

According to a recent study of the BoatU.S. Marine Insurance Program claim files, boats on trailers are prime targets for thieves; all it takes is a scant few seconds to hook a trailer up to a truck and the boat will be bouncing down the road headed for the state line.

To prevent your boat from becoming a target, there are a few key things to keep in mind. Boats stored at a marina or in a driveway with the tongue facing the open road are easy pickings, especially in winter when days are short and no one is around. The safest place to store a trailer boat is in your backyard or garage. But wherever the boat is stored,

removing the trailer's wheels and storing them inside significantly reduces the chances of theft and also prolongs the life of the tires. If the boat has to be stored in the driveway, the tongue should be locked and facing away from the road.



Remember, a thief doesn't have to take the entire boat to make out like a bandit (literally). Outdrives are a frequent target and if a boat is going to be stored outside, it should be backed up with the outdrive against a wall and locked securely.