



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Cities and Regional Development



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Department of Transport

Boating Guide Christmas Island Marine Safety



**YOU'RE THE SKIPPER
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE**

August 2023

Recreational Skipper's Ticket

The person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of **6 horsepower or less** is not required to hold a Recreational Skipper's Ticket (RST).



A skipper in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor **greater than 6 horsepower** is required to hold an RST and carry it when boating.

Age restrictions

A person under 10 years may not drive a motor boat.

RST holders over 14 but under 16 years of age are restricted to operating during daylight hours at a speed less than 8 knots.

Interstate skipper's tickets

If you hold a valid/current interstate ticket, recognised by DoT and you enter, as a visitor or with the intention of permanently residing in Western Australia, you have three months to have the qualification recognised.

Diving

Any boat with divers (not snorkellers) operating from it must always display signals by day or night to alert other boat users. The daytime signal for divers is an International Code Flag "A". The flag must be at least 750 millimetres long and 600 millimetres wide.



Divers operating without a vessel, for example from a jetty, must also display the International Code Flag "A". The flag can be displayed from a buoy and must not be less than 300 millimetres in length and 200 millimetres in width.

The flag must be clearly visible to all vessels operating in the vicinity.

Vessels to keep clear

When approaching a place or another vessel displaying the International Code Flag "A" or the appropriate signal during the hours of darkness, you must —



- keep your vessel at least 50 metres clear of that place or vessel; or
- where it is not possible to keep 50 metres clear of that place or vessel —
 - proceed at the slowest speed at which the vessel can be safely navigated; and
 - maintain a proper lookout for people in the water.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS



		REGISTRABLE VESSELS Including sailing vessels that are or can be propelled by mechanical power.	
		PROTECTED WATERS Includes rivers, lakes, estuaries, harbours and waters within 400 metres from the shore in unprotected waters but excludes Cambridge Gulf and Lake Argyle.	UNPROTECTED WATERS Beyond 400 metres from the shore.
	Recreational Skipper's Ticket The skipper of a recreational vessel, powered by a motor greater than 6 horsepower must hold an RST.	✓	✓
	Lifejacket Carriage A lifejacket, as indicated in the table opposite, must be carried for every person on board.	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE WORN
	Vessels smaller than 4.8m	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED
	Lifejacket Wearing As indicated in the table opposite.	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE WORN
	Children older than one and younger than 12	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE CARRIED	✓ Minimum Level 100 MUST BE WORN
	Distress Beacon (in-date) A GPS enabled 406 MHz EPIRB	✓ Minimum Level 50S MUST BE WORN	✓ Minimum Level 50S MUST BE WORN
	OR if worn by at least one person, a GPS enabled PLB. Distress beacons must be in-date and registered with AMSA.	RECOMMENDED	✓
	Red and Orange Flares (in-date) At least two hand held red flares and two hand held orange flares must be carried.	RECOMMENDED	✓
	OR Electronic Visual Distress Signal An electronic signalling device may be carried in lieu of flares IF a GPS enabled EPIRB or PLB (must be worn) is also carried.	RECOMMENDED	✓
	Marine Radio A HF or VHF marine radio on any Registrable Vessel when operating more than 4 nautical miles from shore in unprotected waters.	RECOMMENDED	REQUIRED beyond 4 nautical miles RECOMMENDED within 4 nautical miles
	Recommended Additional Safety Equipment It is recommended an anchor and line, a fire extinguisher and a means of removing water be carried.	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED

Contact details

Department of Transport

Email: Ed.Boat@transport.wa.gov.au

Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine

Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

Police

Emergency: 000

Christmas Island: 9164 8444

Water Police: 9442 8600

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Marine Rescue Western Australia

Emergency contact: VHF 16

Marine Rescue Christmas Island

Boating Weather Forecasts

Boating weather: 1300 815 916

Website: www.bom.gov.au

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development

Christmas Island: 9164 0000

Fishwatch: 1800 815 507

Website: www.dpird.wa.gov.au



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For further information go to
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