

Altering Course



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This is the story of a Florida banker and his wife, a college professor, who decided in mid-life to quit their jobs, to sell their home, and to spend the rest of their days cruising in different parts of the world. Not just another nautical adventure story, this book instead is the story of one couple's carefully planned realization of a dream shared by many but lived by relatively few. It is also a celebration of their boat, the ketch Mis-

chief, One of the best-known custom-built ocean cruisers of the 70 s.

In boat living, the Vogts have found a reasonably self-sufficient, independent sort of life, a life stripped of much of the stress, complexity, and artificiality of urban living. At the same time, they know that successful voyaging requires mastery of many new skills and the reorganization of one's personal, business, and financial affairs. These things the Vogts have done. *Altering Course* is full of good advice not only about deck seamanship, anchoring securely, and equipment, but also about how they've managed their new lives afloat. The Vogts tell from first-hand experience how best to handle shoreside assets, arrange for money in distant ports, and be relatively sure of getting mail, wherever you might be going.

Central to the Vogts' adventure is Mischief herself. Mr. Vogt provides a step-by-step explanation of how Sparkman & Stephens designed this ketch based on his own requirements, of how she was built of aluminum in Holland and then began her extensive voyaging.

For those planning to do some serious cruising or those who hope to do so some day, Mr. Vogt provides both sound instruction and a healthy

measure of inspiration.

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