



Devin Troy

Boat Report

U.S. Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat

Ready-to-run scale model from Pro Boat is an ideal model for ponds and pools.

Pro Boat has recently produced an awesome heavy-weather rescue and patrol boat. The model, a U.S. Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat, is a great-looking boat with nice detailing, a Coast Guard logo on the side and even working lights. Paired with its Pro Boat AM radio system, and you have an out-of-the-dream runner.

Getting the Motor Lifeboat ready for voyage is super simple. You need eight AA alkaline batteries for the radio transmitter, two 6-cell 3300mAh NiMH or NiCD battery packs, a charger for the motor batteries and up to 35 ounces of ballast.

Start by installing the eight AA batteries into the transmitter. Now, on to the boat. It is very important that the Motor Lifeboat is balanced in the water, as any imbalance can cause the boat to gain water or not perform to

its best ability. To prevent this, add the necessary amount of ballast weight, but only up to 35 ounces, to the hull to make the boat ride level in the water. Pro Boat suggests



using penny rolls wrapped in clear plastic; a roll of pennies weighs 5 ounces. My dad and I discovered that the ballasting process can be one of trial and error. I began driving the Motor Lifeboat only to realize that the balance was off. We brought it back to shore, did some adjusting, and sent it back to “sea” with better balance.

Once you have the ballast weight correct, apply the supplied hook & loop tape to the charged 6-cell batteries.



Pro Boat 75MHz RC system has trims and reversing. Twin water-cooled motors and ESC provide plenty of go. Note switches for RC and nav lights.

Attach the other portion of the hook & loop to the battery platforms, and install the packs. The batteries are located on the left and right sides of hull. After you have made sure that the receiver switch is in the off position, plug the connectors from the ESC into the connectors on the packs.

Installing the cool accessories that come with the Pro Boat U.S. Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat is also really easy. First, plug the mast into the jack located on the top of the



Specifications

- Length: 30.75 inches
- Beam: 9.4 inches
- Motor Dual water-cooled 550's
- ESC: Water-cooled with reverse
- Drive: Twin screw direct
- Steering: Dual rudders
- Batteries: Two 7.2V 3300+ (not inc)

RTR Features

- Ready-to-run lifeboat
- Factory-installed motors and drives
- Factory-installed RC system
- Factory-installed lighting system
- Four-piece, wooden boat stand
- Abundant scalelike detail
- 16-page instruction manual

cabin. Then add the flags, which are on an elastic band that loops onto the mast. A switch for the accessory lighting is on the left side of the hull near the motor. For the lighting switch to make the lights work, the receiver switch must be turned on.

The final step is to check the radio system. Always make sure the transmitter is turned on before turning on the receiver switch in the hull. Once you've done that, check the throttle, using the throttle trim lever next to the throttle stick if necessary. Continue to check the reverse operation and steering operation, using the steering trim to make any fine-tuning adjustments.

Now for the exciting part, putting Pro Boat's Motor Lifeboat in the water. I love this boat. It certainly isn't a racing boat, but why would it be? It's a scale lifeboat, so it isn't supposed to go blindingly fast or make startlingly



Scale detail is plentiful. Walkways are treated with non-skid material, and flip-up grates cover them when not in use. Cockpit area is also nicely appointed.

sharp turns. This boat is a calm and relaxing subject, and driving it is really a pleasure.

The Motor Lifeboat has excellent control. It

is not jumpy or sporadic in its actions. Rather, it glides through the water in smooth, straight lines and makes beautiful, wide, arcing turns. I learned how to calculate in the boat's wide turning and more laid-back speed the more I drove it. I quickly came to love driving it.

I had recently gotten somewhat used to driving faster, more sensitive models, and while they can be extremely fun and exciting, Pro Boat's U.S. Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat is like a breath of fresh air. Watching the lifeboat navigate the local industrial park pond, it's great to be able to simply admire the gorgeous lines of a scale boat and appreciate how it handles the water. The Motor Lifeboat from Pro Boat is a wonderful scale model. **HM**



The Pro Boat U.S. Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat is an ideal scale model for cruising the local ponds. The lighting adds a nice visual touch.