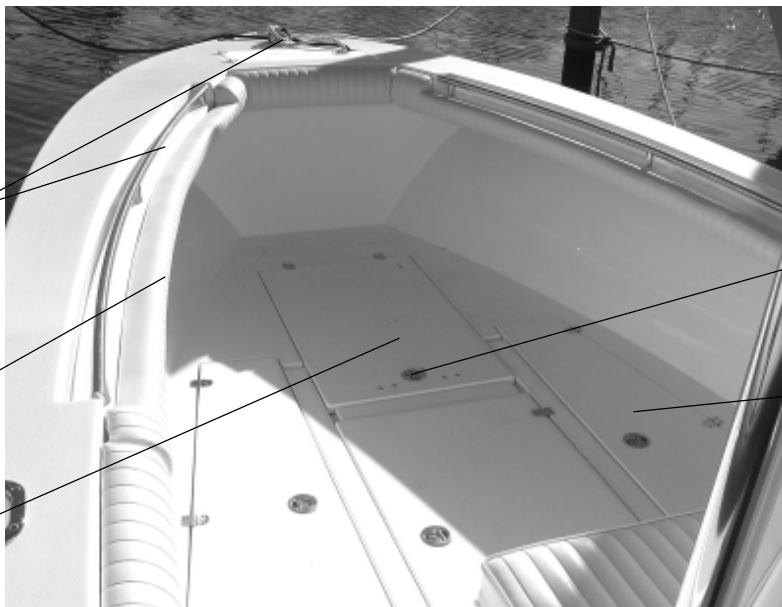


Critic's Corner: Albin 26 Center Console

PROS

- Recessed bow rail, cleats, and navigational lights make for a clean, neat, and safe bow.
- Coaming bolsters and toekick space all around the bow.
- Portable head housed under this hatch.



CONS

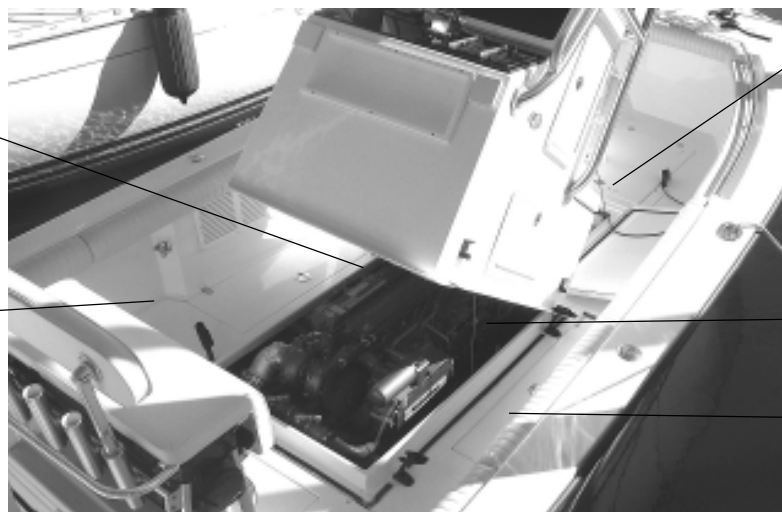
- Centerline hatch lid fit poorly, and the latch was hard to operate.
- Outboard locker lids have no lifts, so they can slam into the side of the boat when fully open.

- Plentiful space for flush-mounted electronics.
- Tight steering: 3-1/2 turns lock to lock.
- Comfortable helm seat.



- No standard compass.
- Plexiglas electronics box lid needs a stopper to prevent it from sliding aft when open.
- Backrest slides out easily; passengers may pull it out accidentally and lose balance. Handrail too low.
- Footrest (not shown) digs into the back of driver's legs when standing.

- Centerline-mounted inboard diesel lowers the boat's center of gravity to improve ride quality.
- Toekick space at the sides.



- Access to engine relies on electrical winch to pull console forward. No means of cranking the winch manually. It takes two men (strong people) to push it forward.
- Tight around the sides of the engine.
- Sheets of moisture-trapping foam are glued onto the aluminum tanks.