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The Dictionary of English Nautical Language: A comprehensive nautical dictionary, complete with usage, examples suggesting good seamanship, images of ships and gear and a nautical blog.

Search for a term:

Or click a letter: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

AH, FOR A LIFE ON THE ROLLIN' SEA!

My inbox is often full of interesting comments and questions. I welcome your ideas, and encourage you to let me know what you are thinking.

Some of your questions are difficult to answer concisely, such as this one from John Keenan in Australia:

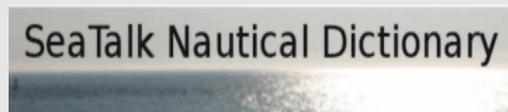
"I wish to respectfully point out that your definition of a cutter is incorrect:

1) A sailboat in which the main mast is stepped just forward of the center line and which carries several head sails.

The term cutter rig is applicable only to a sloop. Your definition leaves it open to apply to vessels with more than one mast. The correct term for a vessel with multiple masts (ketch, yawl etc) is "twin headsail". Having made that point, I wish to compliment you on your glossary."

This was my reply:

Logo



URL

http://www.seatalk.info/

Type

Nautical terms -Dictionaries

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Mike MacKenzie

Brief History

Sea Talk, the Dictionary of English Nautical Language was published by Mike MacKenzie in Nova Scotia in the year 2005. Copyright date is available i.e. © 2005-2012 by Mike MacKenzie.

Scope and Coverage

It is a comprehensive nautical dictionary, embellished with usage, examples suggesting good seamanship, images of ships and gear and a nautical blog. The words used by sailors are part of this dictionary.

Kind of Information

Meaning of the nautical terms, definitions and short notes on those terms are found in this dictionary. Each term's parts of speech included. See also references are also available. Parts of speech of the terms are also mentioned beside the terms. In few cases the picture is included with terms. Some examples are given below for clear understanding:

Term:	aground (adv)
Definition:	The position of a ship when the hull is lodged in the bottom or on the shore and cannot manoeuvre; as in: "Keep to the center of the channel or you will run aground."
See Also:	run aground

Term:	aid to navigation (n)
Definition:	Any of the markers and lights that are placed in nearshore waters to guide mariners to harbour and warn of unsafe waters.
See Also:	navigation aid
(Click on image to enlarge.)	

In some cases Blog link is available. E.g.:

Term:	ahoy (interjection)
Definition:	A shouted expression used to hail or attract the attention of another ship or a person ashore. This old fashioned term is anachronistic in modern times, and should be used sparingly, if at all. Try "HELLOO!"
Blog Link:	http://seatalk.blogspot.com/2006/02/nautical-anachronisms.html

Special Features

- ❖ Sea talk blog is available here.

- ❖ Linked to other interesting sites where one will find more interesting information about nautical subjects as mention below:

Different sea schools like EastSail Sailing School, yacht chartering, Sydney, Australia ; Seaschool Marine Training Centre, Pyrmont, NSW, Australia ; Docklands Sailing School, SEA Leggs corporate team building, Melbourne, Australia etc.

Nautical magazines like Yachting Australia Magazine ; Woodenboat Magazine etc.

Dictionaries like Online Etymology Dictionary ; The OneLook Dictionary Listings etc.

Nautical dictionaries like Ocean Planet ; Mark Rosenstein's Sailing Page etc.

Boat builders like Albert's Wooden Boats ; ABCO Industries Limited, Lunenburg Nova Scotia etc.

Yacht Chartering like Maine Windjammer Association etc.

Yacht Basins like Atlantic Yacht Basin etc.

Yacht Clubs like Woollahra Sailing Club, NSW ; Seattle Yacht Club, Portage Bay, Seattle, Washington, USA ; San Francisco Yacht Club, Belvedere, California, USA etc.

Arrangement Pattern

Entries are arranged alphabetically. Under an alphabet the entries which start with that particular alphabet are also arranged alphabetically. For an example mention may be made of Kayak(n); kedge(n); kedge(v); kedging(v); keel(n) etc. which come under the alphabet “K”.

Remarks

A comprehensive nautical dictionary with nautical terms, images, blog and other various important nautical sites. For having a clear idea about various terms related to sea, navigation, sailors and maritime this dictionary is highly important. Except the lack of photographs and absence of cross references, this dictionary is a nice reference tool.

Comparable Tools

- Glossary of Nautical Terms (http://brethrencoast.com/Pirate_Glossary.html)

- School of Sailing (<http://www.schoolofsailing.net/glossary.html>)

- Nautical & Sailing Terms & Nomenclature

(<http://www.photographers1.com/Sailing/NauticalTerms&Nomenclature.html>)

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