Canal Terms

Find out what each of these words mean

Gunwale

Gongoozler

Port and Starboard

Bow and Stern

Cleat

Elsan

Winding Hole

Weed Hatch

Cill

Ground Paddle

Gate Paddle

Towpath

Lock Checklist  
It may seem complicated at first, but it’s  
really just common sense!

**Going Uphill**Check nobody is approaching the lock from the other direction   
 *(if there is, let them use the lock first)*  
Make sure top paddles and gates are closed  
Gently open the bottom paddles to empty the lock  
When the water has levelled, open the bottom gates  
Once the boat is in the lock, shut the bottom gates and paddles  
Gently open the top paddles – halfway at first, then all the way  
When the lock has filled, open the gates then close the paddles  
When your boat is out, close the gates behind you unless there is   
 another boat waiting to go in

**Going Downhill**Check nobody is approaching the lock from the other direction   
 *(if there is, let them use the lock first)*  
Make sure bottom paddles and gates are closed  
Open the top paddles  
When the lock has filled, open the top gates then close the paddles  
Once the boat is in the lock, close the top gates  
Open the bottom paddles to empty the lock  
When the water has levelled, open the bottom gates then close the   
 paddles  
When your boat is out, close the gates behind you unless there is  
 another boat waiting to go in