

STORAGE

Storage Preparation

The major consideration in preparing your outboard for storage is to protect it from rust, corrosion, and damage caused by freezing of trapped water.

The following storage procedures should be followed to prepare your outboard for out of season storage or prolonged storage (two months or longer).

CAUTION

Never start or operate your outboard (even momentarily) without water circulating through all the cooling water intake holes in the gearcase to prevent damage to the water pump (running dry) or overheating of the engine.

FUEL SYSTEM

IMPORTANT: Gasoline containing alcohol (ethanol or methanol) can cause a formation of acid during storage and can damage the fuel system. If the gasoline being used contains alcohol, it is advisable to drain as much of the remaining gasoline as possible from the fuel tank, remote fuel line, and engine fuel system.

Fill the fuel tank and engine fuel system with treated (stabilized) fuel to help prevent formation of varnish and gum. Proceed with following instructions.

- Portable Fuel Tank - Pour the required amount of gasoline stabilizer (follow instructions on container) into fuel tank. Tip fuel tank back and forth to mix stabilizer with the fuel.
- Permanently Installed Fuel Tank - Pour the required amount of gasoline stabilizer (follow instructions on container) into a separate container and mix with approximately one quart (one liter) of gasoline. Pour this mixture into fuel tank.
- Place the outboard in water or connect flushing attachment for circulating cooling water. Run the engine for ten minutes to fill the engine fuel system.

Protecting External Outboard Components

- Lubricate all outboard components listed in **Maintenance - Inspection and Maintenance Schedule**.
- Touch up any paint nicks. See your dealer for touch-up paint.
- Spray Quicksilver or Mercury Precision Lubricants Corrosion Guard on external metal surfaces (except corrosion control anodes).

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Protecting Internal Engine Components

- Remove the spark plugs and inject a small amount of engine oil inside of each cylinder.
- Rotate the flywheel manually several times to distribute the oil in the cylinders. Reinstall spark plugs.
- Change the engine oil.

Gearcase

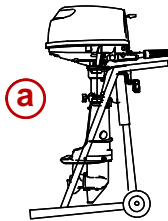
- Drain and refill the gearcase lubricant (refer to **Maintenance - Gearcase Lubrication**).

Positioning Outboard For Storage

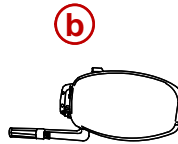
⚠ CAUTION

If outboard is stored tilted up in freezing temperature, trapped cooling water or rain water that may have entered the propeller exhaust outlet in the gearcase could freeze and cause damage to the outboard.

- To prevent problems which can be caused by oil entering the cylinders from the sump, store the outboard only in one of the two positions shown.



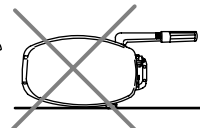
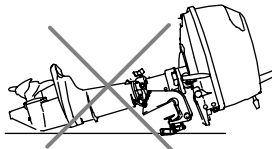
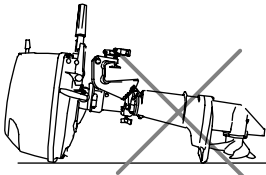
a - Upright position



b - Tiller handle down position

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- Never carry, store or transport the outboard in these positions. Engine damage could result from oil draining out of the crankcase.



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Battery Storage

- Follow the battery manufacturer's instructions for storage and recharging.
- Remove the battery from the boat and check water level. Recharge if necessary.
- Store the battery in a cool, dry place.
- Periodically check the water level and recharge the battery during storage.