

Yellowtail Skiff

This is a variation on the 14 foot motor launch design, with the stern sections made deeper to balance the shift in weights aft, and a bit more freeboard added. Construction is either 9.5mm WR Cedar strip planking with 300gsm reinforcements, or else 9.5mm ply glued lapstrake. The internal structure uses oregon for the keel, stem, inwale, gunwale and transverse frames, 6mm thick ply tanks and decks. A planked transverse thwart is also included. The centreboard is a piece of 12mm galvanised steel plate encapsulated into a plywood and glass shaped section. Watertight compartments are located fore and aft.

The skiff can be used in different ways. It can be built as a sailing skiff with the option of the 5 H.P motor being transom mounted to one side on a bracket, or it can be arranged so that the motor mounts on the centreline and the boat is used either as a launch or as a sailing skiff, but not the option of both at the one time. Then there is version with the inboard motor, typically the 3.5hp Chapman Pup or a similar small engine, and the sailing rig so that it can be operated either way at any time.

A compact little boat like this is meant for one, two or three people and for sheltered waters. Its smaller size makes it a more attractive project to build than the bigger boats. At about 250 kgs it is also an easier boat to manage on and off the trailer.

The plans include one construction and layout drawing, one details drawing, one inboard engine layout drawing, and one plan with the full size sections for the mould stations and some other items.

LOA 4.26m
Beam 1.54m
Draft 0.29m outboard version
 0.51m inboard version
 0.75m approx with centreboard down

