

**WEAR A LIFEJACKET**

**BEFORE YOU WEAR IT,  
MAKE SURE IT'S CHECKED  
AND SERVICED**



# ALWAYS CHECK YOUR INFLATABLE LIFEJACKET.

It only takes a moment to ensure your lifejacket is good to go.

## STEP 1

No visible signs of wear and tear.



## STEP 2

The CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder is full and screwed firmly, hand tight.



## STEP 3

The auto cartridge (if an automatic inflating model) is screwed firmly in, hand tight.



## STEP 4

Ensure the pull cord is clear and ready for use.



Always refer to the manufacturer's instructions. For more information visit [maritimemanagement.transport/nsw.gov.au](http://maritimemanagement.transport/nsw.gov.au)

## AFTER EVERY USE

Remove automatic cartridge (if fitted) before washing and refit when dry.

Wash the jacket in warm soapy water and dry thoroughly.

Store in a dry, ventilated place, away from direct sunlight and harmful chemicals.

## SERVICE

Inflatable lifejackets must be serviced once a year or in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

If you get your service done professionally, make sure you keep all of your receipts and certificates as confirmation of your service.

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LIFEJACKET  
CARE AND SERVICE CAN BE FOUND AT  
[maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au)**

**WEAR A LIFEJACKET  
IT NEVER RUINED  
A DAY ON THE WATER**

## THERE'S A LIFEJACKET FOR EVERY OCCASION

Nowadays lifejackets come in as many styles as there are watersports. Whether you kayak, fish or sail - there's a modern lifejacket style to suit your specific need.

Visit [maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au/lifejackets](http://maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au/lifejackets) to view the new generation styles of auto-inflating and foam lifejackets, kayaking vests, yokes and waist belt lifejackets available.

## SERVICING YOUR LIFEJACKET

In NSW, it's the law to service your inflatable lifejacket once a year or in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. You can do this yourself (if permitted by the manufacturer) or you can get it professionally done, just follow the manufacturer's instructions. Once completed, record the service details on the service grid on the lifejacket.

Servicing ensures all parts of the lifejacket including the bladder, inflation mechanism and CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder are checked and in good working order.

## WEAR IT • INSPECT IT • SERVICE IT

### AUTOMATIC VS. MANUAL INFLATING LIFEJACKETS

With a wide range of lifejackets available, you are able to choose the lifejacket that suits you and your needs.

Depending on your activity on the water you may choose an auto-inflating over a regular or manual lifejacket. But for practical purposes it is recommended that children under 12 years do not wear manual inflating lifejackets.

### SKIPPER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

If you're the skipper you're responsible for ensuring your passengers know how inflatable lifejackets work along with the other safety equipment on board. It's also the skipper's responsibility to make sure all lifejackets have been serviced, checked regularly and are in working order.

## CARING FOR YOUR INFLATABLE LIFEJACKET

Always refer to the lifejacket manufacturer's instructions.

Store in a dry, well ventilated place away from dampness or water. It's important to rinse your lifejacket with fresh water after use and dry thoroughly prior to storage. Remember, if your lifejacket is set for auto-inflation, remove the auto-inflation cartridge prior to rinsing.

## WHAT IF MY INFLATABLE LIFEJACKET HAS BEEN ACTIVATED?

Once activated, the CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder is pierced and cannot be used again. If you're using an auto-inflating lifejacket, the auto-inflating components may also need to be replaced. It's a great idea to always have spare components on your boat, just in case.





## **8 OUT OF 10 PEOPLE WHO DROWNED WHILE BOATING IN NSW WEREN'T WEARING A LIFEJACKET**

An inflatable lifejacket will only inflate if it's in working order. If it's not, you could be at serious risk of drowning if something goes wrong.

It's important to regularly check your lifejacket's condition. All it takes is a fish hook, or a loose or damaged CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder to prevent your lifejacket from inflating when you need it most. Treat your lifejacket with care and follow the advice in this guide. It may save your life.