



INTERMEDIATE BOARD BUYERS GUIDE



INTERMEDIATE SIZE GUIDE



THE TYPE OF SURFBOARD YOU CHOOSE DEPENDS ON YOUR WEIGHT, SURFING CONDITIONS AND SURFING ABILITY.

AT THE BEGINNER STAGE, YOU GOT USED TO BALANCING ON A LONGER, WIDER SURFBOARD. YOU CAN NOW MOVE ONTO A SMALLER BOARD SO THAT YOU CAN START TO PERFECT YOUR MANEUVERS.

TAKE YOUR TIME TO COME DOWN IN YOUR SURFBOARD SIZE. IF YOU RUSH THIS YOU COULD EASILY BE GOING BACK IN YOUR PROGRESS. LIKEWISE, A GOOD SURFBOARD DECISION AND COULD BE LOOKING PROGRESSING MUCH QUICKER THAN YOU MAY HAVE EXPECTED.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK:

ABILITY

YOU ARE:

- I WANT TO PROGRESS OF A MINIMAL / LONGBOARD
- I'VE BEEN RIDING A BIGGER BOARD AND CAN GET TO MY FEET BUT NEED A BOARD THAT TURNS EASIER
- I WANT SOMETHING EASIER TO DUCK DIVE
- I'M READY FOR A SHORTER BOARD

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR BIGGEST SURFING CHALLENGES:

- I'VE MASTERED THE BASICS AND WANT TO PROGRESS MY BOARD FEELS TOO BIG
- I WANT A BOARD THAT IS EASIER TO DUCK DIVE
- I CAN GET UP EASY AND RIDE THE WAVE BUT MY BOARD IS TOO HARD TO TURN QUICK

WHAT'S GOING TO SOLVE THEM:

IT'S TIME TO GO SMALLER AND MAYBE CHANGE SURFBOARD SHAPE. MOST PEOPLE PROGRESS DOWN IN 6 OR SOMETIMES 12-INCH INCREMENTS.

BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO GO TOO SHORT – THIS IS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE SO IT'S BETTER TO BE A LITTLE TOO BIG THAN TOO SHORT.

ONCE YOU ARE TOO SHORT YOU CAN'T PADDLE EASILY OR CATCH WAVES BUT IF YOU ARE A TOUCH BIG AT LEAST YOU WILL BE CATCHING LOTS OF WAVES BUT MAYBE ONE TURN WON'T BE AS QUITE AS TIGHT.

ENSURING YOUR BOARD IS NOT TOO SMALL. GOING TOO SMALL TOO EARLY WILL ACTUALLY SLOW YOUR PROGRESS

UNDERSTANDING THAT IT TAKES QUITE A LONG TIME

THE BEST SURFBOARD FOR YOU:

SHORTBOARDS - A SLIGHTLY SMALLER OVERALL AREA (PLAN SHAPE) THAN THE BEGINNER'S BOARD - TO GIVE YOU MORE MANEUVERABILITY IN THE WATER. A ROUNDED SQUASH OR ROUNDED SQUARE TAIL - EASIER TO TURN AND A FULL NOSE GIVES YOU MORE PLANING SURFACE IN THE WATER (TO GET OVER THOSE FLAT SECTIONS). THE THICKNESS DEPENDS ON YOUR WEIGHT. AS A RULE OF THUMB, FOR THE INTERMEDIATE SURFER, THE LENGTH OF THE SURFBOARD SHOULD BE ABOUT 4 - 6 INCHES LONGER THAN YOUR HEIGHT

FISH SURFBOARDS - THESE MAINTAIN VOLUME BUT HAVE THE SHORTBOARD SHAPE. THEY HAVE A LITTLE MORE VOLUME IN THE CHEST AREA TO AID PADDLING AND SOME MODELS HAVE BOTH THE 3 & 4 FIN OPTION TO SPEED UP AND LOOSEN UP THE BOARD. THESE ARE EASIER TO DUCK DIVE AND ARE THE PERFECT STEP-DOWN BOARD

MINI-MALS - IF YOU HAVE BEEN LEARNING ON A LONGBOARD (9FT PLUS) AND YOU ARE LIGHTWEIGHT (UNDER 65KG) THEN MAYBE THE BOARD HAS JUST BEEN TOO CUMBERSOME TO HANDLE. TRY GOING TO A MINIMAL BETWEEN 6'10 AND 7'6" TO KEEP THE STABILITY AND FLOATATION BUT MAKE IT MUCH EASIER TO HANDLE.

PREFERENCE

THERE ARE MANY SHAPES AND SIZES TO SUIT EVERYBODY. SOME BOARDS ARE SHAPED PRIMARILY FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF SURF BREAKS AND OTHERS ARE SHAPED TO HELP YOUR FITNESS AND SKILL LEVEL.

NO MATTER WHAT ADVICE YOU GET, THE END DECISIONS WILL ALWAYS LIE WITH YOU. SO MAKE SURE YOU GO WITH YOUR GUT AND CHOOSE WHAT RIGHT FOR YOU.

WE ALWAYS RECOMMEND TRYING AS MANY DIFFERENT BOARDS AS YOU CAN GET YOUR HANDS ON. THERE ARE OFTEN PLENTY OF PLACES YOU CAN RENT BOARDS FROM AS WELL AS HITTING UP SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS TO TRY OUT THEIR BOARDS.

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A MUCH BROADER PERSPECTIVE ON WHAT SUITS AND FEELS RIGHT FOR YOU.

INTERMEDIATE

Shortboards

Surfer's Weight	Recommended board length
< 65 kg	5'8" - 6'2"
65 - 75 kg	6'0" - 6'4"
75 - 85 kg	6'2" - 6'6"
85 - 95 kg	6'4" - 6'8"
95 kg+	6'6" - 7'0"

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Fish Shortboards

Surfer's Weight	Recommended board length
< 65 kg	5'8" - 6'2"
65 - 75 kg	6'0" - 6'4"
75 - 85 kg	6'2" - 6'6"
85 - 95 kg	6'4" - 6'8"
95 kg+	6'6" - 7'0"

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Mini-mal / Longboard Surfboards

Surfer's Weight	Recommended board length
< 55 kg	6'8" - 7'0"
55 - 65 kg	6'10" - 7'2"
65 - 75 kg	7'0" - 7'6"
75 - 85 kg	7'6" - 8'0"
85 - 95 kg	8'0" - 8'6"
95 kg+	8'6" - 9'2"