

Trophy 2902 Walkaround

TESTED BY
BOATING
The World's Largest Powerboat Magazine

Just Plain Good

A 30' fishboat for less than \$100,000.

Don't you hate walkarounds that have only inch-deep toekicks ringing the sidedecks? Let's call a spade a spade—such a boat just shouldn't be called a walkaround. Trophy's new 2902 Walkaround is deserving of the moniker, however. When I went up to the bow, for example, to handle the lines during my test, I found comforting ankle-high gunwales running around the sidedecks, which when coupled with the thigh-high bowrail, made me feel secure with every step.

The 2902 Walkaround is the new flagship boat of the Trophy fleet, yet the price is lower than that of the competition. When you comparison shop and find that most similar boats cost \$10,000 to \$20,000 more, you will quickly see why Trophies are so popular. What's more, as I found out on test day, the 2902 Walkaround does a pretty good job of chopping up the water on a choppy day. It's no slouch in the speed department, either—I achieved a top end of 45.3 mph with 450 horses on the transom.

The full transom blocks much of the motor noise, and when you have twin four-strokes as my test boat did, you'll be able to have a conversation at the helm without screaming. Even at full throttle, the decibel meter never climbed over 86 dB-A. Most boats equipped with twin 225-hp two-stroke outboards break 100 dB-A; most with equivalent four-strokes peak around 90.

When it comes to construction, you can tell the 2902 Walkaround is built by Trophy—just look at its all-glass stringer system, PVC wire chases, and pressure-tested fuel tank. Some improvements are needed: The electronics box had exposed screw points at the top; cleats are backed with washers, and fishboxes have no insulation on the sides or bottom.

The 2902 Walkaround's cabin has a lot to offer, with a full galley, enclosed head, V-berth, and a midcabin. But the feature that caught my eye was in the cockpit—

BOATING

Certified Test Results

Trophy 2902

| rpm | SPEED | | | EFFICIENCY | | | | OPERATION | |
|------|-------|------|------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| | knots | mph | gph | naut. mpg | stat. mpg | n. mi. range | s. mi. range | run angle | sound level |
| 1000 | 4.1 | 4.7 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.4 | 401 | 461 | 0 | 58 |
| 1500 | 6.4 | 7.4 | 3.2 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 394 | 454 | 0 | 60 |
| 2000 | 8.0 | 9.2 | 5.8 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 270 | 311 | 1 | 66 |
| 2500 | 9.6 | 11.0 | 9.8 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 191 | 220 | 2 | 73 |
| 3000 | 13.6 | 15.7 | 13.2 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 203 | 233 | 4 | 79 |
| 3500 | 16.8 | 19.3 | 14.9 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 221 | 254 | 3 | 80 |
| 4000 | 24.8 | 28.5 | 18.0 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 270 | 311 | 1 | 82 |
| 4500 | 29.6 | 34.1 | 22.6 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 257 | 296 | 0 | 82 |
| 5000 | 36.2 | 41.6 | 31.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 227 | 262 | 0 | 83 |
| 5400 | 39.4 | 45.3 | 36.3 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 213 | 245 | 0 | 86 |

Advertised fuel capacity 218 gallons. Range based on 90 percent of that figure. Performance measured with two persons aboard, three-quarters fuel, no water. Sound levels taken at helm, in dB-A.

| | |
|---|----------|
| LOA | 31'5" |
| Beam | 9'9" |
| Draft (max.) | 2'6" |
| Displacement (lbs., approx.; w/o power) | 7,934 |
| Transom deadrise | 19° |
| Bridge clearance | 8'7" |
| Minimum cockpit depth | 2'2" |
| Max. cabin headroom | 6'1" |
| Fuel capacity (gal.) | 218 |
| Water capacity (gal.) | 30 |
| Price (w/standard power) | \$88,400 |
| Price (w/test power) | \$98,380 |

OPTIONAL POWER Twin outboards to 450 hp total.

TEST BOAT POWER Twin 225-hp Mercury 225XXL V-6 EFI four-stroke outboards with 204.6 cid, 3.70" bore x 3.17" stroke, swinging 17" x 21" three-bladed ss props through 2.0:1 reductions.

STANDARD EQUIPMENT (major items) Coaming bolsters; 4 gunwale-mounted rodholders; 2 33-gal. integrated fishboxes w/pumpouts; 3-step swim ladder; 4 under-gunwale rod racks; 30-gal. lighted livewell; raw-water washdown; bait prep station w/cutting board and cooler; Ritchie compass; alcohol stove; fixed commode w/pumpout; hydraulic trim tabs; bow pulpit w/roller; hydraulic steering.

STANDARD POWER Twin 225-hp Mercury EFI outboards.

High Points Well-marked, double-clamped through-hull fittings in the bilge. The bow pulpit is molded in, not a bolt-on add-on. Price is tough to beat. The deep walkaround feels secure.

Low Points There's exposed wood under the gunwales. You have to pull screws to get to the back of the dash. Bowrail is pieced together, not welded. There's no fishbox insulation. I saw exposed screw points in the electronics box. Using washers to back the cleats is below par. Washdown and livewell share the same 200-gph pump.

Toughest Competitor Seaswirl's 2901 OB costs more at \$116,000 with twin 250-hp outboards, and although it's 1'9" shorter, it has 8" more beam, so interior volume is comparable. The Seaswirl has 20 gallons more fuel capacity, but it weighs almost 1,000 pounds more than the Trophy.

Contact Trophy Sportfishing Boats, Dept. B, 17825 59th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223, 800/544-6220, www.trophyfishing.com.

a removable cutting board and 25-quart cooler, which work together when prepping baits, either at the dock or out on the water. —LENNY RUDOW