

**If returning by mail: Boston Police Headquarters, "Boat Mooring", 1 Schroeder Plaza, Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120**

# BOAT MOORING PERMIT INSTRUCTIONS

Please review the City of Boston Mooring Regulations before applying for a mooring or dockspace permit. [The regulations can be found online.](#)

- You must have a mooring permit if you want to moor or dock your vessel in Boston.
- You must have an approved permit before having a mooring placed in Boston.

The Boston Harbormaster needs to approve all new and renewal applications. The permitting system allows the Boston Police Department to track harbor security. You must display your permit on the port side of your vessel near the transom.

Starting in 2025, a smaller permit sticker will accompany your permit for moored boats; this smaller sticker will need to be attached near the top of your mooring ball (after cleaning and drying the surface).

Any mooring placed in the harbor without a permit is in violation, it shall be deemed to be a public nuisance and may be removed at the expense of the mooring owner.

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## MOORING PERMITS

### **To renew an existing mooring permit:**

Please print out and complete a [mooring permit renewal application](#). Renewal applications for moorings and dockspace should be accompanied by payment in the form of a check or money order made payable to the City of Boston.

Payments should be calculated using the following formula:

- Boston residents: \$1 for each linear foot of the boat
- Non-residents: \$5 for each linear foot of the boat

### **Documents to be attached to all renewal applications:**

- Copy of vessel registration or Certificate of Documentation
- Proof of payment of excise tax (if applicable depending on date of purchase)
- Copy of insurance policy (if applicable)
- Date of last mooring tackle inspection (if applicable)
- Description of mooring tackle (if applicable) – type of anchor, weight of anchor, length and diameter of chain(s), number of swivels used, pennant type and length

**To apply for a new mooring permit:**

Please print out and complete a [new mooring permit application](#).

**Documents to be attached to all new applications:**

- Copy of vessel registration or Certificate of Documentation
- Proof of payment of excise tax (if applicable depending on date of purchase)
- Copy of insurance policy (if applicable)
- Proposed description of mooring tackle - type of anchor, weight of anchor, length and diameter of chain(s), number of swivels to be used, pennant type and length

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- Applications for new mooring permits will be added to the mooring permit wait list in the order received until an online waitlist is established.
  - There is no payment required for new applications until AFTER the application has been approved by the Harbormaster. Once approved and payment is made, a permit will be issued and permission for placement of mooring will be granted.
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## **DOCKSPACE PERMITS**

**To renew or apply for a new dockspace permit:**

Please print out and complete a [mooring permit application](#). Renewal applications for dockspace should be accompanied by payment in the form of a check or money order made payable to the City of Boston

Payments should be calculated using the following formula:

- Boston residents: \$1 for each linear foot of the boat
- Non-residents: \$5 for each linear foot of the boat

**Documents to be attached to dockspace applications:**

- Copy of vessel registration or Certificate of Documentation
- Proof of payment of excise tax (if applicable depending on date of purchase)
- Copy of paid lease / rental agreement noting location of slip and marina
- Copy of insurance policy (if applicable)

Applications can be mailed with accompanying documents and payment (if applicable) to:

Boston Police Headquarters  
"Boat Mooring"  
1 Schroeder Plaza  
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120

At this time payment will only be accepted in the form of check or money order  
NO in person payments will be accepted

**KEEP IN MIND:**

- Questions about mooring / docking permits should be emailed to [moorings@pd.boston.gov](mailto:moorings@pd.boston.gov).
- Proof of residency may be requested to process your application. You will need to show a valid government-issued ID with a Boston address.
- If the Harbormaster approves your application, the City of Boston may issue you an excise tax bill. Your application will not be completed until you pay the excise bill.