



Survival at Sea Techniques

*Maritime Rescue Coordination center
(MRCC)*

Breakdown at sea, small boat going missing and drifting ashore in other countries after spending weeks or months at sea.



What are the tips to consider when drifting or lost at sea?



Enemies of Drifting or Lost at Sea

- Thirst (lack of water)
- Sun (lack of shade)
- Hypothermia(lack of clothing and shelter)
- Hunger
- Bad weather
- Being missed by Search and Rescue Team
- Discouragement

Freshwater Collection

- Never go out to sea without plenty of surplus of water.
- Thirst is greater threat than hunger
- Can survive several weeks without food ,but only a few days without water.
- Use little as you can and collect extra water at all opportunities.

Freshwater Collection

- When it rains try as much to collect extra water.
- During night fresh water will condense on cold objects such as metals, use cloths to collect it.
- Fill sea in plastic bags or bucket, it will cool down at night so that condensation forms on the outside.
- Lookout for floating coconuts.
- Sun still technique.
- If things are desperate, small volume of sea water can be drunk each day with only few sips taken at times

Protection Against Sun

- As far as possible stay out of sun during daytime.
- If no shelter on your boat, try rig some sorts of shade from clothing, plastic.
- This will reduce the risk of sunstroke, sunburn and reduce water loss from body
- Less drinking water used, longer water supplies will be.

Protection Against Cold

- Hypothermia (excessive body heat loss) can lead to death
- A long period of exposure to wind and rain especially at night can cause rapid chilling.
- If no protective clothing or shelter is available, it may be warmer to hang over the side of the boat in water for short periods of time.

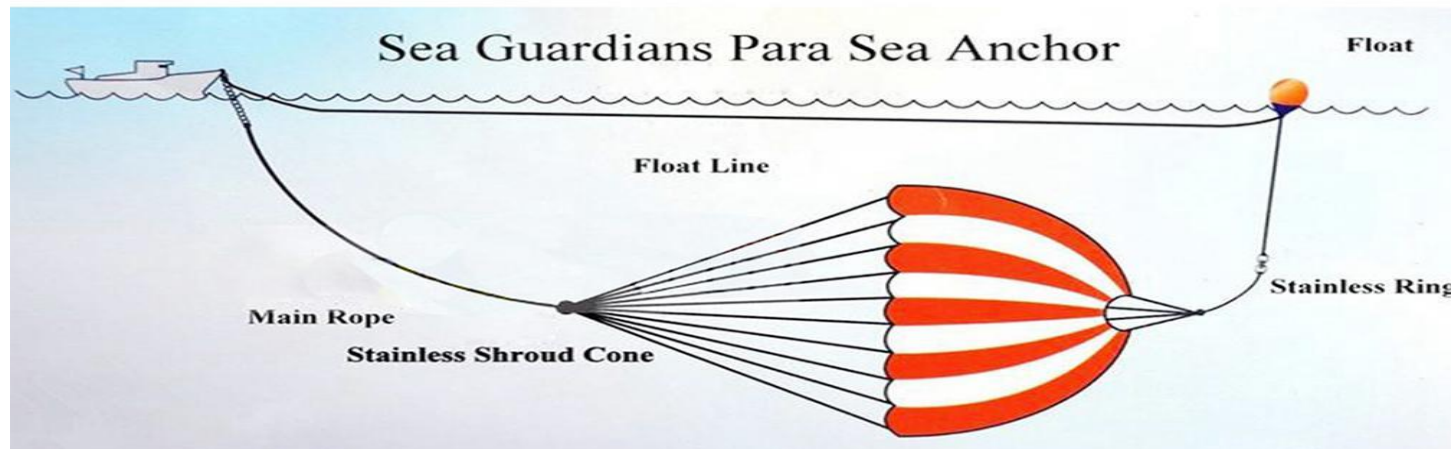
Collection of Food

- Try to catch fish or sea birds to eat rather than consuming any preserved or canned food you may have on board.
- Preserve the canned foods because you don't know how long before being rescued.
- Save it for as long as possible.

Bad Weather

- Only way to minimize the risk of sinking/capsizing is to deploy a sea-anchor.
- If no proper sea anchor is available, you can improvise using a bucket or tarpaulin.

Sea Anchor



GPS and COMPASS

Satellite System



Manually Used



➤ Compass and GPS can direct you to your Destination during dark time and cloudy weather.

Missed by Search and Rescue Team?



Do not Discourage!

Discouragement

- It is a well-known fact that distressed people keeping their morale high will survive longer at sea than discouraged ones.
- Key word is “**Faith**”



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