

The plan and profile drawing shows the motorwell single engine version. Optional skeg and strakes are not shown but are present on the plans.

SPECIFICATIONS

LOA	23'	7.02 m
Max Beam	8'	2.45 m
Hull Draft (light/max)	14" /16.5"	0.35/0.42 m
Displacement (light/max)	3,800/5000 lbs	1720/2265 liters
PPI at DWL	560 lbs/in	100 kg/ cm
Fuel	110 gallons	450 liters
Max HP	300 HP	225 Kw
Material	Plywood Cored Epoxy Composite	

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BUILD THREADS ON OUR FORUM

[ThistleDewDayDreamin - ThistleDew's AB23](#)

[AB23 from South Africa](#)

DESCRIPTION



The Abaco 23 is a classic, smooth riding hull. 17 degrees deadrise at transom, variable deadrise. The hull shape and styling are inspired by the rugged Bahamian outboard boats from the Abacos, therefore the name. The legendary smoothness of those boats in heavy seas is mostly due to their hull shape. Most of today's small and fast planing hulls have parallel buttocks or, in other words, a constant deadrise from about the middle to the stern. The Abaco 23 has a hull closer to large deep-sea fishing planing boats or classic hulls. The Abaco 23 has a variable deadrise with a sharp forefoot to achieve high speed rough water comfort. The slight warp of the bottom has another advantage; it induces planing at moderate speed. The transition between displacement and planing speed is much smoother than in a constant deadrise hull. The price to pay for those qualities is a small penalty in top speed. The hull has a classic chine step that acts as a spray rail.

POWER AND SPEED



Loaded to 4,000 lbs., a single 300 HP will push the AB23 to max. 45 mph. With a 225 HP, same weight, top speed will be 39 mph. Keep in mind that our design priority was seaworthiness and comfort (smooth ride) , not speed. If speed had been the top concern, we would have designed a dihedral hull. She is not a sluggish boat, even with a smaller engine like 150 HP, top speed will be approximately 32 mph. We do not recommend fitting her with less than 150 HP. As usual, those figures are for a clean hull with an engine in perfect condition.

LAYOUT



The AB23 is a classic center console sport fishing boat. The payout is simple and uncluttered but see the available options further down if you need more seating or a different layout. The cockpit is self-draining up to 5,000 lbs. displacement.

BUILDING METHOD

The hull material is the well proven epoxy-fiberglass-plywood composite but on request, we will supply specifications for foam sandwich construction. The Abaco 23 does not benefit from weight savings. Her weight should be as designed, we count on that inertia for a smooth ride. The hull planking is straight forward: all surfaces are 100% developable, no slits to cut in the panels.

REQUIRED SKILLS

Any builder who has successfully completed a boat built on a jig like the FS12, is able to build the AB23 if he devotes sufficient time and materials to the project. There is nothing complicated about the construction since we worked hard to design an easy to build boat. All hull and deck surfaces are 100% developable and are easy to cut to shape and bend. The plans show dimensions for all those parts.

OPTIONS

There are several power options. The Abaco 23 can be built with a traditional motor well for single or twin engines. A single engine fits her style and those who want back up power should consider a kicker outboard on a lifting bracket. The plans show all dimensions to build the boat with a closed transom for an outboard bracket, single or twin or single with a kicker engine. In the case of the bracket version, there is sufficient room in the stern to have a removable bench. That bench will provide additional seating and can be removed during fishing trips. There is also room for larger fuel tanks. The console can be lengthened to accommodate a small head. This is discussed in the plan's notes. We suggest moving the fuel tanks around to make room for the head between the mid stringers. Builders can add lifting strakes, a skeg and even an extra spray rail. The skeg is a highly recommended option. The plans can be customized as long as the builder does not compromise the structure.

LABOR

The hull shell can be built in 200 hours, but a finished boat will require 300 to 800 hours depending on the level of detail and the skills of the builder.

MORE

Visit our [forum](#), help pages, tutorial pages and read our FAQ: most questions are answered there.

LICENSE

As with all our plans, you have the right to build one boat from those plans. The designer holds the copyright to the design and you purchase a license to build one boat. If you plan to build more than one boat, please contact us about licensing fees.

BUILDING STANDARDS

These plans were drafted according to the ABYC rules. The ABYC (American Boat and Yacht Council) defines the boat building standards in collaboration with the USCG. Professional builders may be subject to more requirements. Consult the designer.

The ABYC standards are very close to the ISO norms and CEE requirements but no European certification was applied for since this is not required for amateur boat building in Europe. CEE/ISO certification is available to professional builders for a fee.














BILL OF MATERIALS

Plywood (4x8' – 122x244cm)		
6 mm (1/4")	9	
9 mm (3/8")	6	
12 mm (1/2")	18	
Also see our CNC Kit , which is a precut plywood kit that includes all the plywood needed to build the boat as designed.		
Fiberglass Fabric and Tape		
Fiberglass Biaxial Tape 45/45 12 oz., no mat, 6 in.	600 yards	549 m
Fiberglass Biaxial Tape 45/45 6 oz., no mat, 6 in.	50 yards	45 m
Glass Cloth, 6oz., 50 in. wide	22 yards	20 m
Fiberglass cloth Biaxial (45/45), 12oz., 50 in. wide	125 yards	114 m
Resin		
Epoxy	35 gallons	140 kg
Also see our MarinEpoxy or Silvertip Epoxy kits which include all of the epoxy and fiberglass listed.		

This BOM covers all the supplies for this boat as designed. Usage of materials will vary in function of several factors. An experienced builder will use less resin. First time builders always use more resin, take that in account. Our resin usage calculations are based on a 50% glass content. Options, customization, and variations in fabric and foam cutting preferences will also affect the Bill of Materials. Our figures show an estimated average. Small variations in fiberglass specifications are acceptable, consult us for substitutions.

PLANS PACKING LIST

Plans are available in metric or US units.

-  B286_1 Plan and profile
-  B286_2: Inboard Profile & Hull Plan
-  B286_3: Hull Panels
-  B286_4: Stringers
-  B286_5: Deck, Casting Platform, & Floor Plan
-  B 286_6 to B285_23: All stations, molds and frames.
-  B286_24 : Nesting
-  B286_25: T-Top
-  B286_26: Console
-  B286_27: Details
-  B286_28: Lamination Schedule
-  B221 Typical Small Boat Electrical diagram.
-  Specific building notes for this boat (+ or - 20 pages).