

MasterCraft X-45 (2006-2009)

Brief Summary

The 24'2" X-45 is bound to be turning plenty of heads this year. It's built for pure pleasure whether you get your fun just tooling around listening to the tunes or cutting some fine tricks on the perfect wake. The all-new MasterCraft X-45 is loaded with features and built to last.

The X-45 has a built-in four step boarding ladder and a removable teak platform. The ZeroFlex Flyer Tower has built-in pivoting board racks, and a Sirius capable Clarion four JL speaker system. You get three 12 volt sockets for all those cell phones and portables you and your guests bring along. Thirteen drink holders and a 50 quart cooler should take care of the beverages. A digital speed indicator, MasterCraft speed control system and Tournament speedometer should take care of setting the perfect speed.

Test engine -- 1 x 375-hp Crusader 6.0 HO MPI

Best cruise -- 27.9 mph @ 3500 RPM

Cruising Range -- 182 miles

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Price

Base Price

Prices, features, designs, and equipment are subject to change. Please see your local dealer or visit the builder's website for the latest information available on this boat model.

Key Features

- Three 12-volt power outlets
- 4-step forward boarding ladder
- 50 qt. cooler
- Anodized aluminum ski pylon
- Teleflex Xtreme high-performance shift & throttle cable
- Tournament speedometer
- Pure Vert ballast system
- ZeroFlex flyer tower

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	4.6	4	0.8	5.69	4.95	461	401	64
1000	6.3	5.4	1.3	4.81	4.18	389	339	64
1500	7.9	6.9	2.4	3.36	2.92	272	237	69
2000	9	7.8	4.3	2.08	1.81	169	147	79
2500	12.3	10.7	7.6	1.63	1.42	132	115	85
3000	21.7	18.8	10.1	2.14	1.86	174	151	87
3500	27.9	24.3	12.4	2.25	1.96	182	158	88
4000	32	27.8	14.9	2.15	1.87	174	151	88
4500	36.2	31.4	21	1.73	1.5	140	122	94
5000	40	34.8	23.3	1.72	1.5	139	121	97
5150	42.2	36.7	25.9	1.63	1.42	132	115	99

[View the test results in metric units](#)

MasterCraft X45 chart.jpg

Specifications

Length Overall	24' 2" / 7.37 m
BEAM	8' 6" 2.59 m

Dry Weight	4,600 lbs. 2,086 kg
Tested Weight	
Draft	28" 0.71 m
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	open
Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	90 gal. 348.7 L
Water Capacity	none
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	

Aft Deck	
Salon Inside Width	
Salon Fore & Aft	
Salon Height	
Salon Volume	
Galley Volume	
Master SR Width	
Master SR fore & Aft	
Master SR Overhead	
Master SR Volume	
Eng. Room Volume	

Acceleration Times & Conditions

Time to Plane	5.5 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	1.56 : 1
Props	13 3/4 x 14 4-blade Nibral
Load	2 persons, 1/2 fuel, no water, min. gear

Climate	65 deg., 40% humid., wind: 5 knots; seas: calm
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Medium Boat, Adjustable Wake, Extra-Large Fun

By Capt. Vince Daniello

Test Captain

At 24 feet 2 inches, MasterCraft’s X-45 sits right in the middle of the company’s wakeboard equipped “X” series. She falls between the X-7, considered an outstanding slalom boat, and the X-80, a luxury SUV wakeboarder.

Middle is not always desirable, as in the middle of nowhere or between a rock and a hard place, but in the case of the X-45, MasterCraft appears to have found the exact middle of the scale striking the perfect balance between room inside the boat and fun behind the boat.

Starting at the Bow

As with any balancing act the features that make the X-45 work start at each end and culminate in the middle. In the bow the giant seating area is made possible by flaring the hull into what MasterCraft representatives descriptively call the “pickle fork.” Not a catamaran or tri-hull, but simply an exaggerated extension of each chine into a squared-off bow, giving the forward seating area of the X-45 room for two or three to stretch out with feet on the seats, or seat five comfortably. The blunted bow also makes room for a swim deck with telescoping boarding ladder, a drink cooler, and cavernous storage compartments.

Friendly Cockpit Arrangement

At the other end of the scale, the V-drive transmission puts the engine all the way aft, providing a large sun pad across the entire width of the stern. The main advantage of having the engine aft is that it is not in the middle. By keeping the engine out of the middle of the boat MasterCraft has created a family-friendly circular seating arrangement with a comfortable corner for everyone, as well as additional storage and another drink cooler.

Wakeboarding Features

Trying to be all things to all people is a tough load to carry, but the X-45 does it well by adjusting its load. Built on the minimal-wake Maristar 245 ski boat hull, the X-45 turns into a big-air wake maker by filling three ballast tanks with a total of 1,000 pounds of lake water. Each tank has its own pump and individual gauge for infinitely variable, repeatable wakes to suit any level rider.

Since no one wants to be pulled down when they’re trying to go up, the “X” series includes MasterCraft’s wakeboard tower with the tow pylon mounted high above the water for added safety, and uniquely built into the navigation light. The tower includes swiveling, quick-locking board racks, optional speakers, halogen lights, a bimini top, and a mirror. For skiers, a removable ski pylon fits at the front of the sun pad and has dedicated storage beneath the aft seat.

Saltwater Series and Its Features

MasterCraft's new Saltwater series is built around a 375-horsepower closed-cooled Crusader engine. The company has also added sea strainers on the engine intakes, sacrificial zinc anodes on the underwater gear, and stainless steel hatch lifts. Not satisfied with just solving the obvious problems associated with the corrosive marine environment, MasterCraft is keeping the boat we tested in saltwater and providing only minimal maintenance (a quick rinse after each run) to see if any unexpected problems arise.

On that note, it had been a while since the bottom was scrubbed, so our test numbers probably do not reflect the boat's capability when clean.

Performance and Handling

On our test, the boat topped out at 42.2 mph turning 5150 rpm, where the engine is rated to turn 5500 RPM with a clean prop. We planed off in 5.5 seconds, and were up and running at 30 mph in 9.4 seconds. Again, I suspect these numbers would have been better with clean running gear. What our test results do not show is the smooth ride of MasterCraft's hull or the effortless steering and tight turns of an inboard-powered boat. For water sports, the inboard drive also keeps the propeller much farther away from people and tow ropes than is possible with an inboard-outboard.

Can't decide which one carries the most weight; interior room for the family, big wakes for the kids, or slalom ability for mom and dad? Strike a balance between all three with MasterCraft's X-45.