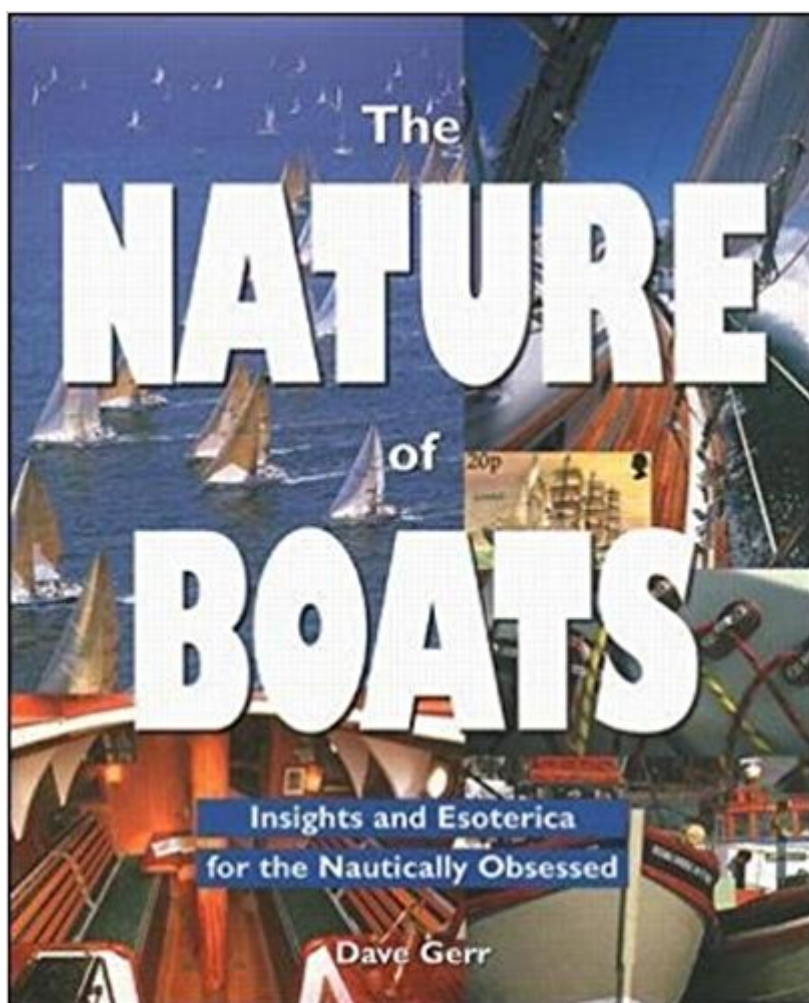


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# The Nature Of Boats: Insights And Esoterica For The Nautically Obsessed



## Synopsis

Boat noodling. Boat lovers suffer universally from this benign affliction. In its mildest form, boat noodling is nothing more than wondering why that sloop in the next slip is faster than yours. In a more significant manifestation it could mean serious daydreaming--drifting off for extended periods, sketching design ideas on the back of an envelope. Chances are, if you've picked up this book just to see what's in it, you're beyond help. Naval architect Dave Gerr offers the perfect antidote, a browser's reference to understanding how boats tick: all you've ever wanted to know about boats--power and sail, racer and cruiser; dinghy and motoryacht. In the clear, friendly, nontechnical style that has made his column for Offshore magazine so enduring and popular, Gerr explains everything from how thick a hull should be to why one sailboat tips less than another, from choosing an engine to designing a rig for your trawler yacht, from building a dinghy to simple rules of thumb for dozens of design quandaries. Gerr writes for the boat noodler in all of us--those seriously interested in learning and dreaming about all types of watercraft. There is no better way to become a better sailor, equipped to handle any contingency. And there's no better place to start than right here.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It's quite obvious Gerr understands the weaknesses of those of us afflicted with a passion for boats. Furthermore, he trades on our insatiable appetite for nautical tidbits. And he does it well. There's

hardly an aspect of yacht design, construction, and operation that he doesn't touch on in his cheerful, chatty manner."If you are not not nautically obsessed prior to reading this book, you will most certainly be afterword."It's sort of a cross between David Macaulay's *The Way Things Work* and a volume of Andy Rooney essays. Which means it's fun and educational at the same time."

Dave Gerr (rhymes with "bear") is a naval architect who designs both yachts and commercial vessels. Gerr Marine has been in business since 1983 and has designed everything from dinghies to 60-foot around-the-world racing sailboats, an 82-foot aluminum voyaging motoryacht, and currently, redesign work on the U.S. Navy's nuclear submarines. Gerr is a contributing editor with *Boatbuilder*, *Yachting*, and *Offshore* magazines. HOMETOWN: New York, NY

This written in a way that is like advice for the guy the next slip over. Dave Gerr a naval architect and while some of the knowledge is technical, it is presented in an easy to understand format and personal. One of the great strengths of the book is most chapters are a story, relating some personal experience, problems encountered and how he solved or attempted to solve them. Each chapter is short and it's lesson will not bore you. The chapters are un-related so each stands on it's own; for that reason alone it is hard to review the *Nature of Boats*. I do know that every night I picked it up and read a chapter or three and found my knowledge expanded in a light-hearted way.

Would have given it 5-stars if he had more about sailboats.

If you are a boater or are looking to get started in boating this book gives you insights on how hulls, engines, sail plans, powerboat designs were developed to accomplish a given task. Such as fishing, cruising, speed, fuel efficient, diesel vs. gas, sail plans, etc. A very good book to help you decide what kind of boat is best for your boating location and intended use. If you are interested in going long far afield of your home base, under power, you should also read *Voyaging Under Power* by Captain Robert Beebe.

If my wife read this book, she would divorce me instantly, as she would understand why a Nautically Obsessed person will never change, and will get worse as time goes by.....Honestly, this book made me realize there are others like me that can't stop thinking about boats and the ocean! It feeds the fire burning in your soul and loads you up with all kinds of facts, concepts, and the author's

experience to send you off to the drawing board, the boat show, or maybe West Marine. Great writing and a flow of information that will make you not want to let it down until you've committed to memory. While you're at it, get "Elements of Boat Strength" also. Highly recommended!

this is the second copy I've purchased. A very good book covering a wide range of boat formulas used in designing boats which are easily explained by Mr. Gerr.

An excellent primer on boat design. Anyone, even experienced sailors, will find it a useful and handy guide to design and construction parameters and the manner in which they affect performance and handling. Additionally, the included examples of Mr. Gerr's designs bear a unique and thoughtful stamp.

Just about everything there is to know the various systems that when put together make a boat.

What Chapman's, Dutton's and Bowditch are to the navigator, this little volume is to those seeking to understand the "why" of boats. vessel construction, powering and hull design are all aptly and simply explained.

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