

# Family Style

The **Jupiter 34** Forward Seating combines real fishing features with family comforts.

BY KARL ANDERSON

I LIKE BEING ON A BOAT that the builder has taken the time to engineer, building quality into the vessel at every turn, not just at the end of the line. The folks at Jupiter have continually impressed me with their attention to detail and their focus on user-friendly features and trimmings. The new 34 Forward Seating is just another example of the bar being raised by the addition of a finely finished teak trim package to the helm dash, which offers a very distinctive, upscale yacht look. Don't get me wrong — fancy teak and nice colors don't make a boat for me; it's the rigging, the ride and the fishability that determine whether I like or dislike a boat, and this rig did not disappoint me.

The 34 integrates the best traits of Jupiter's hallmark 31-footer and popular 38-foot hull into a fully featured boat that incorporates some practical new ideas, making this a particularly stylish and functional boat. From her crisp sheer to her familiar stem and console, the handling characteristics and styling of the 34 FS help this boat fit the family image nicely.

Meeting Jupiter's Todd Albrecht in the Florida Keys to test and fish the new 34 was an offer I couldn't refuse. With a fresh 15- to 18-knot easterly breeze and the sloppy chop it provided, we had the opportunity to really get a feel for how the boat handled during an actual fishing day.

Local charter skipper George Clark acted as our guide for the day, and we headed directly for the bait patches east of Key Largo to begin chumming and fishing. As we quartered into the choppy conditions, the 34 proved smooth, with no bang or slam. I braced for a hard fall when our skipper, who was unfamiliar with her, let her run away a bit, but she landed smoothly and never stalled at the bottom of a sea or leapt off the top. She impressed everyone with her ability to maintain a very stable angle, using the deadrise and lift that her hull features and throwing little spray to the wind to be pushed back on us.

With an overall length of 33'9" and full beam of 10'5", the 34 has a roomy feel, and she accommodated the five of us onboard nicely as we all fished out the side and off the back of the cockpit. Once we were on the hook over the bait

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TEST CONDITIONS



LOCATION: Key Largo, Florida  
 WIND: East, 15 to 18 knots  
 SEA STATE: 1- to 3-feet, short and choppy  
 TEST LOAD: 250 gallons of fuel, 50 gallons of water. Speed measured by onboard GPS.



**SPECIFICATIONS**

**JUPITER 34 FORWARD SEATING**  
 LOA: 33'9" BEAM: 10'5" DRAFT: 24"  
 DEADRISE: 23° WEIGHT: 6,690LBS. MAX. HP: 700HP  
 WATER: 50GALS. FUEL: 325GALS. PRICE: \$214,890  
 W/TWIN F350 YAMAHA OUTBOARDS  
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FOREST JOHNSON



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PERFORMANCE	RPM	MPH	GPH
	3,500	33	21
	4,000	41	29
	4,500	46	38
	5,000	51	48
	6,000	60	69

TEST POWER: TWIN F350 YAMAHA OUTBOARDS

patch, the 34 was plenty stable and proved an excellent platform for throwing the cast net and for rigging and casting multiple lines into our slick. The livewell is built into the leaning post, which also has storage, a sink and very comfortable fold-down bolster seats. The narrow transom features a walk-through door to starboard, keeping you close to the back of the boat while fishing around the engines when anchored up.

The console features an offset helm to port with a molded-in footrest underneath, a large dash with heaps of room for a pair of big electronics displays, and easy-to-read gauges mounted over the helm at the bottom of the dash. The waterproof switch panel is located on the starboard side of the gauges for easy access. To starboard of the offset helm, the control binnacle and a handy glove box are easy to reach.

You access the head from the port side of the console through a large entry that leads into a fully molded walk-in compartment. Featuring an electric head, loads of storage and an excellent drop-down access to the back side of the electronics panel and dash, the Jupiter 34 proves serviceable and maintenance friendly. An insulated cooler seat is positioned on the front of the console.

The 34 has a U-shaped forward seating area with several trademark Jupiter amenities, such as under-gunwale grab rails and drink holders at seat level with matching coaming

pads around the perimeter. Under each seat there are gasketed, fully molded storage bins. Jupiter uses the entire under-gunwale area for rod, gaff and mop storage and also has two lockers with doors offering quick and easy access to PFD's.

Rugged construction techniques include a solid fiberglass uni-grid stringer system tied into a high-density composite core transom. There's no wood in the boat to rot, and all fiberglass components are laid by hand using multi-directional knitted glass, high-tech resins and high-density PVC coring.

Beneath the waterline, Jupiter uses quality hardware, including either stainless steel or chrome-plated brass, and all of the boat's through-hull fittings are bronze, fitted with seacocks.

The boat's deck is bonded to the hull chemically and mechanically, with a heavy-duty rubrail attached

with stainless-steel fasteners. Hydraulic steering comes as standard equipment.

Rigged with twin F350 Yamahas, the 34 is an impressive ride, and with her nice fit and finish and ease of accessibility for service and maintenance, she ranks high on the list of desirable boats in this size class. I like the customer-friendly and semi-custom accommodations that Jupiter offers in this product, and the ability to deal directly with the knowledgeable folks at the Jupiter factory will help make the 34 a very popular boat among owners. 🐟

