

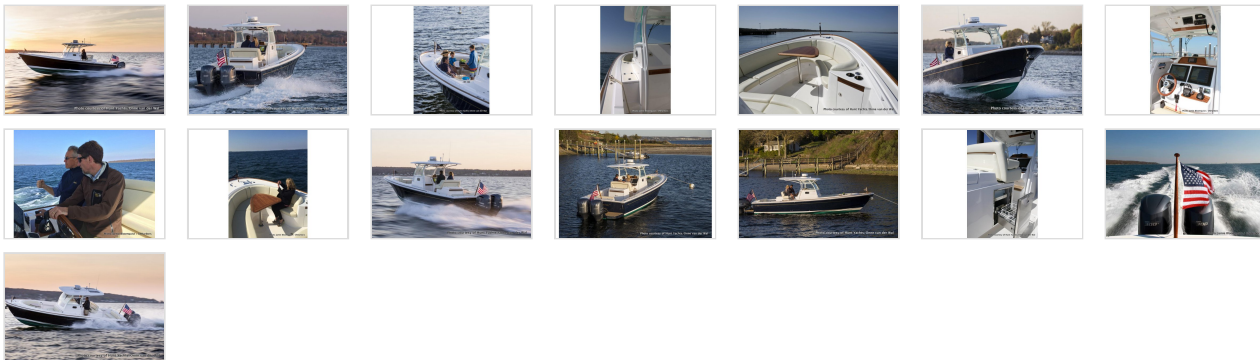
Hunt 32cc: Weekend Warrior, and Proud of It

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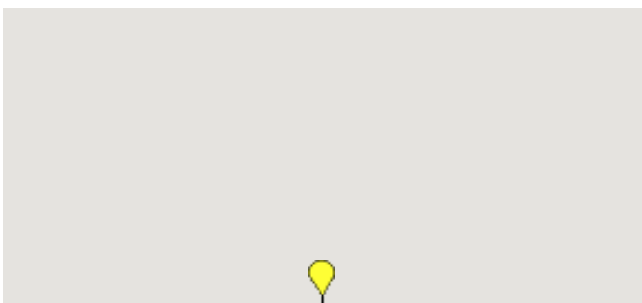


Photo courtesy of Hunt Yachts /Onne van der Wal

The new Hunt 32cc is as versatile as it is sexy.



[Click the top image to get a larger version or to watch it in a slideshow.](#)



It's hard not to feel self-conscious when you find yourself surrounded by professional sailors, fishermen, and other twenty-somethings. They're at the top of their game: no family, no 9-5, and a body that still bounces back from a pummeling day-after-day. Even worse, too many small boats these days seem to be designed exclusively for such die-hard



boaters, leaving the rest of us feeling like we've gone twelve rounds with Floyd Mayweather instead of just out to the canyons for a few hours of fishing.

Which is precisely why it was such a relief to step aboard [Hunt Yachts'](#) brand-new 32' center-console and instantly recognize that at last someone had

built a boat for the rest of us — the weekend warriors. From the moment I stepped aboard, the [32cc](#) seemed to be celebrating my mid-life status. My creaky joints thanked me for using the built-in, port-side extended center console step to retrieve the spring lines — no deep knee-bends needed. And while I'd like to think that the throttles on the twin Yamaha outboards could've gotten me out of our tight slip without a scratch, the [Yamaha Helm Master joystick control](#) kept my departure stress-free. Lastly, the ample storage made the fenders and docklines disappear quickly, helping my parental need for a clutter-free deck.

Hunt 32cc Specifications:

- LOA: 32'1"
- Beam: 10'6"
- Draft: 1'6" (hull)/2'1"(prop)
- Displacement: 9,000 pounds (fully loaded)
- Fuel Capacity: 225 gallons
- Water Capacity: 25 gallons

Once we'd cleared [Hunt Yachts'](#) protected dock in [Portsmouth](#), though, the [32cc](#) showed me that my days of enjoying a thrill ride weren't entirely over. Though the [32cc](#) comes [standard with Yamaha 250s](#) (an inboard is also an option), the boat we tested, Hull No. 1, was equipped with twin 300s, an upgrade that helped the signature Hunt Deep-V hull jump out of the hole in an instant, even while pushing a sizeable 9,000 displacement. An automatic trim system brought the bow down so naturally that my passengers might've thought I did it myself! Throwing the throttles down summoned up an impressive 5200 RPM and sent us down Narragansett Bay at highway speeds — I'll take [Hunt Yacht's Gregg Weatherby's](#) word for it that we were hitting 55 mph — but the glass console surround let me enjoy the speed without the windblown, teardrop-inducing rush that is too often experienced at such velocities.

The pitfall of center-console boats, of course, is that sometimes the helmsman is the only comfortable person aboard. On the [32cc](#), though, the wide console keeps the wind off the transom bench (the bench folds up for fishing), and even the J-shaped forward seating area is comfortable at all but top speed. By extending the console across the port side, while still allowing a standard walk-through to starboard, [Hunt](#) has created a boat that serves many masters.

Belowdecks, the extended console has also opened up options barely imaginable on a dayboat like this. The galley includes a microwave, mini-fridge, and plenty of counterspace for preparing lunch or mixing up an evening's cocktails. A bifold door keeps the cabin spacious while also allowing for a full head and shower (there's another shower outside, should you want to hose off on the swim platform). The portside bunk seems a bit cozy for a grownup, but for small children who need a nap it'd be just the ticket. And with an aft-facing doorway, those kids can safely come up on deck when they awake — a design feature that shows how in tune [Hunt's design crew](#) is to their target customers' needs and daily lives.

Of course, those customers are as individual as each of [Hunt's yachts](#), and with a base price of \$269,000

(with twin Yamaha 250s), the [32cc](#) will not be a fit for every boating family's needs or resources. But if you're proud to claim your status on Friday night as a weekend warrior, I'd say there are few boats on the market that will let you do it in as much style.

—*Capt. Joshua F. Moore, USHarbors*