

My Top 3 Tips for Prospective Purchasers

You've seen the boat of your dreams.
And you long to seal the deal and make her yours. But you don't know where to start with the boat buying process...

You've come to the right place. Whether or not you are an experienced yachtsperson or a newcomer to boating, here at Foster Marine Surveys we always have your best interests at heart. After 25 years in the business, it still amazes me how many clients contact me after purchasing a boat, looking for an insurance survey, without having had the benefit of a pre-purchase survey.

My questions to all prospective purchasers are:

- would you buy a house without a survey
- and if not, why not?

REMEMBER:

- when you choose a pre-purchase survey you are paying a few hundred pounds to potentially save thousands
- Did you know that a pre-purchase survey can be used for insurance purposes?



Here are my Top Tips to consider when purchasing a boat:

1. Always have a pre-purchase survey because:

- at the very best you'll have peace of mind
- you will have foresight as to any potential structural or major maintenance issues which can be used in negotiating a fair purchase price
- you may decide not to proceed and walk away from a potentially costly project

2. Basic checks for you to do before instructing a surveyor:

- **GRP/FRP vessels:** if the vessel is out of the water, lookout for any signs of blistering on the undersides as this may be an indication of a potential structural problem. Be wary of painted topsides as paint can hide a multitude of sins
- **Steel vessels:** Look out for any damp patches or signs of corrosion. Watch out for painted hulls which can hide a multitude of sins
- **Timber vessels:** look out for damp patches and decaying timber

3. If you are buying a sailing vessel, check the age of the standing rigging.

Most insurance companies will not insure a cruising vessel that has standing rigging of more than 10 years and replacement of standing rigging can be costly.

Contact me and be assured of a thorough and competitively priced survey.

Foster Marine Surveys: a name you can rely on.