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A propeller is a device with rotating blades that produce thrust from its rotational motion. The two main parts used to make the boat propellers are stainless steel and aluminum. Of late, the steel propellers have gained more prominence over the aluminum ones. There are both some advantages and problems in using them.

The first advantage of the stainless steel boat propellers is that it is more rigid than its aluminum counterparts. The aluminum varieties being suppler tend to bend if the boat moves with a high velocity. The performance of the ship deteriorates tremendously a lot for this. Due to the inelasticity of the steel propellers, their performance is not hindered under any condition. Steel boat propellers last longer than the aluminum versions. Aluminum propellers get damaged quickly in sea water from rocks or any other hard substances. The stronger steel ones can resist the collision forces from these substances more..

There are some negative points about the steel boat propellers. The cost of the aluminum propellers is less than the steel propellers. The steel propellers are charged several times more than the aluminum varieties. Also, the steel varieties cost much more as part of their maintenance. The boat with the steel propellers is less prone to damage. But if the collision is really hard then the aluminum propellers will itself break without damaging the ship. The steel propellers in such cases cause great harm to the sip and it costs a lot to bring the ship back to its old shape. The weight of the steel propellers is much more than the aluminum ones. If the motor is kept idle for a long time, the steel propellers may damage the gears and so the motor should be set to a minimum RPM all the time.

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