



# Wings Passport 40

## Watch Standing

This is a cruising sailboat and when making a passage (that is, a trip that extends for one or more nights), you will have duties to the boat. Specifically, you will be expected to participate in the traditional duty of standing watch. While passage making, someone must be awake and alert at all times, 24/7.

Naturally, more crew means fewer hours for each person. With Conni and Bill alone, they use a 5-4-3 hour watch schedule: each person has a 5-hour watch during the day, a 4-hour watch during the evening, and a 3-hour watch in the early morning when it's difficult to stay awake.

### 5-4-3 Watch Schedule:

Start Time	Conni's Watch	Bill's Watch	End Time
0000	3 hrs	3 hrs	0600
0600	5 hrs	5 hrs	1600
1600	4 hrs	4 hrs	2400

With more crew, each person stands for fewer hours. With three people, each has two 4-hour watches a day. The day's watch is segmented into 4-hour blocks with each person taking the same 4-hour block each 24 hours. One gets 8-hours of undisturbed (hopefully!) rest each 24 hours.

Conni and Bill will decide on the watch schedule, with your input on your best times.

### Rules for Watch-Keeping:

- You must be awake and alert during the entire watch. **NO SLEEPING!**
- If some event occurs that falls outside your experience or expertise, you must awaken Conni and/or Bill. **DON'T WAIT!**
- **AT ALL TIMES**, you must wear your PFD and tether. The tether **MUST** be fixed to a solid attachment point in the cockpit. There are 2 D-rings available (and recommended) and other points are usable. One D-ring is near the companionway, port side. The other is below the steering seat.

- You must NEVER leave the cockpit unless another prepared crew is already in the cockpit. You must awaken that crew and allow him/her to prepare.
- When traveling outside the cockpit, your tether MUST be attached to one of the two jack lines that run full length of the boat, one port, one starboard.
- If working at the bow or mast, there are other suitable anchor points that allow more unrestricted movement, but you must always clip into a new anchor before clipping out of the old. Your tether has double snaps for just that purpose. NEVER be unprotected/unattached to the boat when outside the cockpit.
- You are expected to awaken yourself and be ready to stand watch at the appointed time. Have drinks and snacks prepared, be completely dressed, including your PFD and tether, and have any flashlights/headlights prepared.
- You may read, of course, or listen to music or podcasts, but not to the exclusion of outside events. You're on watch and that's your primary responsibility. Your entertainment, if you have any, should not interfere with the sleeping of other crew.
- The watch crew that you are replacing will provide a summary of his/her experience on watch. In turn, you will be expected to provide that kind of summary to the next watch. Mention vessels that we have passed, any communications that have occurred, and any changes in the wind and seas that might require a change of sail or course.
- There will be a sharp knife attached to the binnacle tubes and a powerful hand-held searchlight available in the cockpit.

The point of all of these rules is that our boat, your boat, needs eyes watching for any of a million hazards that can occur quickly and silently. Standing watch provides those eyes.

Being on watch creates its own hazards to those on watch, the most dangerous being to be lost from the boat without anyone knowing. The only person who can eliminate that danger is the watch-stander.