

# Navigation lights

## By law, navigation lights must be shown on boats operating:

- between sunset and sunrise
- in restricted visibility.

## Navigation lights indicate:

- the size of the boat
- the angle where you see them
- the direction the boat is travelling
- if the boat is anchored.



## Minimum required lights (see diagrams overleaf)

### Sailboats underway

- Sailboats less than 7m and vessels under oars must have a torch or lantern showing a white light ready to display in time to prevent a collision.
- Sailboats less than 20m in length may combine sidelights and stern lights in a single lantern carried at the top of the mast.
- Sailboats 7m or more in length must show sidelights and stern lights. In addition to sidelights they may show two all-round lights in a vertical line (red over green) that may be shown at the top of the mast, but not when a combined lantern is used.

### Powered boats underway

- Powered boats less than 7m in length and whose maximum speed does not exceed 7 knots, may show an all-round white light instead of sidelights. If practical, these boats should also show sidelights.
- Powered boats must show sidelights and either an all-round white light or a stern and masthead light. Sailboats under engine power are considered to be powered boats, and must show the same lights as a powered boat. Personal watercraft are also powered boats.

*Note – a boat is “underway” when it is not at anchor, made fast to shore or aground (this includes drifting). Navigation lights should be fitted by the manufacturer or an authorised person.*

### Personal watercraft (PWC)

- All PWCs operating at night or in restricted visibility must show navigation lights.
- Navigation lights must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. A mast for an all-round white light on a PWC should be installed in such a way it will not pose an impaling hazard.
- The addition of any aftermarket products to a PWC must be in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and must not compromise the watertight integrity of the hull.

### Boats moored or at anchor

All boats moored or at anchor must show an all-round white light.

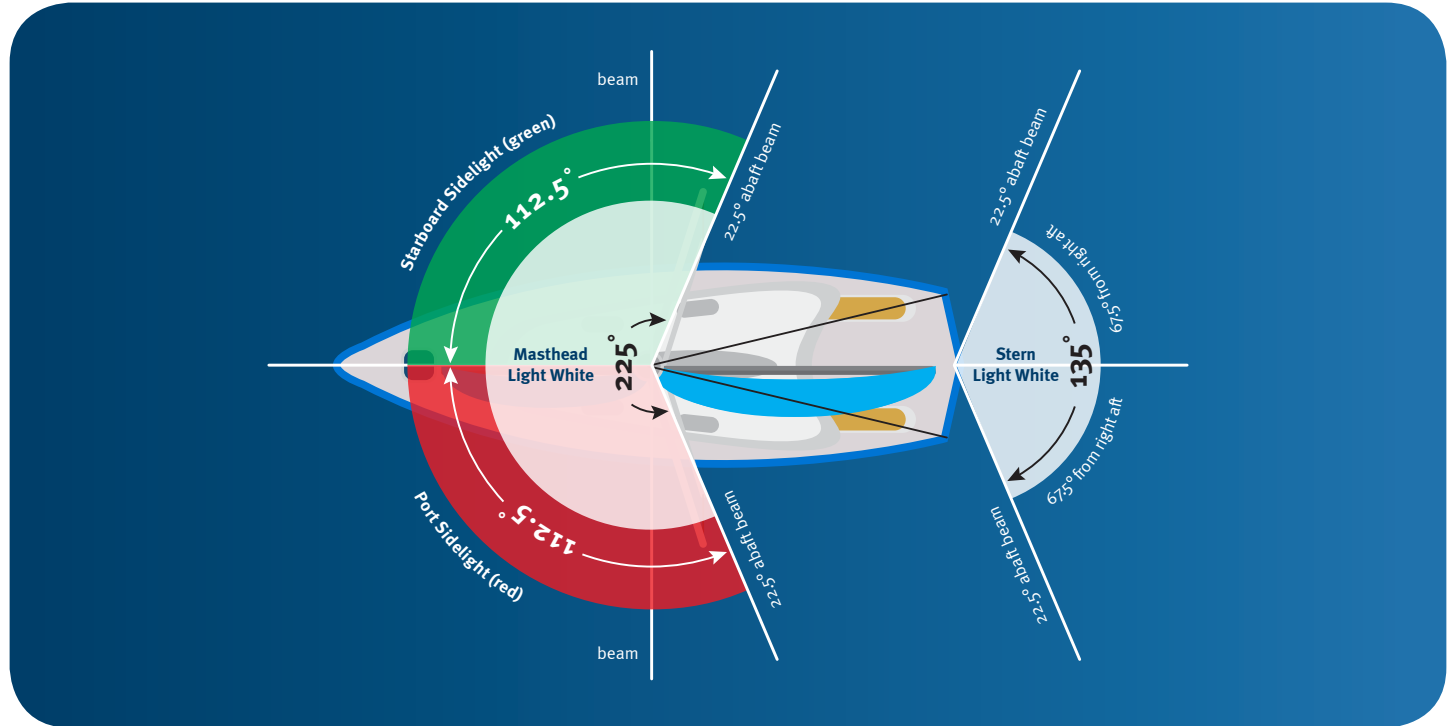
### Where can I get more information?

Visit your local Maritime Safety Queensland office or our website [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au)



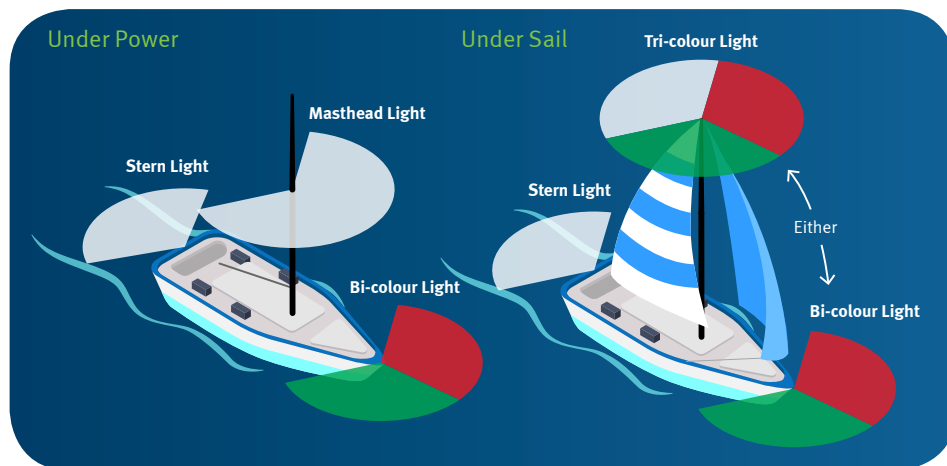
# Visibility arcs for navigation lights

## Navigation lights

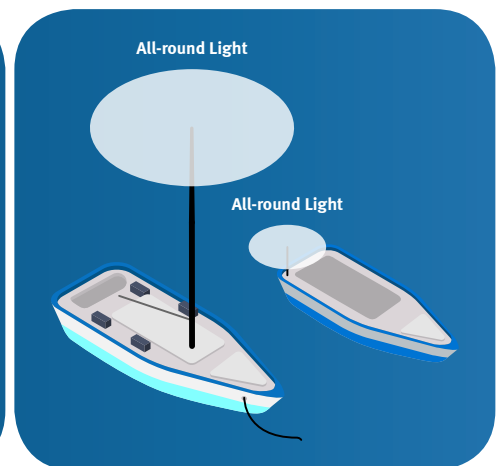


## Standard configurations of vessel navigation lights

### Sailboats



### Boats moored or at anchor



### Powerboats

