Inflatable Boats: Selection, Care, Repair, And Seamanship
Synopsis

Just about everyone who owns a cruising boat needs a dinghy, and inflatables have become the most popular choice. Modern inflatables carry large loads safely, and with a modest outboard they travel fast and keep their occupants safe and dry. Unfortunately, inflatables have a limited life span and can be difficult to repair. Until now, those wishing to repair their own boats were reduced to squinting at the labels wrapped around glue cans. This book tells you how to do it right. The author details simple maintenance procedures that can double an inflatable’s life and includes step-by-step instructions for carrying out professional-level repairs and modifications. And isn’t just for inflatable dinghy owners. All types of inflatables are covered, including sportboats, which have become increasingly popular for watersports--scuba diving, waterskiing, fishing--because they’re safer, more comfortable, and more easily stowed than traditional hard-skin small boats. To realize the advantages of inflatable boats and to protect your investment, you must choose the correct book, equip it properly, and then learn how to use it and maintain it. "Inflatable Boats is the only book dedicated to showing you how.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The book is filled with good humor, and contains a lot of useful information. Intended for the average person, the book will answer basic questions regarding inflatables that you may have. It will ease your decision on buying the boat, outboard and some of the extras available. I'd say that if you have no previous experience with inflatables, this book will be a great reading experience. At the end of
the book, it even lists a lot of the manufacturers of inflatables and their addresses. I'd say this book is worth every single penny.

This book contains a wealth of information on all aspects of inflatables. The emphasis is on inflatable boats but inflatable kayaks are also mentioned. The author includes many informative and often humorous anecdotes throughout. Specific information is included topics such as patching, engine selection, and accessory selection. The book contains no color pictures, but does have many useful charts and diagrams.

This book is written in a way that is very funny and very informative in the area of inflatable boats. It answers almost all questions that may enter one's mind about inflatable boat ownership and such things as handling, maintaining and repairing one. Even without owning an inflatable, it is still funny and good reading. Danger; Not owning an inflatable boat of any kind and reading this book makes you want to go and buy one.

While not as comprehensive as I expected, it did offer useful insight into what to buy and what not to buy. Author needs to name names and not dance around issues that are good and bad. If you now certain boats have issues, don't vaguely allude to it, spell it out. I'd also like to see more about modifying the boats to make them more useful, saving the reader some time experimenting.

I found this book (thanks!) *after* purchasing a used inflatable boat this winter. Had I read this hugely informative and entertaining work ahead of time I probably would have chosen more intelligently, but that's what "live & learn" is all about. Jim's writing style is light and often amusing, but it is clear that he is an experienced sailor with a lot of knowledge to share. I highly recommend this book to anyone considering an inflatable boat as a dinghy or for recreation.

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