

# CHOOSE THE DEVICE YOU WILL WANT TO WEAR

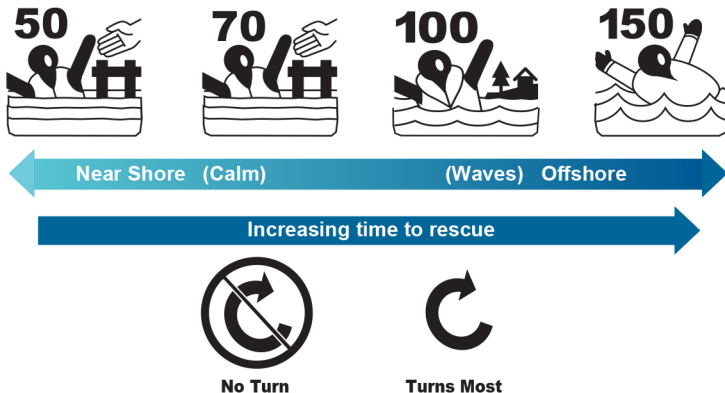
## SIZE & FIT

- Check label for user weight and chest size.
- Different body types float differently.
- Try your device on in the water to ensure your airway is clear.
- A good fit is secure, comfortable, and adjustable.

## TRY IT ON

## PERFORMANCE

- Lower level number generally offers greater mobility, comfort, and style with good flotation for most people.
- Higher level number generally offers greater flotation, turning, and stability in the water.



## CONSIDER YOUR ACTIVITY & ENVIRONMENT

## WATER SAFETY INFO

- In over 80% of boating fatalities the person was not wearing flotation.
- Most of these are sudden falls overboard or capsize of a small boat.
- The first moments in the water are critical, even for experienced swimmers.
- Cold water shock causes involuntary gasping, loss of muscle control and swim failure.
- Long term immersion in cold water causes hypothermia and requires thermal protection and flotation in the HELP position to conserve energy.

## FLOTATION DEVICES SAVE LIVES

## DESIGN TYPES

- **INHERENT** – built-in flotation (always buoyant).
- **INFLATABLE** – activated gas canister inflates chamber(s) (no buoyancy until time of inflation, requires canister replacement, may be manual, may require secondary action to don).
- **HYBRID** – combination of flotation and inflation (some immediate buoyancy and supplemental when inflated, may require canister replacement).
- **SPECIAL PURPOSE** – your activity may require special features (safety color, harness, straps, etc.) and accessories (whistle, lights, reflectors, etc.) for certain conditions.

## YOUR DEVICE ONLY WORKS WHEN WORN

## MAINTENANCE

- Over time, exposure to sun, salt, fuel, and mildew can damage device.
- Allow to air dry. Inspect and test regularly.
- Inflatables require replacement rearming, repacking and regular servicing.

## READ, SAVE AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

## WARNINGS

- Children should have adult supervision when on or near the water.
- Devices must be fastened correctly and securely.
- Some devices were not designed for certain activities or conditions such as water skiing, towed sports, personal watercraft (PWC), or whitewater paddling.



## CHECK LABEL FOR LIMITATIONS OF USE

## APPROVAL

- Some devices are approved only when worn.
- Check federal, state/provincial and local requirements for carriage, use and wear.



US Coast Guard



Transport Canada

## WEAR IT

For more info on the right choices for yourself, your family and friends.

Visit [www.wearitlifejacket.org](http://www.wearitlifejacket.org)