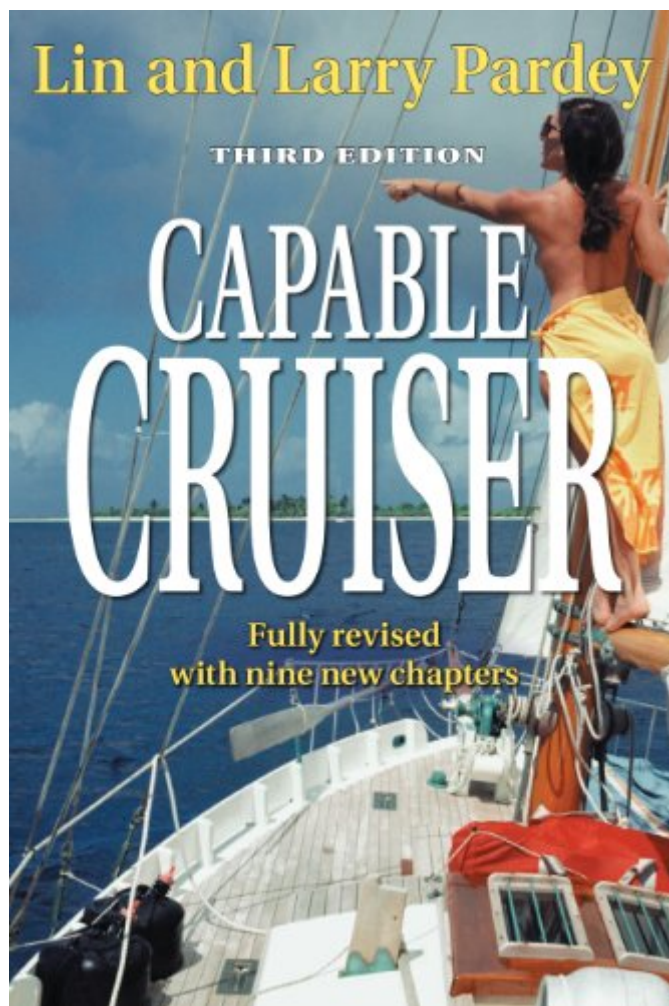


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# Capable Cruiser 3rd Edition



## Synopsis

This revised and expanded third edition of a cruising classic includes 9 completely new chapters with such advice as: sixteen ways to encourage your lover (partner) to share your dream; strategies for turning sudden engine failure into a minor incident; choosing safety equipment; repairing rigging at sea. All of the original chapters have been updated and many are expanded to ensure that the information will be helpful for everyone who dreams of cruising—whether now or soon. The Capable Cruiser is a logical extension of the Pardeys'™ The Self-Sufficient Sailor, with more emphasis on seamanship underway, including careful analysis of extreme anchoring situations and solutions for mitigating them. Underlying each and every chapter is the warmth and encouragement that spurred Herb McCormick, editor-at-large for Cruising World, to label Lin and Larry Pardey the enablers. • Reviewer's comments: You need to read the third edition of Capable Cruiser—both for the knowledge it imparts and the sensible seamanship that runs through every page. —George Day, editor, Blue Water Sailing, Excellent! Capable Cruiser is just one part of a must-read series for serious sailors. Karen Larson - Founding Editor, Good Old Boat magazine When it comes to the subject of "capable cruising," the Pardeys have literally and figuratively written the book on it. The lessons they've learned after tens of thousands of miles at sea are hard-earned, clearly imparted, and totally invaluable. Herb McCormick—Cruising World editor-at-large The Capable Cruiser is must reading for anyone who would like to take their yacht across the waters to high adventure anywhere around the globe. —Midwest Book Review Nothing can keep you cruising longer, safer and on a lower budget than self-sufficiency, and no one knows more about it than the Pardeys. —Tom Linskey, Sail Magazine Sound guidance, experience allied to common sense . . . it makes a good guide. —Practical Boat Owner

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lin & Larry have for many years been the champions and standard-bearers of a certain sub-set within the circumnavigator community: those who do it in smaller, simpler, less costly boats. Their famous exhortation to "go small, go now" has been the motto and rallying cry of more than one generation of eager sailors. Why wait until you're rich? There is never a Perfect Time and there is no such thing as Enough Money, so Lin & Larry have become passionate advocates of Finding a Way. Not everyone can afford a 50-foot yacht, but that's OK, they said. You don't need one. This third edition of the cruising classic features nine new chapters. All the original chapters have been revised and expanded. The irony is that despite their reputation for waxing rhapsodic, this book is 85% solidly practical advice and useful suggestions. If anything, it can get pretty technical. (That is to say, this is not an introduction-to-sailing textbook for the complete novice, although it can still be a very interesting preview of what lies ahead in your sailing future.) The subjects covered include preparation and cost estimates, choosing gear, ongoing maintenance work, getting along harmoniously with your partner while at sea, principles of seamanship, and anchoring. The six sections entail 36 chapters. The material presented in this book represents a distillation of their experiences sailing to 75 countries over a span of more than 40 years, much of it in their first boat, Seraffyn, an engineless wooden cutter with a waterline length of 27' 6". That's right: two people living together and sailing around the world in a 27-foot boat with no engine. It can be done. (Their second boat, Taleisin, is only slightly larger.) It's tempting to apply the term "minimalism" to what they do, but it might be more accurate to describe Lin & Larry conversely as "maximizers," doing more with less. Their method can be summarized as: (1) Do as much as possible yourself. Hiring people to build things, fix things, paint things etc. costs a lot of money. (2) Have an "Unstoppable" boat: not just a ruggedly seaworthy hull and rig, but non-interdependent systems. The failure of one system should not cascade into a multiple-failure scenario that leaves you stranded, helpless, and

in need of pricey outside help. (3) Keep all of your systems as simple as possible. This means they will be easy to maintain and easy to repair or replace as needed (see rule 1). (4) Know what you're doing. A capable cruiser doesn't need fancy gadgetry. Competence translates into being safe and happy with less stuff to break. Their emphasis on keeping everything on a small scale is closely analogous to the increasingly popular off-the-grid micro home movement, although their original motivation was less about any socio-political or ecological philosophy and more about finding a way to go sailing on a tight budget. (If you want to know their life story, read Herb McCormick's excellent book, *As Long As It's Fun*.) Some people just want to travel and explore, and they want to do it the old-fashioned way: slowly and in depth, really getting to know a new place like a local, experiencing it fully. These kinds of people eschew guided tours, resort hotels, round-trip airfare and a busy itinerary packed with famous, overcrowded destinations. These are the types of people who will hitchhike across Europe, hump a backpack up the Appalachian Trail, or ride motorcycles cross-country. They're willing to trade a small amount of discomfort, inconvenience, and uncertainty for interesting and memorable life experiences. A sailboat is the ideal vessel for endeavors of this flavor. It can go anywhere in the world where there is enough water to float the hull, and its source of propulsive power is free and limitless. If that sort of immersive, adventurous, long-term travel appeals to you, then you will get a lot out of *Capable Cruiser*. *Capable Cruiser* doesn't make false promises and warns readers not to do that, either. Life on the water is not without challenges, hardships, and risks. It's not all hammocks and palm trees under cerulean Polynesian skies. Not everyone is going to round Cape Horn, either, but even if you keep your plans relatively unambitious a certain amount of unexpected excitement (as well as a certain amount of boredom) is inevitable. If the reality of living with your partner in a small, simple boat and sharing the adventure of crossing oceans together truly appeals to both of you, you will find few books jammed with a denser wealth of helpful information from people who have actually been out there doing it. Plus, Lin looks great in a sarong. Highly recommended.

The Pardey's do it again...well written...lot's of good info...

Good book, lots of information.

Great book on how to set up a small boat for extended voyages. Experience shows, keeping things simple means more time cruising and less time waiting for expensive parts for things you don't really need. Highly recommended.

This book is full of excellent information, even for someone that is only aspiring to become a sailor. Why learn the hard way when you can learn from others.

I recently read the Cost Conscious Cruiser, and became a fan of the Pardeys immediately. The Capable Cruiser is my second book from them, and I feel obliged to confess that I'm a little afraid of the power this philosophy is taking over my way of thinking. Not only for the ones who intent to go cruising, this is a strong recommendation for anyone who question the way life is being lived by most people in our culture. Simplicity is the fastest and easiest way to happiness, and the time is now. The Pardeys are changing my way of thinking and behaving whenever facing life's choices, and for that I'm thankful.

I confess I bought this as a fan of the Pardeys' writing from way back. The best thing about it is the honesty in their writing. When they screw up, they don't make excuses about it, and they put it out there so others don't have to do the same thing. The Pardeys have lived the life many of us can only dream about and once I started this book, I pretty much had to finish it before I could anything else.

Easy reading overall, I am having some problems with the boat and sailing lingo but as I learn more about the topic the more it makes sense. The more I read it the more I look forward to my boat purchase and the beginning of a new adventure. This book has great information and opinions on many topics including boat style, uses, which design makes a better blue water cruiser and much more.

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