

Boat transfer checklist

Sample checklist. Not legal advice. The state agency sets the form, the fee, and the deadline. This sheet does not invent those numbers.

Match the boat to the paper

- ☐ Hull identification number on the boat matches the title, registration, or Coast Guard document.
- ☐ Year, make, and length are written down.
- ☐ You know whether this boat is state-titled, registered only, or Coast Guard documented.

Bill of sale

- ☐ Seller and buyer names and addresses are on the bill of sale.
- ☐ Purchase price and date of sale are filled in.
- ☐ Seller and buyer have both signed.
- ☐ The sample bill of sale is not automatically your state's form.

Three different papers

- ☐ Bill of sale: the written record of the deal.
- ☐ Title: the ownership record, in states that issue one.
- ☐ Registration: permission to use that state's waters, and the number on the bow.
- ☐ Documented boat: Coast Guard form CG-1340. The seller's signature is acknowledged by a notary.

What changes hands

- ☐ Keys, and the trailer if one is part of the deal.
- ☐ The previous title or registration.
- ☐ A lien release if a lender is named on the title or the document.
- ☐ Manuals and loose electronics, if the seller is handing them over.

Check your state

- ☐ The form, the fee, and the deadline are on the official agency page.
- ☐ State pages, with those official links: www.boatornope.com/boat-registration
- ☐ How the papers differ: www.boatornope.com/guides/boat-bill-of-sale