

# Coastal Skipper Theory Revision Checklist

A practical planning aid from Coastal Skipper Theory. Updated July 2026.

## 1. Confirm the Day Skipper foundation

Coastal Skipper theory assumes Day Skipper shorebased knowledge. Close gaps before moving into longer passages and heavier chartwork.

- Nautical terms, safety, ropework, anchoring, and marine environment.
- Basic chart symbols, latitude and longitude, distance, speed, and time.
- Core COLREGs, buoyage, lights, shapes, and sound signals.

## 2. Prioritise advanced chartwork

Most Coastal marks are lost where the candidate has to combine several corrections under time pressure.

- Course to steer with tide, leeway, variation, and deviation.
- Dead reckoning, estimated position, running fixes, and position lines.
- Multi-hour CTS where tidal streams change during the leg.

## 3. Practise tidal decisions

At this level, tidal work is about safe decisions as well as arithmetic.

- Standard ports, secondary port corrections, and interpolation.
- Tidal stream atlases, diamonds, gates, races, and overfalls.
- Depth windows with draft, clearance, and sensible safety margins.

## 4. Build weather judgement

Use forecasts, charts, barometer trends, wind shifts, and local effects together.

- Shipping forecast language, inshore waters, fronts, highs, and lows.
- Barometer trend, cloud, visibility, sea state, and lee-shore decisions.
- When to delay, shorten, reroute, or choose an alternate harbour.

## 5. Link navigation to passage planning

A strong answer shows a navigable route, decision points, alternates, and checks.

- Pilotage plans, transits, clearing bearings, leading lines, and lights.
- Crew briefing, watchkeeping, log entries, safety equipment, and roles.
- Abort points, alternates, tidal gates, weather limits, and night pilotage.

## 6. Final exam readiness

Move from topic-by-topic revision to mixed, timed practice.

- Mix chartwork, tides, COLREGs, weather, and passage-making questions.
- Rework every missed calculation from a blank sheet.
- Keep a short list of repeated mistakes and retest them before the exam.

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