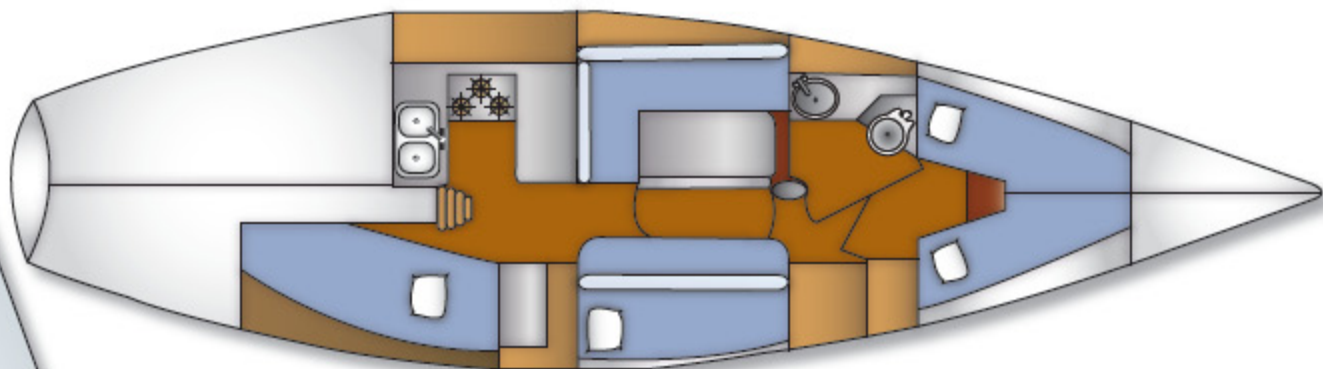


BOAT REVIEW



The Ericson 41's long overhangs force accommodations (above) to the center, keeping the ends light. Without any protective skeg, the spade rudder (left), lies vulnerable to impacts (several boats were plagued with defective rudder stocks). Some owners enhanced the original sloop rig (left) with an inner forestay to take a staysail or storm jib. Three designs from the 1960s (table below) reflect deceptive DL ratios that are skewed by the short static waterline lengths. The Cal 40, with its flatter underbody, is the light-air and downwind speedster. Though the shorter LWL handicaps the Bristol 40, the centerboard version offers shoalwater potential that will appeal to East Coast cruisers. The amply ballasted Ericson 41 offers a low center of gravity that is appreciated offshore.