



Keel Inspection Checklist After Grounding

1. Visual Inspection (Out of Water)

- Check for cracks or deformation around the keel-hull joint.
- Look for stress fractures in the gelcoat or laminate.
- Inspect the keel bolts for signs of movement, corrosion, or damage.

2. Internal Hull Inspection

- Examine the bilge area around the keel bolts for cracks or water ingress.
- Check for delamination or distortion in the hull structure.
- Inspect the floors and stringers for signs of stress or separation.

3. Keel Bolt Torque Check

- Retorque keel bolts to manufacturer specifications.
- If bolts spin or don't torque properly, they may be stripped or damaged.

4. Surveyor Assessment

- Engage a marine surveyor for a professional structural assessment.
- Consider ultrasound or dye penetrant testing for hidden cracks.

5. Haul-Out and Alignment Check

- Haul the yacht to inspect the keel alignment.
- Check for keel movement or misalignment with the hull.

6. Rudder and Prop Inspection

- Groundings can also affect the rudder stock and propeller shaft.
- Check for bends, cracks, or misalignment.

Post-Inspection Actions

- Document all findings for insurance or resale purposes.
- If damage is found, consult a marine engineer or shipwright for repairs.
- Consider a sea trial post-repair to ensure handling and performance are unaffected.