

# Equipment checklist

Smooth waters

Partially smooth waters

Beyond partially smooth waters

## You must carry:

|   | Smooth waters                         | Partially smooth waters  | Beyond partially smooth waters |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lifejacket  | ✓<br>Lifejacket level 50 or level 50S | ✓<br>Lifejacket level 50 | ✓<br>Lifejacket level 50       |
| Signalling device if operating at night (e.g. torch, lantern, glow stick) | ✓                                     | ✓                        | ✓                              |
| V sheet   |                                       | ✓*                       | ✓*                             |
| Flares (two red handhelds and two orange smoke)                           |                                       | ✓*                       | ✓*                             |
| EPIRB or PLB**  |                                       |                          | ✓#                             |

## We recommend you carry:

|   | Smooth waters | Partially smooth waters                              | Beyond partially smooth waters                       |
|---|---------------|--|--|
| Anchor  |               | ✓*<br>(with cable appropriate to the size of vessel) | ✓*<br>(with cable appropriate to the size of vessel) |
| Drinking water  |               | ✓*   | ✓*   |
| Chart   |               | ✓  | ✓  |
| Compass   |               | ✓  | ✓  |
| Handheld electronic navigation device (if no chart and compass) |               | ✓  | ✓  |

\* Does not apply to a PWC operating in an approved aquatic event or beyond partially smooth waters and within 0.5 nautical miles from land.

# Required when operating more than 2 nautical miles outside of smooth waters or partially smooth waters or other waters more than 2 nautical miles from land.

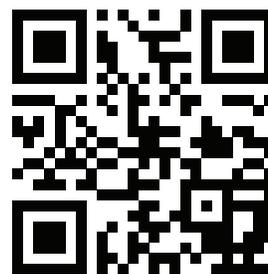
\*\* PLBs may be used in the place of an EPIRB by lightweight craft operators only if they comply with conditions of carriage.

# Take 5 to check 5

1. You have checked that weather conditions are favourable.
2. You have a PWC licence holder onboard and the PWC is registered.
3. Everyone onboard has the correct lifejacket.
4. You have the correct safety equipment onboard.
5. You've planned your trip and told someone where you are going.

For more information go to [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au)

or scan the QR code



13 QGOV (13 74 68)

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Maritime Safety Queensland

# RideSAFE

Ride responsibly



**Be aware**

Keep a proper lookout



**Be safe**

Everyone onboard must wear a lifejacket



**Know the area**

Freestyling is restricted in certain areas



**Keep your distance**

Keep under 6 knots



**Queensland Government**

## Registration

All PWC in Queensland must be registered. Once registered, you will get registration numbers allocated to your PWC.



You must ensure your registration numbers are:

- visible from 30m away
- in a contrasting colour to the hull of the PWC
- at least 100mm high; and
- visible above the waterline on both sides of your PWC when afloat.

## Licensing

To operate a PWC in Queensland you must:



- hold both a personal watercraft licence and either a recreational marine driver licence or a commercial marine licence as a master
- or have a licensed person on board who is able to take immediate control in the case of any trouble.

## Kill switch lanyards



It is strongly recommended that a kill switch lanyard, connected to the PWC and the licenced operator's wrist or lifejacket, be worn at all times.

If you fall off a PWC, the kill switch lanyard will disconnect once you enter the water, causing the PWC's engine to shut down and the machine to stop.

It is mandatory for a supervising licence holder to wear a kill switch lanyard while the PWC is being driven by an unlicensed driver.

## Lifejackets

Any person on, or being towed by a PWC must wear a lifejacket at all times.



The lifejacket must be:

- the correct size for the wearer
- meet the relevant standard
- remain fastened with all zippers and clips engaged.

What type of lifejacket should I wear?



On smooth waters a level 50S or greater is required to be worn at all times by all persons.

On partially smooth waters and beyond, a level 50 or greater lifejacket is required to be worn at all times by all persons.

The high visibility colours of a level 50 is required in these waters where search and rescue can be more difficult.

## Keep your distance



When riding a PWC, you must keep under 6 knots (approximately 11km/hr) within 60 metres from:

- a person in the water
- the boundary of a bathing reserve
- anchored vessels, boat ramps, jetties or pontoons
- the shore.

**When you're within 30m of another moving vessel, you must remain under 10 knots.**

## Exceptions

Exceptions apply to the '6 knots within 60 metres from the shore' rule under the following conditions:

- the waterway is less than 120 metres wide and the PWC is navigated in as close as is practicable to a straight line to transit the area and the PWC stays as close as is practicable to the center of the waterway or a marked channel
- the PWC is being used in waterskiing/ towing.
- PWCs must also remain under 10 knots within 30 metres of another moving vessel (unless the PWC is in an approved aquatic event or where compliance would endanger the operator or another person).