and engines as you leave
- o Get off the boat as safely and quickly as you can
- o Make sure you find out the source of the problem and have a qualified person fix any engine or appliance faults before using them again

Do you suspect you are suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning - this is what you should do:

Understand that the following symptoms could be caused by carbon monoxide poisoning:



HEADACHES



NAUSEA



DIZZINESS



BREATHLESSNESS

If you, or your crew feel ill on your boat, but feel fine ashore, you need to check this out. If you think you are suffering carbon monoxide poisoning, contact your doctor, or if the symptoms are severe, get to A&E. Let the medics know you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning. They can do a blood or breath test to check you are OK.

Find out more at www.boatsafety.org/co