

*I*t would be an unusual yachtsman indeed who had never dreamt of owning a new yacht. And for most, it's got to be the right yacht – well built, comfortable, and capable of safe yet exciting performance.

A Westerly in fact. And what better introduction to Westerly Seacraftsmanship could there be than the Merlin 29?

The 29 is based on the hugely popular Merlin 28, a yacht which has introduced more yachtspeople and their families to Westerly sailing than any other. Ed Dubois has refined and updated the design of the hull, while the interior has been given a thoroughly modern, practical rethink.

None of the virtues of the old Merlin have been cast aside, however – the sturdiness, safety and convenience Westerly owners expect is all still there.

The guardrails are high enough to protect children in harbour or at sea. All the control lines are led aft to the cockpit, so the boat can be easily controlled by one or two people.

All the deck fittings are engineered to withstand a lifetime of use, and none of the scantlings are skimped; you won't find many 29 footers with bow, stern and spring cleats,



for example.

Cast off, and you're in for another surprise. Getting out of the marina under power is simple, with the responsive Volvo engine. Putting the sails up is easy – this is a 29 footer – and then the Merlin 29 can really show what she's made of.

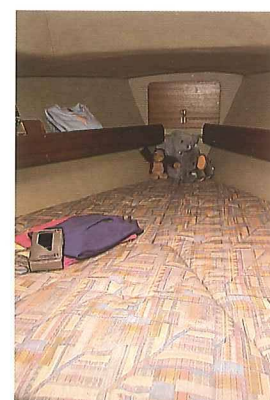
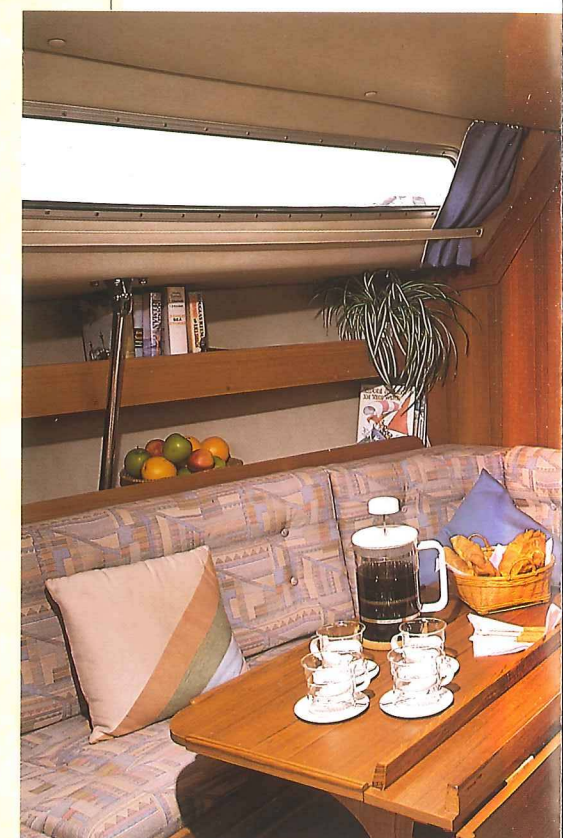
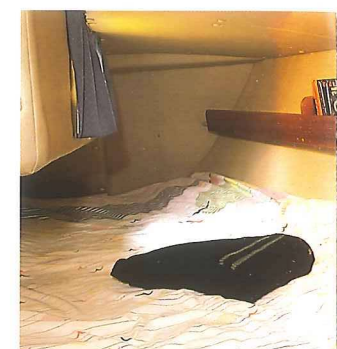
The tiller is light, and with all the lines in easy reach you're soon trimmed perfectly – and sailing rather more quickly than you might expect from a yacht this size. The extra foot has been added where it counts to maximise waterline length, and therefore increase speed under sail.

The Merlin is also very close winded, and despite her crisp turn of speed remains stable and easy whatever the conditions.

Below, there are yet more surprises. The first is the pleasantly spacious saloon, with

its designer fabrics and high quality teak finish. There is a spacious and practical navigation area, and plenty of storage space. The galley is one that would not shame a much larger yacht, with a gimballed cooker with oven and grill, stainless steel sink and insulated ice box.

The three separate cabins, including a very generous aft cabin, offer the crew of six







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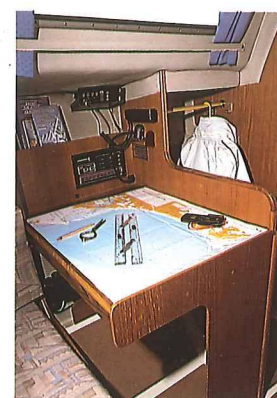
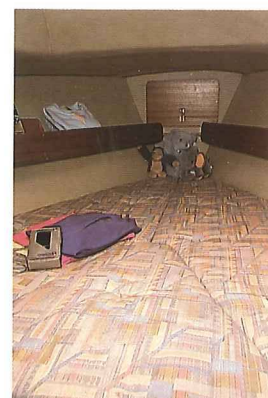
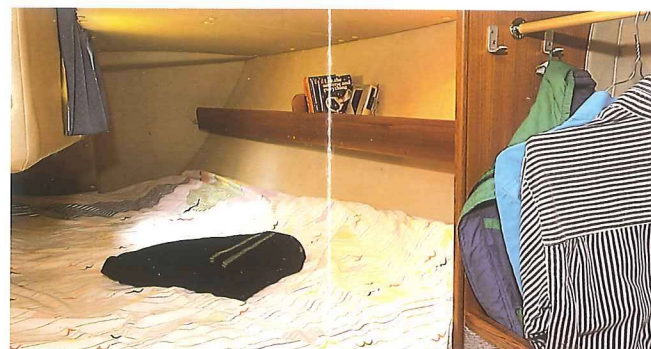
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privacy and comfort, with lockers for seagoing clothes and shoregoing clothes, fabric coverings on all berths and a separate heads compartment.

Each Merlin is built to Westerly's usual impeccable standards, and carries the Lloyds



Hull Construction Certificate. Lloyd's surveyors inspect every hull each week during construction, and if they're not satisfied it doesn't get a certificate. Without a certificate, it won't be released from the factory

We also work to British Standard 5750, which makes sure our quality control is as good as it's possible to make it.

Construction takes place under carefully controlled conditions of temperature and humidity using the very finest materials,

