

**PERFORMANCE  
TESTED**

# FROM THE HULL UP



## STARCRAFT PRODUCES AN ALL-NEW DECKBOAT WITH THE AURORA STARSTEP 200

**S**tarcraft is no novice when it comes to building boats, having more than 100 years of experience to draw from. Starcraft entered the deckboat market in 2007 with an all-new model, the Aurora StarStep 200, which features a new hull and top deck designed to offer performance and comfort.

When it comes to deckboats, interior space is one of the most important components, and Starcraft worked to make a boat that offers plenty of usable space for up to 12 people. The 20-foot, 4-inch boat has a large bow platform that's a great spot for hanging out, and it makes for easy boat access at the bow when beached.

Inside the boat, two high-back couches are featured at the bow, accented with stainless steel grabrails and cupholders. A removable coffee table can be installed in the center to create a more social environment. A cooler is also integrated into the bow deck for keeping drinks and snacks at

hand. There's also an in-floor ski locker with rotocast lining near the helm for storing boardsports gear or other large items. While the front couch on the starboard side connects to the helm, the seating on the port side is extended with another bench-style seat since there's no console on that side. The design makes for less separation between the bow and cockpit, which is nice considering deckboats are made with social interaction in mind. This additional couch also offers storage for the carry-on cooler, and its cushion thoughtfully attaches to the lid of the cooler so that when the seat is lifted it also opens the cooler for easy access.

On the starboard side of the helm is a sink with a pull-out spigot, which is great because it can stretch far enough to extend to the bow or stern platforms, and it features a large 15-gallon pressurized tank to hold fresh water. The helm features a new rotocast dash with a black-and-chrome design that has a sporty

appearance. The captain will be pleased with the standard rack-and-pinion power steering with tilt functions.

Behind the captain's bolster-equipped bucket seat is another bench seat at the stern, which offers storage underneath. Just above this seat is the sunpad that features a foldout cushion to convert into a chaise lounge. Access to the swim platform is provided by the walk-through on the port side, which is the location of another in-deck, drainable cooler similar to the one at the bow. The swim platform features a rope locker, a retractable reboarding ladder and a transom shower for rinsing off after a swim.

The new hull on the Aurora StarStep 200 is a stepped-after-plane reverse-chine design, which is meant to offer quick holeshots along with good low-speed handling. What's nice is the peace of mind Starcraft provides with its lifetime warranty on the hull that can be transferred one time.

### ABOUT THE BOAT:

## STARCRAFT AURORA STARSTEP 200



(Top) The single-console design of the Aurora StarStep 200 allows for more seating on the port side. (Above) A newly designed helm offers a host of features for the captain. (Bottom right) A walk-through transom provides access to the swim platform.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Length	20 ft., 4 in.
Beam	8 ft., 6 in.
Capacity	12 people
Dry Weight	3,850 lbs.
Fuel Capacity	51 gals.
Maximum Power	270 hp
Deadrise (@transom)	13 degrees

### PERFORMANCE

For our performance evaluation of the Starcraft Aurora StarStep 200, our test boat featured a 270 hp Volvo Penta 5.0 GXi stern drive engine. We noted a 5-second time to plane with our test power, and it took 9 seconds to go from 0 to 30 mph. Considering most deckboat owners want to dabble in watersports activities from time to time, it's nice to know the Aurora StarStep 200 offers enough low-end power to make this realistic. Add the optional wake tower and you'll be good to go for skiing, wakeboarding and more. Those who value top-end performance won't be disappointed with the 45.8 mph top speed.

As mentioned previously, the Aurora StarStep 200 features a stepped-after-plane hull design that is made to improve acceleration out of the hole as well as provide a stable ride at all speeds. The boat offered a solid, comfortable ride while cruising and wasn't bumpy in light lake chop. It was fun to operate, and we appre-

ciate the smooth rack-and-pinion steering and tilt function.

When it comes to fuel consumption, boaters can expect to travel about 93 miles on the 51-gallon fuel tank on smooth waters. Slowing down to a cruising speed of 27 mph, however, will almost double the fuel efficiency of the boat, extending the distance to 188 miles to a tank.

### OVERALL

Starcraft's all-new Aurora StarStep 200 is a great boat for those looking to enjoy a day on the water that includes a little bit of everything. It offers a generous amount of space inside the deck and on the large bow and 24-inch extended swim platform at the stern. At \$35,856 with our test power, the StarStep 200 offers a great all-around deckboat experience. **GO**

### PERFORMANCE & PRICING

## STARCRAFT AURORA STARSTEP 200 I/O

### PERFORMANCE

	MPH	RPM	MPG	RANGE	DBA
PEAK	45.8	5200	2.02	93	96
CRUISE	27.1	3000	4.10	188	85
TIME TO PLANE					5 seconds
0-30 MPH ACCELERATION					9 seconds

Fuel consumption measured with TechMate digital fuel-flow gauge; range based on 90% of total fuel capacity

### TEST POWER

MOTOR	270 hp Volvo Penta 5.0 GXi
PROP	3-blade stainless steel
WOT LIMIT	5000 rpm

Craft available with 220 hp to 270 hp stern drives from Volvo Penta and MerCruiser

### LOAD

	PEOPLE	FUEL	MISC.
TEST	2	26/163	15 lbs.
TYPICAL	6-7	51/319	120 lbs.

### BASE PRICE

WITH TEST POWER \$35,856\*

\*Price can vary depending on options, location and freight — price does not include trailer

### FINANCING

\$348/month for 15 years\*

\*Assuming a final price of \$42,000 with a 10% down payment and a fixed interest rate of 7.40% — does not include sales tax

### FIVE NOTABLE OPTIONS

Wake tower, bow platform shower, bow filler cushions, fishing package (baitwell, two fish seats, rod storage), through-hull exhaust

### FIVE NOTABLE STANDARDS

24-inch extended swim platform w/ladder, helm seat w/flip-up bolster, 15-gallon pressurized freshwater shower, digital depth sounder, AM/FM stereo w/four marine-grade speakers

### BUILDER

Starcraft Marine, 201 Starcraft Drive, P.O. Box 517, Topeka, IN 46571; (866) 772-4538; www.starcraftmarine.com

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