

BOAT LIVERIES: Businesses that rent, lease or charter boats are required to have a Certificate of Number for each vessel.

PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-OWNERS: All owners' names will appear on the Certificate of Number and will appear in the "Principal" and "Co-owner(s)" spaces, accordingly as written on the application for registration.

HAWAI'I VESSELS IN OTHER STATES:

Hawai'i registration is valid in all 50 states. However, boaters are advised to check the regulations of another state before operating their vessels on the waters of that state.

VESSELS FROM OTHER STATES: Visiting boaters may operate their craft in Hawaiian waters up to sixty (60) days if their craft is registered and numbered according to federal law or a federally-approved numbering system of another state. Visitor vessels must comply with the Coast Guard's minimum equipment requirements and Hawai'i carriage requirements.

REPORT BOATING ACCIDENTS: a verbal report of any serious boating accident should be made as quickly as possible to a DOBOR (harbor or enforcement) official; police officer; or nearest police station. If a boating accident results in: (a) the death or disappearance of any person; (b) injury that causes any person to require medical treatment beyond first aid; (c) physical damage to any vessel or property in excess of \$2000; and/or (d) the loss or disappearance of a vessel, a written report must be submitted within 48 hours.

Other kinds of accidents must be reported within seven (7) days. Visit <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dobor/forms/> to access and download an accident report form.

STOLEN OR LOST VESSELS: Vessel owners should immediately notify the police if their vessel is stolen or lost. A stolen boat report should also be filed with DOBOR. DOBOR and Police should also be notified when a drifting vessel is spotted.

This brochure is for general information only and does not have effect of the Law.

(LNR 3-030 revised 2/97)

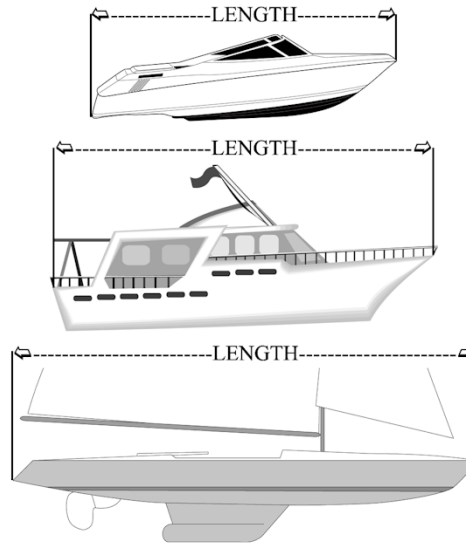


Figure 1: How to measure vessel length



Figure 2: Registration decal and number display

BOATING & OCEAN RECREATION OFFICES

O'AHU - DOBOR Admin Office

4 Sand Island Access Road, Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: (808) 587-1970 Fax (808) 587-1977

HAWAI'I

Kona:

74-380 Kealakehe Parkway, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
Phone: (808) 327-3690 Fax (808) 327-3693

Hilo:

75 Aupuni Street, Suite 210, Hilo, HI 96720
Phone: (808) 933-0414 Fax (808) 933-0415

KAUAI

2494 Niunalu Road, Lihu'e, HI 96766
Phone: (808) 241-3111 Fax (808) 241-3117

MAUI

101 Ma'alaea Boat Harbor Road, Wailuku, HI 96793
Phone: (808) 243-5824 Fax (808) 243-5829

VESSEL REGISTRATION IN HAWAI'I



**Hawai'i Dept. of Land & Natural Resources
Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation
4 Sand Island Access Road
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819**

BOAT REGISTRATION IN HAWAII: All vessels in Hawai'i must be registered with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR). Exceptions include: documented (federally registered) vessels; U.S. Government owned vessels; a ship's lifeboats used solely for lifesaving purposes; manually propelled vessels; vessels eight (8) feet or less in length and propelled solely by sail; motorboats used only for racing; foreign vessels and those registered in other states that are in Hawaiian waters for sixty (60) days or less.

Owners of undocumented vessels may apply for a registration number even if their boat is exempt from Hawai'i's numbering requirements.

WHERE TO REGISTER: Oahu- application forms are available at the Vessel Registration lobby, DOBOR Admin Office, 4 Sand Island Access Road, Honolulu, HI 96819. Certificates of number and decals are issued here at the time of application.

Neighbor islands- application forms are available at District offices and at select DOBOR harbors. Neighbor island District and harbor offices accept completed applications and fees, and issue temporary certificates and decals to allow boat owners to use their vessels while a permanent certificate is being processed. Applications can also be mailed to: DLNR/DOBOR Vessel Registration, 4 Sand Island Access Road, Honolulu, HI 96819. All checks for fees should be made payable to DLNR – Boating. Upon completion of the neighbor island registration process, DOBOR will issue boat owners a Certificate of Number card by mail.

Visit <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dobor/forms/> to access DOBOR vessel registration forms (application, notice of sale, change of status).

PROOF OF OWNERSHIP: Proof of ownership is required when a new vessel owner or owner of a vessel not previously registered in Hawai'i applies for registration. Ownership can be established when one of the following documents is submitted to and accepted by DOBOR: (a) **Notarized** Certificate of Sale that has been signed and notarized by the seller(s) and shows the name and address of the seller, name and address of the purchaser, the location and date of sale, and an identifying number of the vessel; or, (b) a properly endorsed document that indicates

title if the vessel was registered and issued title by another state; or (c) where neither (a) nor (b) is appropriate, a notarized affidavit by the applicant that supports his/her claim of ownership.

Vessels owners that have current, out-of-state registration for their boats should attach such documents to their application.

REGISTRATION FEES: Registration fees and equipment requirements are determined by vessel length. The length is measured from end to end over the deck, excluding sheer. This is a straight-line measurement of the overall length from the foremost to the aftermost part of the vessel, measured parallel to the centerline. *See figure 1.* Bowsprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fittings or attachments are not to be included in the measurement. Length shall be stated in feet and inches. "Sheer" is the longitudinal upward curve of the deck, gunwales, and line of vessel, when viewed from the side.

CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER CARD: Boaters should have the Certificate of Number card available for inspection whenever the vessel is in operation.

REGISTRATION NUMBER & ANNUAL DECAL PLACEMENT: Registration numbers should be permanently affixed on each side of the forward half of the vessel, usually on the bow. They should read from left to right, be clearly visible and legible. No other numbers or letters that interfere with the identification of the vessel may be displayed. Numerals must be separated from letters by spaces with a width of an average size letter or numeral. Hyphens may be used in these spaces. Letters and numerals should be at least three (3) inches in height; be in block character of good proportion; of a color that provides good contrast to the hull color or backing plate; and, preferably without border, trim, outlining or shading. The number for vessels with flared bows should be placed on some other part of the forward half of the hull where it can be read easily. The test for proper numbering is clear legibility at a distance of one hundred (100) feet. The annual registration decal must be placed on each side of the vessel, three inches aft (toward the stern) of and directly in line with the registration numbers. *See figure 2.*

HULL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (HIN): Manufacturer issued HINs shall be used as the HIN on vessel documents. The HIN consists of 12 digits. If there

is no such number (if the vessel is homemade) then DOBOR will assign a permanent HIN to the vessel. Defacing a HIN and possessing a vessel with an erased or mutilated HIN are prohibited by law. No vessel manufactured after November, 1972 may be sold or offered for sale in Hawai'i unless such vessel has a HIN. The HIN should be marked on the right hand outboard of the transom, or if there is no transom, to the outer most starboard side at the end of the hull that bears the rudder or other steering mechanism, above the waterline of the boat. The HIN can be carved, stamped, branded or otherwise permanently affixed (minimum character height of one quarter (¼) of an inch).

RENEWAL OF THE CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER: The Certificate of Number is valid for one (1) year and may be renewed at any time within a ninety (90) day period preceding the expiration date. Renewals may be completed in person at any DOBOR office or by mailing the courtesy reminder postcard and fees to the DOBOR Admin Office in Honolulu.

REPLACEMENT OF LOST OR DESTROYED CERTIFICATES: Vessel owners should notify DOBOR within seven (7) days if a Certificate of Number card or annual registration decal is lost, stolen, OR MUTILATED. Reporting forms are available at DOBOR offices. A \$10 fee is charged for each duplicate certificate, sticker or ramp decal.

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES: Vessel owners must notify DOBOR of any changes within seven (7) days. This includes changes in address, abandonment, loss or destruction of the vessel, transfer of all or part interest in the vessel to another person, if the vessel is permanently removed from the State, or if the vessel is documented.

TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER: If a vessel is sold/given to another party, the new owner must apply for transfer of the Certificate of Number with DOBOR within seven (7) days after acquiring the boat. A bill of sale must accompany any transfer request. The signature of the seller must be notarized on the bill of sale.

MARINE DEALER OR BOAT MANUFACTURER: A marine dealer or boat manufacturer may obtain a dealer's number which may be mounted on portable plates for vessels that will be used exclusively for testing, demonstrating or delivering an unregistered vessel.