

How to mark abort point on chart

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What is abort Point

- Abort point is a position on the passage plan route after which there is insufficient sea room to turn the vessel and return back

How to Mark Abort point on chart

- For marking abort point, we need to know Maximum head reach and side reach of the vessel in a turn
- Vessel's Head reach is close to "advance" of the ship and "Side reach" is close to "tactical diameter" of the ship
- Advance and Tactical diameter values can be found from the manoeuvring booklet of the ship. Or these value can also be found from the wheel house poster
- Find the Maximum values of "Advance" and "Tactical diameter" of your vessel.
- Double these values to allow for external factors like currents and wind.
- Add additional distance that the vessel will cover at planned speed for 5 minutes. This is allow for analysing the traffic around.
- Add all these to get a minimum distance to mark abort point.
- Mark the abort point at a position that is clear from all the hazards by this distance



Points to consider while Marking Abort point

- Abort point should not be marked too far.
- Abort point should not be marked so near to the dangers that vessel cannot turn even when she has not crossed Abort point.
- Abort point should be marked by an arrow pointing to the position or by a small dotted line. It should not be marked by a big line as this can give a false impression that vessel can still turn safely in case vessel is off track and has not crossed the line marked to represent abort point



Other important point

If the abort point is before the pilot boarding position, Navigators must exercise caution while approaching the pilot station. In case berthing plan is cancelled after vessel has crossed abort point, it can be dangerous as ship would have no space to turn around.

When crossing the abort point to pick up pilot, vessel's speed must be least position so that in case berthing is cancelled, vessel can turn around by astern movement.