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The Facts on File Dictionary of Nautical Terms

Tom Lenfestey, Thompson Lenfestey
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With over 8500 entries, this dictionary covers contemporary seafaring It provides parts of speech, usual pronunciations, and examples of appropriate usage when needed. It covers small boat handling, piloting, celestial navigation, winds, weather, tides, ice, naval terms and ranks, the shipping business, flags and signalling, sails, rigging, ship design, and more.

From Library JournalIn this massive and exhaustive volume, the authors have done a fine job of including every imaginable nautical term. Starting with "aback" (where you don't want the wind to be on your sails), the 8500 entries range from the old (e.g., "Periplus," the first known sailing directions) to the contemporary (e.g., "PHRF," or, "Performance Handicap Racing Fleet," the largest racing class in the world). They include the very useful phonetic

alphabet ("alpha," "bravo," "charlie," etc.), ending with "Zulu time" and an extensive use of abbreviations. Illustrations and tables (not seen) will no doubt add to the book's usefulness. With no comparable reference currently available--the several dictionaries in print are directed either at weekend sailors wanting a quick and inexpensive pocket book, or at industry professionals in need of multi-language tomes--this is highly recommended for any library that might have a use for it.- Robert E. Greenfield, formerly with Baltimore Cty. P.L. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.