AS 1799.1:2025

Australian STANDARD®

STANDARDS Australia

Small craft

Part 1: Essential safety requirements for power boats



AS 1799.1:2025

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Boat Owners Association of NSW
Boating Industry Association
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (SA)
Department of Defence (Australian Government)
Marine and Safety Tasmania
Marine Rescue NSW
NSCA Foundation
Royal Institution of Naval Architects
Surf Life Saving Australia
Transport for NSW

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Small craft

Part 1: Essential safety requirements for power boats

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How to read this Standard

This page explains the meaning of the language and structure of this Standard.

Refer to Standards Australia's Standardisation Guide 006 for more details about drafting rules.

Australian and Australian/New Zealand Standards are voluntary unless they are referenced in legislation or called up in contracts.

Requirements

To conform to a Standard, all requirements in the Standard need to be met.

A requirement is any statement in the Standard which uses the word "shall".

Recommendations, permissions and possibilities

The following words are commonly used in Standards, but statements using them do not have to be followed to conform to the Standard:

(a) "should" means that something is recommended.

(b) "may" means that something is permitted.

(c) "can" means that something is possible.

Structure of Standards

A Standard always has the following parts:

(i) The Preface states who developed the Standard, what the Standard is aiming to do, and how it relates to other documents.

(ii) The Scope states what the Standard is about, what it covers and what it does not cover.

(iii) The Normative references clause lists other documents that are referenced in the Standard as part of requirements.

(iv) The Terms and definitions clause defines important terms to help with understanding the Standard.

A Standard may also include other parts, such as the following:

(1) A normative appendix sets additional requirements that need to be conformed to.

(2) An informative appendix provides additional information or guidance. They usually do not contain requirements. If an informative appendix does contain requirements, the Standard will explain when those requirements apply.

(3) A Bibliography lists documents referenced in the Standard but not as part of requirements.

Many Standards include notes. Notes provide recommendations and/or guidance only. They never contain requirements.

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS-114, Small Craft up to 35m, to supersede in part AS 1799.1:2021, *Small craft, Part 1: General requirements for power boats*.

The objective of this document is to provide requirements for maximum load, persons and power capacities, reserve buoyancy and stability for powered craft up to 15 m in length used as recreational boats.

The major changes in this edition are as follows:

(a) Apart from fire protection requirements, those requirements that are not related to the use of this document as the technical standard under the *National Standard for the Australian Builders Plate* have been removed. They are planned to be moved into another Australian Standard that is proposed for development. Basic safety requirements that need to be met for a boat to be considered seaworthy have been retained.

(b) Requirements for the stability of boats 6 m or more in length have been updated and are now more closely aligned to those in ISO 12217-1, especially in terms of calculating wind heeling.

(c) Some summary tables have been included to make the difference between requirement pathways more easily understood.

While AS 1799.1 is sometimes referenced in standards for commercial vessels, this document is intended to address the minimum safety requirements that apply when a boat is used recreationally, taking into account factors like typical patterns of usage and the anticipated competency of those on board a recreational boat.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

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Australian Standard®

Small craft

Part 1: Essential safety requirements for power boats

1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document sets out requirements for maximum load, persons and power capacities, reserve buoyancy, stability and fire protection for powered craft up to 15 m in length used as recreational boats. It does not apply to boats used for commercial purposes or exclusively for racing, nor to canoes, kayaks, inflatable boats, rigid inflatable boats, yachts or auxiliary yachts.

NOTE 1 These requirements, apart from the fire protection requirements, have been identified in the *National Standard for the Australian Builders Plate for Recreational Boats* as being essential to the safety of small craft.

NOTE 2 Fire protection, although not covered in the *National Standard for the Australian Builders Plate for Recreational Boats,* is considered to be an essential safety requirement.

NOTE 3 Additional safety requirements for powered craft up to 15 m in length used as recreational boats, covering aspects other than maximum load, persons and power capacities, reserve buoyancy and stability are proposed to be specified in other parts of AS 1799. The requirements for fire protection in this document are proposed to be relocated to another part of AS 1799 at a future date.

1.2 Application

This document is intended to be applied as a solution under the *National Standard for the Australian Builders Plate for Recreational Boats*.

1.3 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography.

ISO 3046-1, *Reciprocating internal combustion engines — Performance — Part 1: Declarations of power, fuel and lubricating oil consumptions, and test methods — Additional requirements for engines for general use*

ISO 3046-3, *Reciprocating internal combustion engines — Performance — Part 3: Test measurements*

ISO 8665, *Small craft — Marine propulsion reciprocating internal combustion engines — Power measurements and declarations*

ISO 10087, *Small craft — Craft identification — Coding system*

ISO 11592-2, *Small craft — Determination of maximum propulsion power rating using manoeuvring speed — Part 2: Craft with a length of hull between 8 m and 24 m*

1.4 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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