

Foggy conditions

Establish position and put on chart.

Put on lifejackets.

Put up a radar reflector if not already rigged.

Put on navigation lights.

Reduce the speed and keep to a safe speed.

Make fog sound signals.

Consider using the engine.

Post extra lookouts.

Use all instruments to the full. GPS, VHF, echo sounder.

Use the radar if available but make sure you know how to use it properly.

Wake up crew, especially in the fore cabin!

Have a white flare handy.

Stormy conditions

Get the crew in warm waterproof gear.

Put on life jackets.

Clip on harness lines.

Reef sails.

Check all hatches are closed.

Check stowage.

Stow all loose gear.

Prepare food and drinks.

Reduce speed in a motor cruiser.

Consider anti-seasickness tablets.

Consider the benefit of using a drogue (sea anchor).

Consider diverting - a longer passage is better than a shipwreck

Mayday call

MAYDAY x 3

This is 'vessel name' x 3

Callsign and MMSI

MAYDAY 'vessel name'

Callsign and MMSI

My position is (**from** an object)

Nature of the distress

I REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

Number of people on board

Other relevant information

OVER

Don't forget that a mayday call should be made only if there is 'grave and imminent danger' to life or vessel. Non life threatening situations require a call to the coastguard or a Pan Pan.

