



# Before you use a dory, perform a few checks to ensure your safety out on the water



## DORY SAFETY CHECKLIST

### Read your Safety Management System

#### 1. Prepare your vessel

- Have a maintenance plan
- Is the tender in good condition?  
Does it need any repairs?

#### 2. Before you go

- TELL SOMEONE where you are going and when you will return
- Check weather forecast
- Bilges are clean and dry
- Is everything secure?
- Do you have enough food and water?
- Do you have sufficient fuel for the trip?
- Are all batteries charged?

#### Check your safety equipment:

- Lifejacket
- Bailing system including bilge pump
- Communication equipment (VHF, satellite phone etc.)
- EPIRB or PLB

- Flares – red distress and orange smoke
- Anchor and enough rope/chain
- GPS/compass
- Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponder
- Secondary means of propulsion
- Waterproof torch
- First aid kit
- Appropriate clothing and PPE (hat, sunglasses, gloves, sunscreen etc.)

#### 3. When at sea

- Wear your lifejacket
- Keep a good lookout
- Check your weight. What is the maximum loading of the dory?
- Know the radio channel you are working on
- Know where you are at all times
- Check for navigational hazards
- Monitor fuel use

Find out more about how to prepare a safety management system. Visit [amsa.gov.au/sms](https://amsa.gov.au/sms)