

# LIFE JACKET SELECTION GUIDE

Boating and getting out on the water can be great fun for the whole family! However, safety should always be front of mind when preparing for water activities.

The following guide will help you understand Australian life jacket requirements and how to decide on the right type of life jacket for you!

## RELEVANT STANDARDS

### THE OLD STANDARDS OF "LEVEL 1" ETC, HAVE NOW BEEN REPLACED BY A RANGE OF NEW, AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS

There are recognised buoyancy ratings and standards for life jackets, which have been updated relatively recently. The Australian Standard AS4758:2006 is used, which is based off ISO 12402 (also approved for use in Australian waters).

#### LEVEL 275

Designed for offshore and coastal use, and not applicable to our range.

#### LEVEL 150

Designed for offshore and coastal use with moderate clothing. Such applications may be deep sea fishing, offshore sailing, etc.

#### LEVEL 100

Designed for coastal use where land is in sight. Such applications may be coastal boating / fishing, etc.

#### LEVEL 50

These are classified as buoyancy aids, not life jackets. The main differentiator is that they will not automatically rotate an unconscious person onto their back. They're therefore useful for waterskiing etc., and will help keep you afloat, however they're not designed to save your life or be used in an emergency situation.

### WE CARRY LEVEL 50 FLOTATION AIDS, AS WELL AS LEVEL 100, AND LEVEL 150 LIFE JACKETS

The relevant levels are noted against each product where applicable. If you're unsure, ask in-store. You can use high level rated life jackets in calm conditions to, just not the reverse. Remember, they might just save your life!!

**Please note: while we have done our best to provide references to standards and validate accuracy here. You should always make your own assessments, and check with local authorities where required.**



**YOU CAN USE HIGH PERFORMANCE LEVEL JACKETS IN LOW RISK SITUATIONS BUT NOT THE REVERSE.**

## FOAM OR INFLATABLE?

- Foam life jackets suit boating, sailing, fishing and offshore activities.
- Inflatable life jackets are not suitable for personal watercraft activities.
- Inflatable life jackets require servicing every 12 months (or in accordance with manufacturer instructions).
- Inflatable life jackets also require detailed briefing on how they work in order to be effective.
- Inflatable life jackets use CO<sup>2</sup> for buoyancy. This makes them lighter and less bulky than foam life jackets. Because of this, inflatable life jackets are becoming the preferred option for most maritime enthusiasts (where they are suitable based on the type of water activity).

## FIND THE RIGHT SIZE FOR YOU!

All RTM standard foam filled life jackets are sized based on the wearer's body mass. Whereas inflatable life jackets are typically "one size fits all" (except the junior life jacket option). Always choose a life jacket correct to your age and body mass recommendation.

## WHAT FEATURES SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR?

Children's life jackets must have a crotch strap to secure it properly. Even for adults, the plus of having a crotch strap on your life jacket is that it won't come off in an emergency situation.

Children's life jackets should be brightly coloured for visibility. For both children and adults, look for "reflectors" as a listed feature if you are seeking a maximum visibility life jacket option.

A pealess whistle is another handy feature to look for as it can assist you in being located in the water if you are ejected from your vessel. It is easier to locate you by sound than by eye - particularly at night.

## USEFUL SAFETY TIPS

- Keep your life jacket in good condition by rinsing it out after each use in freshwater and thoroughly drying it before storing it away.
- Always be sure to check your life jacket for wear and tear. If no longer in good condition, replace your life jacket so it's reliable in emergency situations.
- Always practice putting on (and if inflatable - deploying) your life jacket within 1 minute of being notified of an emergency situation.
- Always keep your life jacket accessible in case of emergency!

## HAVE FUN AND STAY SAFE

Avoid headaches (and nasty fines) by always checking the state and local "maritime safety" regulations of the area you plan to boat in.

RTM recommends you and your passengers always **WEAR A LIFE JACKET AT ALL TIMES WHEN BOATING**, so you can relax and enjoy the water without all the worry!

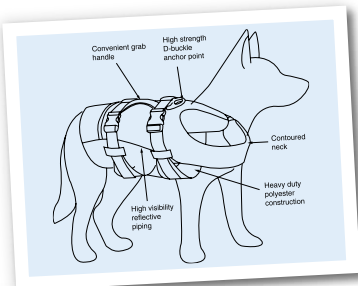
**HAPPY BOATING.**

# PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES



## DOG FLOTATION DEVICE (DFD)

Sure, dogs are usually great swimmers. But if your best mate falls into open water, their swimming abilities are certainly going to be tested. If you're boating more than a few dozen feet from shore (ie, anything more than some estuary fishing), these are a great idea.



**SUITABLE FOR MOST 4-LEGGED PETS WITHIN WEIGHT RANGE**

SIZE	BODY MASS		
Medium	4.5-16kg	<b>MSE710</b>	\$25.95
Large	16-34kg	<b>MSE715</b>	\$26.95

**THE NATIONAL MARINE SAFETY COMMITTEE STATES THAT YOU DOUBLE YOUR CHANCE OF SURVIVAL IN AN OVERBOARD EVENT IF YOU WEAR A LIFE JACKET.**

## PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES

### "AXIS" CYCLONE BASIC JACKETS

Basic PFD in blue/black or red/black. Cannot guarantee that all colour combinations will be available at any one time.



**50NEWTONS BUOYANCY**

SIZE	BODY MASS		
Small	22-40kg	<b>MSE605</b>	\$39.95
Medium	40-60kg	<b>MSE610</b>	\$39.95
Large	60kg+	<b>MSE615</b>	\$39.95
X Large	60kg+	<b>MSE620</b>	\$39.95

### SPLASHDOWN 50N WATER SPORTS

Splashdown is a range of Type 50 PFDs tailored to suit people actively engaged in water sports. With a 'body glove' design, featuring close to the body fit with neoprene material and minimal bells and whistles, this range offers wearer the maximum flexibility in natural movements and allows performance in all kinds of on-water activities. The PFD is also incredibly easy to put on or take off with the front zip and waist buckles. Just like how the term was first coined for spacecraft landings in oceans, Splashdown prepares you for even the most spectacular entries into water.



**50NEWTONS BUOYANCY**

**ZIP + BUCKLES**

SIZE	BODY MASS		
Small	40-60kg	<b>MSE664</b>	\$99.95
Medium	60-70kg	<b>MSE666</b>	\$99.95
Large	70kg+	<b>MSE668</b>	\$99.95
X Large	70kg+	<b>MSE670</b>	\$99.95
XX Large	70kg+	<b>MSE672</b>	\$99.95
XXX Large	70kg+	<b>MSE674</b>	\$99.95



EVERYTHING FOR MARINE