



Department of  
Transport

# Safety Equipment Don't Expire Marine Safety



YOU'RE THE SKIPPER  
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE

July 2019

## Required Safety Equipment

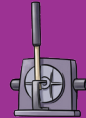
R = Recommended

✓ = Required



### Recreational Skipper's Ticket

The skipper of a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 6hp must hold an RST.



### Bilge Pump/Bailer

All vessels must carry a bilge pump. Vessels under 7 metres may carry a bailer in lieu of a bilge pump.



### Fire Extinguisher

Vessels with an inboard engine or carrying hydrocarbon heating or cooling appliances must carry an approved fire extinguisher.



### Anchor and Line

An efficient anchor and line must be carried.



### Lifejacket

A lifejacket bearing the label Level 100 (or higher) with the Australian Standard AS 1512, AS 4758 or ISO 12402 must be carried for every person onboard.



### Red and Orange Flares (in date)

At least two hand held red flares and two hand held orange flares must be carried. Two parachute flares may be carried in lieu of the two hand held red flares and a smoke canister may be carried in lieu of the smoke flares.



### EPIRB (in date)

A 406 MHz EPIRB registered with AMSA bearing the standard AS/ NZS 4280.1 must be carried if proceeding more than 2 miles from the mainland shore or more than 400 metres from an island located more than 2 miles from the mainland shore.



### Parachute Flares (in date)

A minimum of two parachute flares must be carried if operating more than 5 miles from the mainland shore or more than 1 mile from an island located more than 5 miles from the mainland shore.



### Marine Radio

A marine radio must be carried if operating more than 5 miles from the mainland shore or more than 1 mile from an island located more than 5 miles from the mainland shore. The radio can be 27 MHz, VHF or HF.

**Protected Waters**  
lakes, rivers, inlets and estuaries except Lake Argyle.

**0-2 Nautical Miles**  
from the mainland shore.

**2-5 Nautical Miles**  
from the mainland shore.

**Over 5 Nautical Miles**  
from the mainland shore.

✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓	✓
R	✓	✓	✓
R	✓	✓	✓
R	✓	✓	✓
R	R	✓	✓
R	R	R	✓
R	R	R	✓

## Contact details

### Department of Transport

Email: [marine.safety@transport.wa.gov.au](mailto:marine.safety@transport.wa.gov.au)

Website: [www.transport.wa.gov.au/imagine](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imagine)

Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

### Boating Weather Forecast

Boating Weather: 1300 659 210

Website: [www.bom.gov.au/marine](http://www.bom.gov.au/marine)



For further information go to [www.transport.wa.gov.au/dontexpire](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/dontexpire) or scan the QR code.



Join us at  
[facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA](https://facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA)

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RSE-0318

## Safety equipment

Responsible skippers know, vessels are required to carry in date safety equipment.

The quantity and type of equipment varies depending on how far offshore you travel, and it is important to understand that these are minimum requirements.

## Keep it maintained

All safety equipment must be maintained in very good condition and be accessible at all times.

To maximise survival in an emergency, you and your passengers need to know:

- where the equipment is stowed;
- how to use it; and
- when to use it.

## Check expiry dates

Identify safety equipment that has an expiry servicing or maintenance date and record each on a Department of Transport (DoT) 'Don't Expire' sticker \*.

This includes: flares, distress beacons, fire extinguishers and inflatable lifejackets.

Other ways to ensure safety equipment with an expiry date is checked and replaced if necessary.

- Put the dates in your diary.
- Put the dates in your mobile phone.

DON'T EXPIRE	
Expiry date reminder	
Vessel registration no: _____	
Month _____ / Year _____	
	Fire extinguishers
Month _____	Year _____
	Inflatable lifejackets
Month _____	Year _____
	Distress flares
Month _____	Year _____
	Distress beacon
Battery Month _____	Year _____
Registration Month _____	Year _____
www.transport.wa.gov.au/imarine	
Information line: 1300 863 308	

Don't expire sticker

## Fire extinguishers

All fire extinguishers should be inspected at least every six months. All extinguishers, other than carbon dioxide, have a pressure gauge indicating their state of charge and a security seal on the trigger. They should be recharged if the seal is broken or the gauge is not in the green sector. Tap the gauge lightly to check the needle is not stuck.

## Inflatable lifejackets

Inflatable lifejackets are becoming increasingly popular. You should check the condition of all lifejackets periodically. Check for cuts and tears that could let water enter the jacket and rot the buoyant material. Check the straps are in good condition and not frayed. It is important that inflatable jackets are regularly serviced and maintained as instructed by the manufacturer.

## Distress flares

Your flares must be maintained in serviceable condition at all times and within their expiry date. Check them regularly to ensure they have not been rendered unserviceable by exposure to moisture. Mildew, or bubbling of paper coatings may indicate this.

## Distress beacons

Distress beacons have two expiry dates for the battery and registration. Distress beacons must be in current registration with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). Registration needs to be updated every two years or at time of owner transfer.

## Disposal

Do not discard unserviceable or out of date distress beacons or flares in general rubbish or land fill. For safe disposal drop them at a DoT office or visit our website at [www.transport.wa.gov.au/flares](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/flares) for a full list of disposal sites.

DoT Driver and Vehicle Services centres in the metropolitan area will not accept out of date flares or distress beacons.

Alternatively distress beacons can be left in marked bins at Battery World stores around Australia. Location of Battery World outlets can be found at: [www.batteryworld.com.au](http://www.batteryworld.com.au), a fee may be charged.

\* For a 'Don't Expire' sticker contact 13 11 56.

