

BEGINNER · WIND & SAILING BASICS

Sailing Foundations: Illustrated Visuals

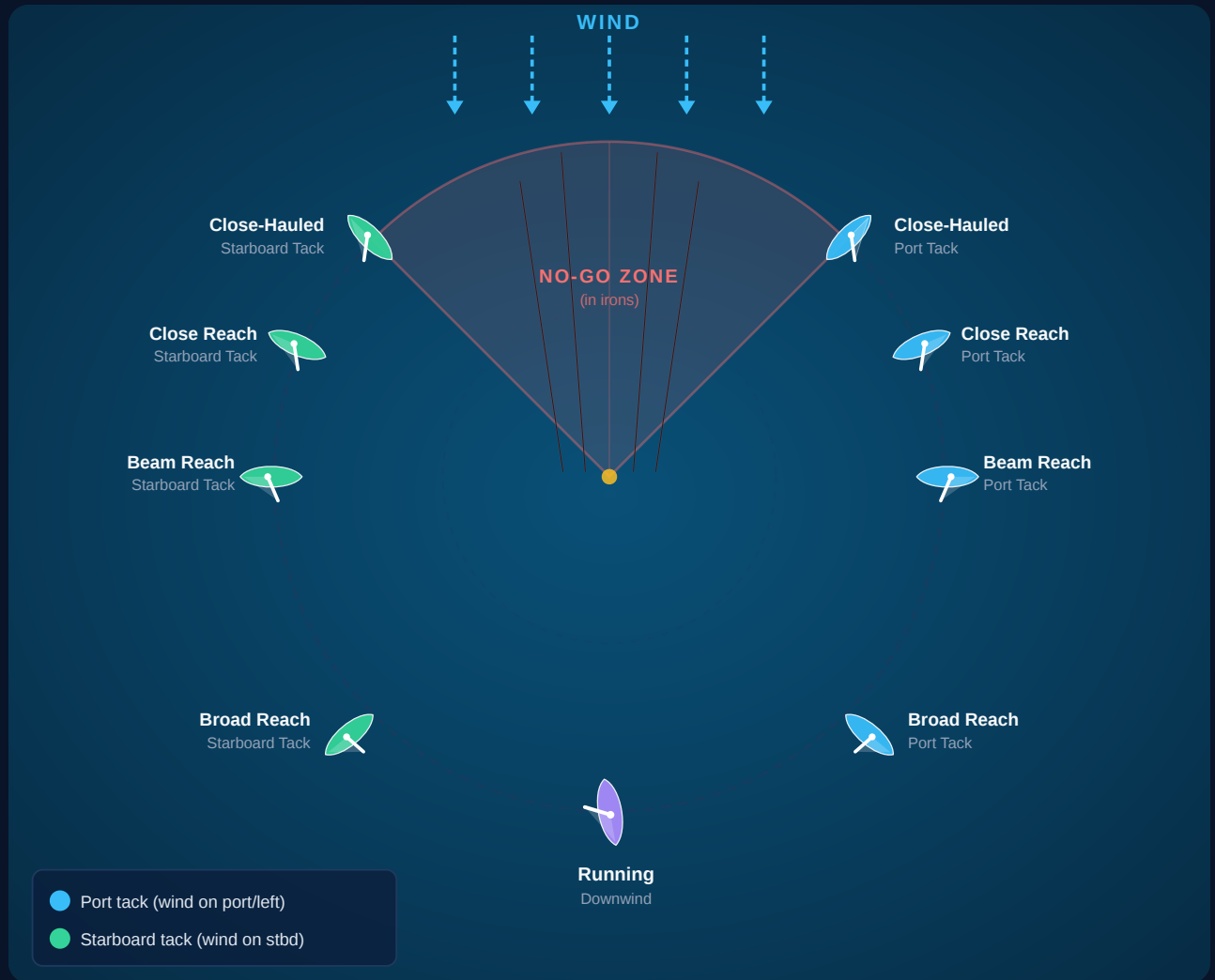
Five clear, educational diagrams covering the essential concepts every sailor needs to master — from points of sail to reading the wind.

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01

Points of Sail

A sailboat can sail at almost any angle to the wind — except directly into it. Each angle has a name and requires different sail trim. The red no-go zone is $\pm 45^\circ$ of the wind direction where sails cannot fill.



02 Tacking Sequence

Tacking turns the bow through the wind to change tacks when sailing upwind. The skipper calls "Ready about!" then "Helm's a-lee!" as the tiller is pushed to leeward. Crew releases the jib and re-cleats on the new side.



03

Gybing Sequence

A gybe turns the stern through the wind when sailing downwind. The boom swings across with significant force — always warn crew, and always duck! Control the mainsheet during the gybe to prevent a crash-gybe.

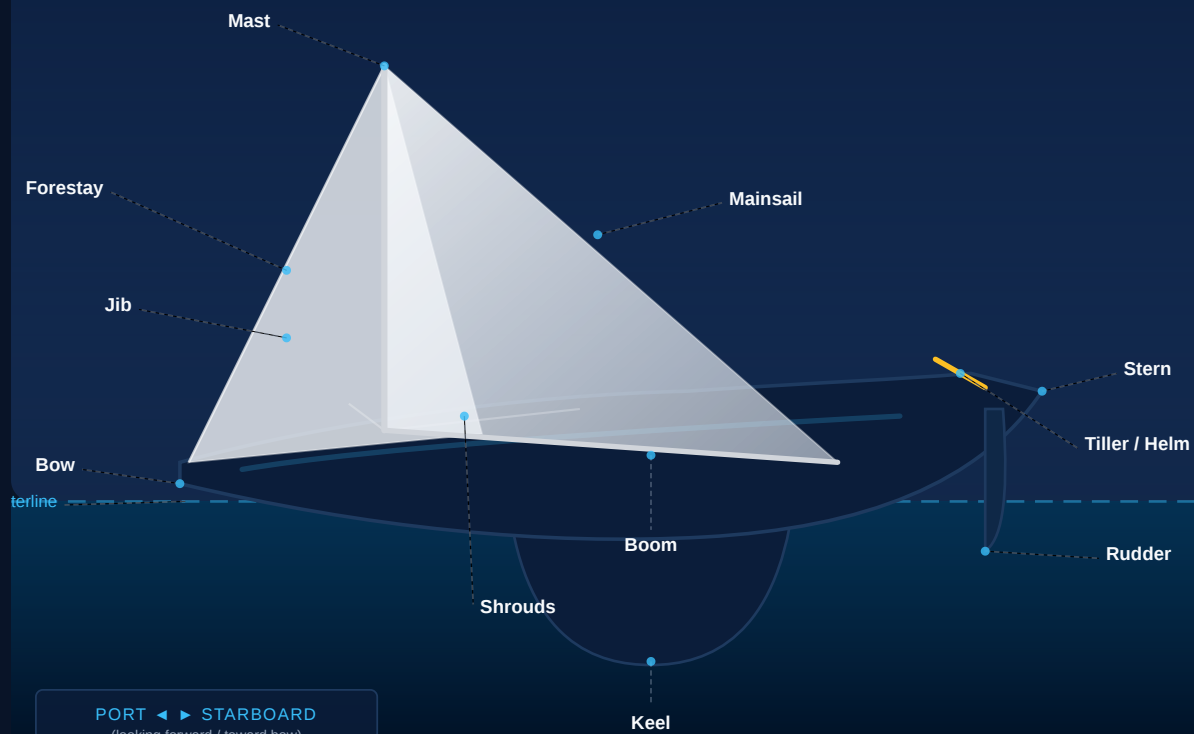


⚠ **Safety:** Always warn crew before gybing. The boom swings with significant force and can cause serious injury. In strong winds, use a preventer or gybe with a controlled mainsheet pull-through.

04

Boat Anatomy

Learn the correct names for every part of the boat. Precise terminology allows clear communication with your crew and other sailors, especially in safety-critical situations on the water.



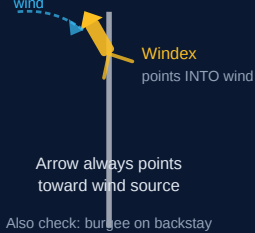
05 Reading the Wind

Experienced sailors constantly read the wind using multiple sources simultaneously. Telltales show airflow over sails in real-time. The masthead windex gives true apparent wind direction. Cat's paws on the water reveal incoming gusts minutes early.

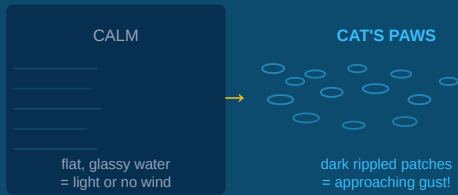
Telltails on Sail



Masthead Windex



Water Surface



Other Wind Indicators



Tip: use multiple indicators together — never rely on just one source

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Get the full course — video, exercises & community

These illustrated visuals are just a taste. The full course includes HD video lessons, interactive quizzes, anchoring guides, safety drills, and access to the Clearwind sailing community.

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