



Lights & Shapes III: Anchored, Aground & Special Cases

Constrained by draught, pilot vessels, vessels at anchor or aground, seaplanes and WIG craft — plus the Annex I positioning detail examiners probe.

R · 28 Constrained by draught

- Optional: **three all-round red** in a vertical line
- Shown in addition to power-driven lights (Rule 23)
- By day: a **cyLinder**

R · 29 Pilot vessel on duty

- All-round **white over red** at or near the masthead
- Plus sidelights + sternlight when underway
- At anchor: white-over-red **plus** anchor lights

R · 30 At anchor

- **One all-round white** forward; a lower one aft if 50 m+
- 100 m+: also light the decks with available **working lights**
- By day: **one black ball** forward

R · 30 Aground

- Anchor light(s) **plus two all-round red** in a vertical line
- By day: **three balls** in a vertical line
- Small-craft exceptions (below) relax this

R · 31 Seaplanes & WIG

- Show lights as close as practicable to these rules
- WIG taking off/landing/in flight: add all-round **flashing red**
- WIG on the water otherwise = a power-driven vessel

R · 30 Small-craft relief

- <7 m not near a channel/anchorage: anchor light not required
- <12 m aground: **not** required to show the reds / three balls
- Still keep a look-out and show a light where prudent

ANX I Heights & spacing

- Masthead **6 m+** above hull (above the beam if beam >6 m)
- Vertical-line lights **2 m+** apart (1 m+ if <20 m)
- After masthead higher than & abaft the forward one

ANX I Shapes & screens

- Ball 0.6 m+ diameter; shape spacing **1.5 m+**
- Matt-black inboard screens enforce the sidelight **112.5°** cut-off
- Smaller shapes & spacing allowed on vessels <20 m

TRAP Easy marks to lose

- CBD = **three reds**; aground = two reds + anchor light
- Aground by day = **three balls**, not two
- CBD is a status, not a stand-on right — still obey the steering rules

ORAL What the examiner wants

- "Three reds in a line — constrained by my draught"
- "Ball forward — at anchor; add two reds — aground"
- Quote one Annex I figure (e.g. masthead 6 m+) to show depth

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