



RESOURCE

Keep, Repair, or Replace Your Boat: A Decision Framework

A single scary repair estimate should not drive a keep-or-replace decision by itself; the honest comparison uses only future cash, never what you already spent.

A scary repair estimate is not a keep-or-replace decision by itself

One large repair quote can feel like proof that it's time to sell, but a single number doesn't answer the actual question: is switching boats cheaper than paying for this repair and continuing to own the one you have. The honest comparison uses only future cash, what the repair costs, what replacing costs, and what each path is worth going forward, and never what you already spent on the current boat. That money is gone either way.

Pricing what keeping the current boat actually costs going forward

Current Boat Remaining-Life Cost estimates the forward cost of keeping a boat you already own, separating what you already paid from what keeping it costs from today forward, the baseline every repair-vs-replace comparison needs.

Comparing a specific known repair against replacing

Once a specific repair is quoted, Repair vs Replace Boat compares it directly against switching to a different boat entirely, using only future cash, transaction costs, ongoing costs, and resale. Maximum Repair Cost Before Replacing Boat goes further and solves for the exact repair price that flips the result, useful before a quote even comes in, or when negotiating one that has.

Reviewing the plan after a season, not just before one

A forward estimate is only as good as its assumptions, and the best way to catch a reserve that's sized wrong is to check it against what actually happened. Annual My Boat Plan Review compares planned use and cost against the real season, calls out the biggest driver of any gap,

and sets next season's reserve target from what actually happened rather than the original guess.

What to actually check before deciding on a repair

- Whether the repair is genuinely a one-time cost or likely to repeat before your ownership horizon ends.
- What a comparable replacement boat's own condition risk and diligence cost would add, not just its sticker price.
- Whether the current boat's remaining-life cost, not its original price, is the number driving the comparison.
- Whether last season's actual costs matched the plan, since a reserve that ran short once is worth revisiting before the next repair decision.



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