

Boat Engine Covers Needed

Boat engines are not necessarily the cleanest things. They are lubed with grease, injected with oils and filled with fuel. Still that's no reason to ignore the fact that your boat engine requires some degree of protection from dirt and debris.

If you already make it a regular practice to cover your boat when it's not in use, make a point of covering the engine as well. If you don't, you should. A good cover for your boat engine and casing can be as important or more important than one that covers the rest of the boat. The precise machinery located within the motor casing is very susceptible to damage created by weather and dirt. Even a little road debris, water, accumulated moisture or UV rays can amount to an expensive repair bill.

Basic Protection

It's important to use a boat engine cover whether your boat spends time at the dock, in the water or on the road. When you're towing your boat and motor, you are exposing it to all kinds of dirt, stones and debris. While afloat, the engine must be protected from taking water into the intake valves. Unless your boat is stored in a boathouse, the engine casing must be protected from the fading and cracking that can be caused by exposure to UV rays. A good quality boat engine cover can prevent all of these potential problems.

There are several styles of outboard engine covers to choose from. The type you choose will depend largely on how and where you intend to store the boat. In any case, the size and length of the cover must provide a snug fit for the entire craft, including the engine. Be sure to take careful measurements before buying a cover.

A complete boat engine cover will envelop the engine from the top of the casing, right to the bottom of the propeller. This is the best type of cover to use when you are planning to transport your boat on a trailer, as it will keep road debris, pebbles and other objects from getting in to the engine or chipping the casing. A complete boat engine cover will also provide good protection from dust during dry storage.

Half-covers, on the other hand, protect only the upper portion of the engine. This type of cover keeps the intake valves dry and blocks damaging UV rays, but provides no added protection for the propeller and shaft. A boat engine half-cover is a practical choice for a boat that stays moored in the water.

Those boating in colder climates can find it challenging to start a boat engine when the temperatures plunge. Several manufacturers offer heated boat covers, but these are luxuries that are typically reserved for large-scale customers like the US Coastguard and Canadian Navy. These types of boat engine covers can present environmental consequences, and should be used only when absolutely necessary. Heated engine covers are available in a range of voltages, keeping the engine warm and ensuring a quick and easy start, whether the boat is stored on land or in the water.

There is nothing worse than being out on the lake with a boat that refuses to start. A good quality boat engine cover can protect the motor from damage caused by dirt and weather. Invest in one today, and you can bank on smooth sailing ahead.