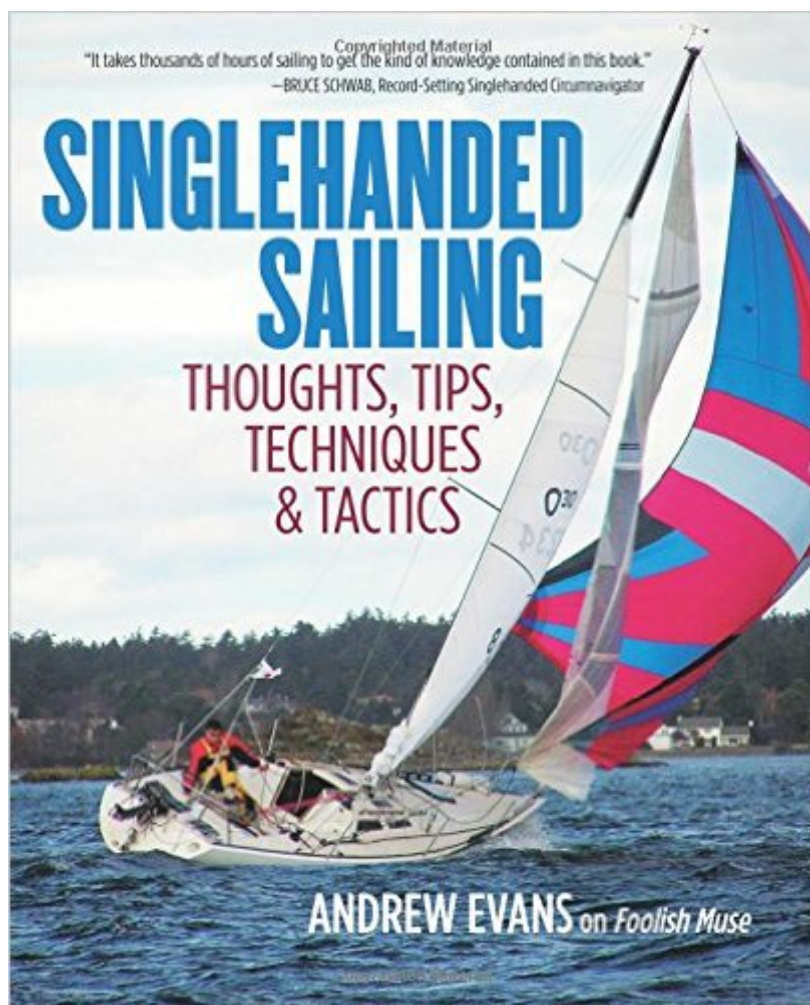


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Singlehanded Sailing: Thoughts, Tips, Techniques & Tactics



Synopsis

"It takes thousands of hours of sailing to get the kind of knowledge contained in this book." -- from the Foreword by Bruce Schwab The ONLY bible for how to sail your boat fast, safe, and alone Solo sailing is within any sailor's grasp with a little forethought--and this essential guide. Got a 35-foot sailboat? No problem. Is the wind blowing 20 knots? No problem. Are you racing offshore overnight? Even better. Singlehander Andrew Evans learned the hard way how to sail and race alone--with lots of mishaps, including broaches and a near tumbling over a waterfall--and in Singlehanded Sailing he shares the techniques, tips, and tactics he has developed to make his solo sailing adventures safe and enriching. Learn everything you need to know to meet any solo challenge, including: Managing the power consumption aboard a boat to feed the electric autopilot Setting and gybing a spinnaker Finding time to sleep Dealing with heavy weather

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press; 1 edition (October 16, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0071836535

ISBN-13: 978-0071836531

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (65 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #50,131 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing #42 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Boating #111 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports

Customer Reviews

Page-for-page the best sailing book I've ever read!! I won't restate what others have said. However, I will add that this book would also be helpful for sailors not singlehanding their boats, too. His style is refreshing; let's face it, anyone who can make sleep an interesting subject is damn good!! Not only do I strongly recommend the book, I also thank the author for putting it out there. Sailors who read this book, I think, will enjoy their boats more and, I suspect, this book will be responsible for saving many readers from injury or worse! A must read!! I'm pleased to be plying some of the same waters as the author & hope our paths will cross some day so I can thank him personally for such a valuable contribution to sailing literature!

I have read the earlier version of this book several times - from my understanding this book includes even more material (don't know how that can be possible) while updating the existing materials. This book covers all aspects of singlehanded sailing in a very thoughtful manner. The best thing about the book is that not only is the advice intuitive and commonsensical it is also tried and tested. I cannot imagine the hours/days/weeks of experience (good and BAD) that has gone into this book. It truly has codified the singlehand experience and it will save you hundreds/thousands of dollars in trial and error. I cannot imagine a more useful piece of material for the singlehanded sailor - no matter their experience.

Based on an earlier version of this book, I found it to be full of sound advice, presented in an ordered and clearly stated manner. This book represents tens of thousands of miles of experience. It covers everything from steering, sleep management, sail trim, heavy-weather techniques, and -- always -- safety. The material has been meticulously researched, exhaustively tested in real-life short-handed sailing, constantly refined and fine-tuned, and finally, presented in a highly readable format. Clear illustrations and photographs support the text. I would read this book twice before I set out, then keep it aboard, right next to Adlard Coles "Heavy Weather Sailing." Mr. Evans has performed a great service to the sailing community in publishing this book.

Disclaimer: I will never circumnavigate the globe sailing singlehandedly or otherwise. Having said that, I really enjoyed reading how to handle the issues of sailing singlehanded in the non-forgiving seas. The author writes in clear and concise terms, and provides plenty of first-hand accounts from other sailors. Much is to be learned here, even if you're skittish about taking your twenty-two footer out alone for a sail in the afternoon. Highly recommended.

I bought this book not because I was planning to sail singlehandedly most of the time but because I thought that some of the techniques might be applicable to the type of sailing I normally do which is predominately just my wife and myself and daysailing and/or short cruises. Unfortunately this book is really dedicated to people who want to do long distance solo cruising. And while some of the material was interesting, it is of little value to anyone who does not fall into this category.

Evans is obviously highly experienced. He writes well and there is a lot of very useful information in the book. My only real complaint is that the book could as easily have been titled, "Singlehanded

Racing." Evans is a racer and a considerable portion of the book is dedicated to singlehanded racing tactics and designs. The sections describing water ballast as well as articulating keels and foils were interesting but have so little to do with the sort of sailing that I do, singlehanded or with crew, that they seem out of place. Likewise the idea of "stacking" a quarter ton of gear and supplies to the windward side of the boat in order to simulate crew on the rail strikes me as simply bizarre. Overall a worthwhile read. If you are a singlehanded racer, this book is for you. If not be, prepared to skim over the racing sections.

This book is mistitled: it should be called Single-handed Racing. I bought this book thinking that I would be learning new techniques to improve my single-handed sailing. That's not what this book is about. This book is about how great it is to single-hand a sailboat under challenging conditions. It's purpose is to help the sailor who wants to win single-handed races and offers little useful information to the casual sailor who wants to spend time on the water alone. If you're a cruiser or day sailor and are looking for tips and new techniques, then look elsewhere.

What a fantastic resource for single handed sailors! Covers every aspect of single handed sailing you could think of and then some. Andrew provides practical and wise advice which is obviously based on first hand experience gained through hours and hours of sailing. Even for experienced sailors there is something new to learn in every chapter.

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