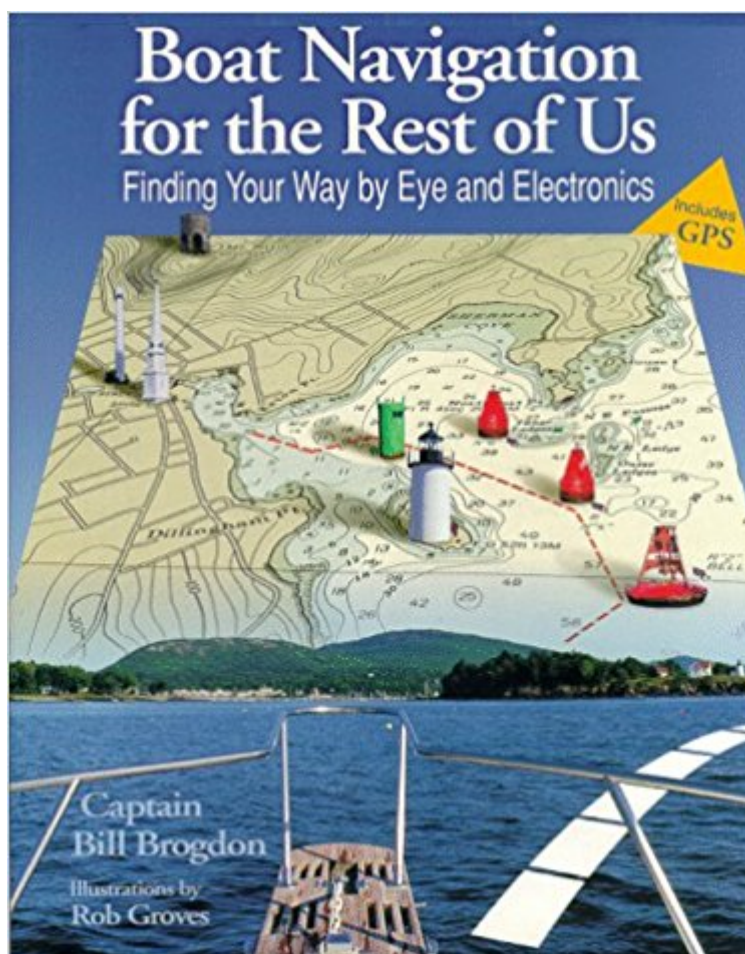


The book was found

Boat Navigation For The Rest Of Us: Finding Your Way By Eye And Electronics



Synopsis

The popular texts would have us navigate our small boats with the techniques used on ships and large yachts. But these elaborately precise methods just don't work in the cockpit of a typical pleasure craft. This is the first book to teach small-boat navigation the way smart skippers actually navigate, combining electronics like GPS, loran, and radar with commonsense visual piloting and seat-of-the-pants chartwork. Captain Brogdon explains in plain, simple language exactly how to find where you are and how to get where you want to go with a minimum of fuss.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"... superb and amazingly comprehensive primer... it stresses low-tech commonsense strategies to keep you from going bump in the night." -- Cruising World
"... will appeal to beginners and experts alike." -- Yachting
"The title suggests a lightweight work-it isn't; thorough treatment of traditional and electronic methods by an expert." -- WoodenBoat

Still the best "one stop shopping" coastal navigation book for the basic boater I have read. I am a U.S. Navy Captain and Surface Warfare Officer (I have served in all of our combatants, and have commanded a Destroyer) and I have "gifted" a few copies of this book to each ship on which I have served. We have LOTS of outstanding navigation textbooks on our ships, and all serve their purpose, but the intuitive way in which CAPT Brogdon explains the fundamental concepts that EVERY boater needs to know, along with very intuitive illustrations, has no substitute, and served as one of our most reliable tools to refresh junior officers in navigation and maneuvering concepts.

BZ to CAPT Brogdon. (I also recommend Nigel Calder's book, "How to Read a Nautical Chart" for any boater of sail or power.

Don't let the colorful, fun-looking cover fool you. This book is serious learning. If you are looking for a "dummies" type of book, move on. Sure, it has everything, but this is for the folks with an engineer's mentality. Yeah, there's some simple hints in there, but you have to wade through the science to find them. At least it is very, very thorough. But put on your reading glasses because some of the graphics are detailed and the lack of contrast of the ink on the pages requires concentration. The lack of any color (outside of the jacket) makes for a lackluster presentation. Again, the book contains EVERYTHING you need to know about navigation; the author is extremely qualified; and the information is up-to-date. The main omission is fun. This is like sitting in a calculus class. Pay attention and you will be rewarded.

First, this is a good book. It's useful, I liked it. I learned a few things, it was worth the money. However, some of the background to the navigation "tricks" are questionable, to say the least. My first clue that I might have to watch out for apocryphal math ideas was in the first paragraph of the first page of the book, in the Acknowledgments, where Capt. Brogdon informs us that Newton invented logs and the slide rule (?!). This would be news to Napier and Oughtred, who actually did invent the slide rule twenty years before Newton was born. So how serious is this? Not very. I think Capt. Brogdon knows his way around navigation very well, and he's a good writer, the book is very clear. Don't rely on the background math, but who really reads that stuff anyway, except people like me who are looking for word problems for their next Calculus class? So again, I get over my huffiness and move on. I approve of keeping Loran-C in the book. I don't use it, but people still do and it's good to cover it. I also approve of Capt. Brogdon's fondness for depth sounders, I have a cheap fishfinder LCD on my outrigger sailboat, and it's very useful. He's clearly an expert on setting up and not messing up your compass. Very useful and clear stuff there. Good, so now I'm in a better mood. I move on to GPS. The GPS section is fine, but this is where the book is most dated, as viewed from 2009. A lot has happened in GPS since 2001. Mapping, for example. An updated version covering mapping GPS would be excellent. Finally, I wish publishers would spring for a real index in a book like this. A professional indexer would have made this book much more useful. The index included is cluttered, hard to read and badly organized. Overall it's a good book. If you collect navigation tricks there's a lot to learn from someone like this who has done it for a long time and can write clearly. Skim over the background math and hope the publisher asks him

to update it to mapping GPSs.

I've got a lot of navigation books. This one is different because it's more focused on "real world" practices than most other books. I've got a coast guard captain's license and am a power squadron senior navigator, and I still managed to learn quite a bit from this book. You probably will too.

finally a book that puts paper charts and gps together. i know a little about both but this author gets you to think like a navigator. this book gets right to the meat and potatoes and doesn't waste your time

The graphics were very poor quality and naming individuals at the marinas is useless as time goes by as those folks could very well be gone

outstanding basic navigation book, well written, easy to read, lots of insights and short cuts. This book is well worth the money.

Good

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