



The Rule is followed by an explanation

Rule 5 Lookout

Every vessel shall **at all times** maintain a proper look-out by **sight and hearing** as well as by **all available means appropriate** in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a **full appraisal of the situation** and or **the risk of collision**.

Explanation

Maintaining a proper look-out **at all times** is an important part of safe watchkeeping, this includes posting a look-out from dusk to dawn and sometimes by day, especially when the visibility is restricted.

The term 'proper look-out' is primarily using sight and hearing as mention in Rule 5. It also includes the effective use of all available instruments and equipment, this applies particularly to radar. The use of binoculars and of information received by VHF, AIS, depth sounder for UKC, would also be included in Rule 5

Anchor watch

The duty to keep a proper look-out applies also when a vessel is at anchor, especially if there is a strong tide running, or if other vessels are likely to be passing by.

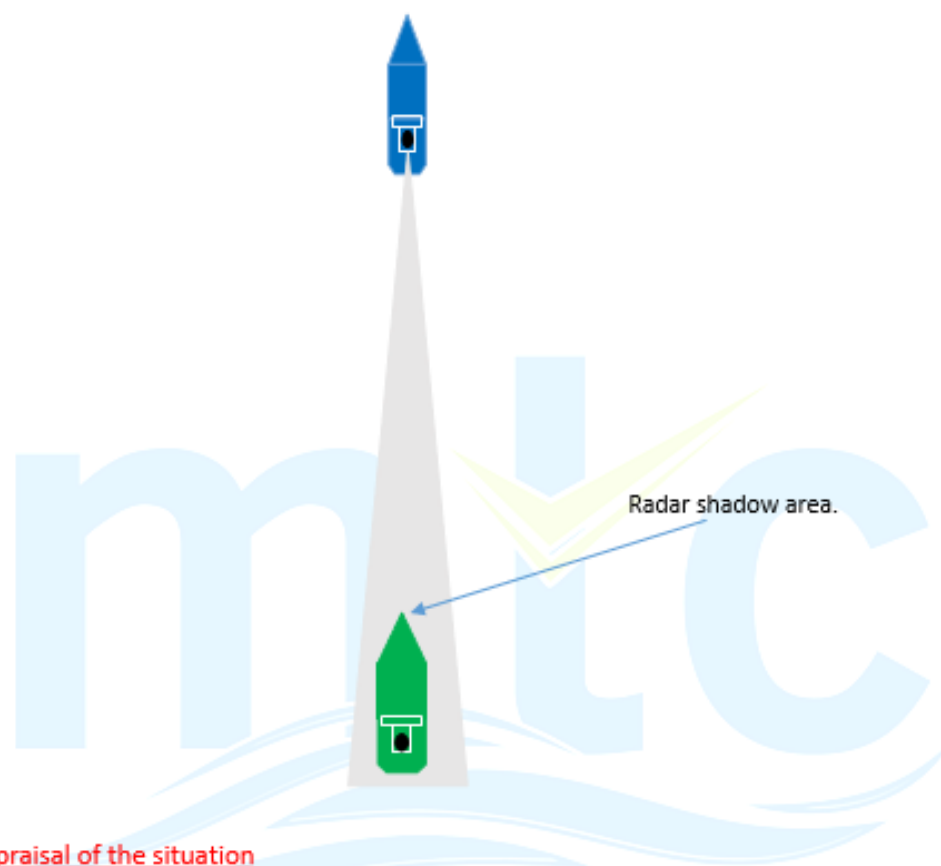
Sight and hearing, all available means appropriate

all available means.

In the below diagram if the radar is only being used for lookout, then the vessel astern is in the radar shadow area due to the funnel and would not be seen. By keeping a 360 ° visual lookout the vessel astern would be seen.

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Full appraisal of the situation

Full appraisal of the situation In order to keep a proper look-out the officer of the watch, or person in charge, must also pay attention to what is happening on his own vessel keeping a check on the steering and seeing that equipment required for keeping the vessel on course is functioning correctly.

and or **the risk of collision.**

The Rules do not state what risk of collision is or when it exists. Risk of collision exists when two vessels are following courses that would take them to the same position in a few minutes. Risk of collision would NOT exist for two slow-moving vessels 16 miles apart heading for the same position.

