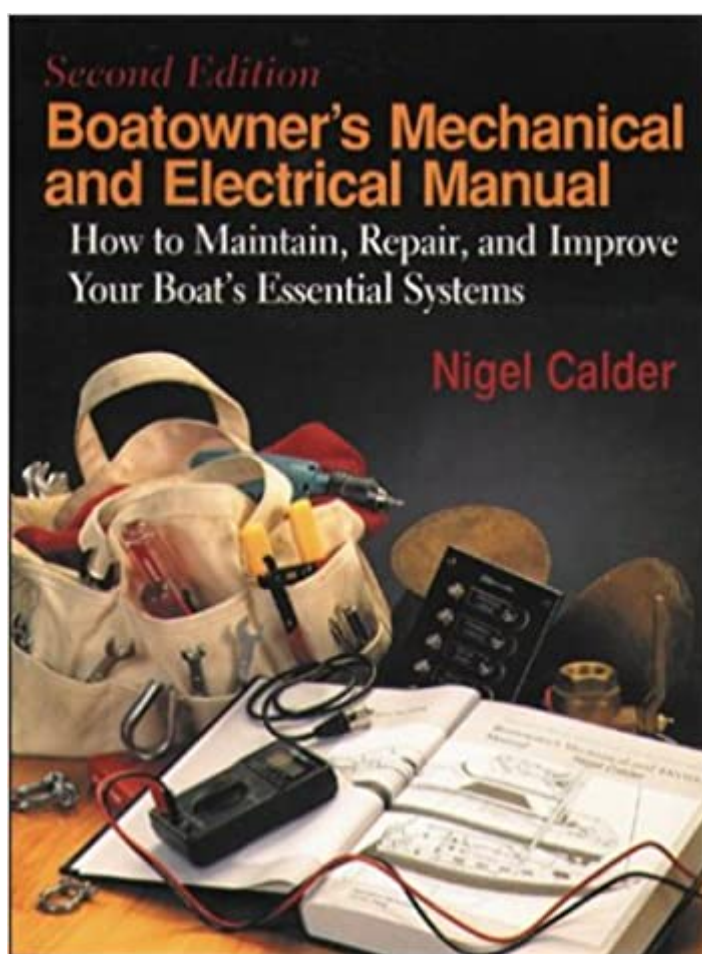


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# Boatowner's Mechanical & Electrical Manual: How To Maintain, Repair, And Improve Your Boat's Essential Systems



## Synopsis

Regardless of your skill level, Boatowner's Mechanical and Electrical Manual makes boat maintenance and repair fast, fun and easy! Hundreds of tips and techniques for maintaining, troubleshooting and fixing every working part and system on your boat--all clearly explained in step-by-step detail. How to make sure your boat's electrical system provides all the power you need; Common and little-known tips for keeping your batteries and charging system safe and trouble-free; Simple test procedures for grounding circuits on boats; Best way to prevent galvanic corrosion on newly installed equipment; Easy, reliable way to make sure your inverter can handle peak AC appliance load; Often overlooked preventive maintenance for diesel engines. What to do right after start-up, while in use and at regular intervals during the season to ensure years of trouble-free boating; 8-point troubleshooting procedure for poor pickup; How to replace a transmission output-shaft oil seal. 5 simple steps to stop loss of transmission oil; Secret trick for keeping deck hardware fastened tight no matter how excessive the loads. Works every time. 7 safety tips for repairing masthead lights and other fixtures on top of the mast; and much, much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Do yourself a favor: if you own a boat, you should also own the Boatowner's Mechanical & Electrical Manual. Written in a simple, accessible style, the Manual is aimed at helping the nonexpert solve problems in marine systems--think of it as a friendly mechanic. Author Nigel Calder explains how the systems work, helps you troubleshoot and identify problems, and presents clear and concise instructions on how to repair them. Best of all, Calder also offers helpful advice on how to prevent

future system failure. Absolutely indispensable for boat owners. --M. Stein

“An impressive compilation of advice on boat equipment and systems--one of the best we've seen--Much of the information cannot be found anywhere else.” (Practical Sailor) “Several feet of shelf space in [our] technical library is devoted to material published in recent years on marine systems for small craft. But the single most frequently reached for reference in this collection is [this book]. . .It has effectively supplanted everything else on that shelf.” (Professional Boat Builder) “This book should come as standard equipment with every boat.” (Sail) “A truly remarkable bible--This book is the best kind that I am aware of, and it should become part of the ship's library for every self-sufficient cruiser.” (WoodenBoat)

As I previously said about his other books, Calder is the go to guy for info about anything boating related. This was my first book of his, I've just rec'd "How to Read a Nautical Chart", also equally detailed as this one. I'd say, and I was a maintenance electrician for over a decade & a General Contractor for about 30 yrs, this is one of the most detailed books on maintenance/troubleshooting I've ever read; and I've read quite a few! He starts out on the subject of batteries - and over 15 pages later he still had more to say. Photographs of various stages of failure of boat components show what to watch for as a boat owner. Excellent detail, down to Ohm's law and calculations for the flow of electrons as a measurement of amperes - stuff I took in College Physics classes many moons ago - to simple things that many just forget to do. His troubleshooting flowcharts are the kind of thinking process mechanically inclined folks can appreciate, which he does on every major component on powered or sail vessels. Amazing detail and extras like how to jerry-rigged a DC rectifier in a blown-out condition enough to get you back safely to shore. Again, as I've had sailors who live on their vessels advise me, "anything by Calder" should be in a boater's library **ON THE BOAT!** This is where we'll be keeping this one once I'm done reading at home. If you have room for only one mechanical book, other than your owners manual, this is the one I would choose!

18 years old, and so its frustrating re specs, laws, materials, etc but the reader will appreciate why this was the boater's bible and that researching today the "core" of any topic need not extend farther back than this book. It remains a good, solid, practical manual of "what matters and why" for cruising boat systems. The basic understandings remain valid even when the tech and materials evolve. Read it, then update the knowledge with modern articles and "Practical Sailor" etc, and the combo is very useful. If this ever goes into a new edition, I would jump on that sight unseen. Are you

listening, Nigel? :-)

I decided to try to shoe-horn some more technical knowledge in areas of demonstrated concern with the old-school method of cracking the books...I have an extensive formal education and had not really tried to venture out in this way (being lazy and passive, trying to absorb through osmosis and conversation the details of battery maintenance and use) and lo and behold, it worked. I can now use jargon like Amp-hours, Equalizing, parallel hookups and etc. in a conversation that actually makes sense. I am an informed consumer. I replaced anxiety about ignorance with information. Thanks Nigel Caulder.

Lots of repairs you can do yourself ,, With this book

This book is one of the essential purchases I can heartily recommend. If you have a sailing boat, and it has a motor and electrical equipment of any sort, you should buy this book. Should there be a problem of a mechanical or electrical nature, with the knowledge contained here you will be less lost, less helpless. I can recommend that it is kept close, on board, well protected, and not to be lent to anyone else.

A heck of a bargain for a beautifully made book with great information. I own an inboard diesel. I saw where others were not as happy with it that owned gas.

Fairly good book. Useful, i would like more simplified explanations maybe a definition section in the back of the book

very good deal

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