



HOLIDAY GADGETS

14 must-haves for the boaters in your life

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1. RADAR \$3,600

Simrad Halo Radar uses solid-state pulse compression technology for superior target resolution up to 72 miles and as close as six metres (much closer than traditional pulse radar). Targets are extremely clear and identifiable. The Halo also includes dual-range operation allowing your radar to function as two arrays in one, giving near and far views of weather cells, boats and aids to navigation.
simrad-yachting.com/en-ca

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2. THERMAL CAMERAS \$11,500

FLIR technology, typically used by military and first responders, is now available for recreational boaters. The new M300 thermal, or multispectral imaging camera, uses enhanced stabilization technology to set a new standard for safe navigation. These cameras use heat rather than visible light to make low light, nighttime and glaring light situations safer.
flir.ca

3. AIS TRANSCEIVER \$570

The em-trak B100 AIS Transceiver Class B transmits and receives all AIS messages in real time and also comes with stealth mode functionality allowing you to transmit on/off. It is NMEA 2000 and 0183 compatible and comes with an SD card slot for data logging. It is the perfect solution for boaters looking to install an AIS transceiver that connects to any MFD.
em-trak-uk.com

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4. DIESEL HEATING SYSTEM \$2,600

A compact and economical two-outlet, do-it-yourself heater system, the Espar Airtronic D2 12V is perfect for boats up to nine metres. These air heaters work independently of the engine. The Airtronic D2 offers optimised fuel efficiency, a range of operation modes and unsurpassed safety standards.
eberspacher.com



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**5. BATTERY COMBINER
\$200**

Battery Combiners (aka ACRs, VSRs) are designed to put two battery banks in parallel (i.e. connected together) automatically when there is a charging voltage and separately when there is no charging voltage. This means, you will always charge both batteries but you cannot drain your starter battery with loads from your house battery. The directional 15-amp EchoCharge from Xantrex is perfect to share a charging voltage on one battery to another battery. We commonly use this device to recharge a generator or engine battery from a house battery.
xantrex.com

**6. WIRELESS SMARTPHONE CHARGER
\$120**

The Scanstrut ROKK is the world's first 12V/24V, wireless, waterproof, Qi-certified charger. Qi means "vital energy" and is a global standard like Bluetooth, NFC, USB and wifi. It means that all devices with the Qi logo are compatible with all chargers with the Qi logo. This wireless charger is designed for the outdoor environment and can be flush mounted, surface mounted or even hidden from view: perfect for the helm, chart table or even in the stateroom on your bedside table.
scanstrut.com

**7. CHARTPLOTTER /FISHFINDER
\$820**

Raymarine Element HyperVision CHIRP Sonar/GPS is great for the avid angler, delivering a sharp and detailed view of the water below your boat. Element's HV 1.2 megahertz sonar technology increases the resolution of Down-Vision, SideVision and RealVision 3D, allowing you to see fish, structures and vegetation with impressive clarity. The Element line offers a low cost, seven-inch version with buttons (no touch screen), which is perfect for smaller boats.
raymarine.com

**8. WIRELESS RADAR
\$1,500**

If you aren't ready for a full radar installation or are considering changing boats, the Furuno 1st Watch Wireless Radar might be an option. You simply mount the antenna, plug in the power cord and download the app. It is easy to use and can be accessed by two iOS devices simultaneously. However, be aware that the Furuno DRS4W cannot be integrated to a chartplotter.
furuno.com/en



9. MULTIMETER
\$225

We strongly encourage all boat owners to have a good multimeter onboard. The one we recommend for recreational boaters is the BlueSea 8110 Mini Clamp Multimeter. It has a large digital display and a data hold button to lock in the reading value if you are in an awkward space and can't see the screen. It includes the typical wire leads, however the clamp allows you to measure both AC and DC current in the wire without disturbing the circuits or contacting live terminals. If you already have a multimeter onboard, confirm the options available and double-check that it has a DC amp range of at least 300 to 400 amps. blueseas.com



10. SATELLITE TV SYSTEM
\$4,800

KVH's TracVision TV3 is a small, powerful marine satellite TV system with a compact 37-centimetre antenna and a device-friendly user interface. It has advanced inertial-based stabilization search for fast satellite acquisition and supports Ku-Band services (satellite TV) and is HDTV compatible. kvh.com

11. HYDRA MULTI-CONNECTION MARINE BATTERY TERMINAL
\$30

Great for dinghies or smaller boats with one battery. Available in three-terminal and five-terminal configurations. It allows you to easily manage individual connections at the battery, complete with colour-coded wing nuts. thmarinesupplies.com

Stocking Stuffers



SMART LIGHTER
\$20

The Smart-ignition (USB) Rechargeable Lighter from Proud Grill uses an electric arc to ignite barbecues and campfires, with 300 lights per charge. Butane-free, flameless, odourless and windproof, this heavy-duty lighter has a long, flexible neck and a safety dual-switch trigger lock system. proudgrill.com



CREW TRACKER
\$110

The ACR OLAS (overboard location alert system) Tag is a wearable crew tracker that detects a break in connection within eight seconds of the Tag going missing. Your cell phone(s) then sounds an alarm and records the latitude and longitude. Perfect for boating alone; it will send an SMS to your emergency contact. You can track up to six tags with one smart device. acrartex.com



RECHARGEABLE HANDHELD SPOTLIGHT
\$120

We recently tried this product from Aqua Signal at the Western Marine Trade Show and it is really bright and super lightweight. It has a light output of 350 lumens and a beam distance of up to 350 metres. It comes with AC and DC charging adaptors and has a six-hour run time depending on the mode. There are five modes: high, low, SOS, red rear-flashing or off, and a pivoting or collapsible stand for hands-free use. aquasignal.com.au



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