



Transport for NSW

Personal Watercraft (PWC) Driving Licence

Knowledge Test Questions

The Personal Watercraft Driving Licence Knowledge Test consists of 15 multiple choice questions.

This question bank contains a selection of the questions that may be asked in the test. You can use this as a study guide for obtaining a Personal Watercraft (PWC) Licence. Answers appear on the last page of the document.

Use this question bank to review your own answers and your understanding of the Maritime rules and regulations before taking a test at an Authorised Training Provider (ATP) or Service NSW centre.

Please note the question numbers in this document are linked to their codes in the question bank used for General Boat and PWC knowledge tests. Over time, new questions are added to the bank while older questions may be removed, so the number sequencing in this document is not 1,2,3,4,5 etc.

The question bank codes are included with each question in this document (eg mkt_008-en). After you complete a test, your supervisor can provide the code for any questions you would like to review using this question bank.

PWC Driving Licence Knowledge Test

8

mkt-008_en

What is an example of irregular driving?

- A. Jumping over or across a wave
- B. Carrying a passenger
- C. Driving infrequently

9

mkt-009_en

What does 'noise annoys' mean?

- A. Your engine needs servicing
- B. Wear ear plugs while riding
- C. People on the shoreline may be impacted by PWC noise

14

mkt-014_en

Within 200m from shore in a PWC restricted zone, how should you drive your PWC?

- A. Weaving around
- B. In a circle or other pattern
- C. Generally in a straight line

17

mkt-017_en

Why do you need to take extra precautions when boating on cold water?

- A. The engine may be hard to start
- B. If you fall overboard, you are at risk of cold shock and hypothermia
- C. The radio may be hard to switch on

30

mkt-030_en

You are driving a vessel when your vision is suddenly affected by glare from the sun. You should:

- A. Slow down or stop until you regain vision
- B. Speed up and hold your course
- C. Alter course quickly and sharply away from the sun

31

mkt-031_en

If you fall overboard into cold water, what can you do to extend survival time?

- A. Remove clothing and float on your back
- B. Move constantly and do not remove clothing
- C. Assume the Heat Escape Lessening Posture (HELP) and do not remove clothing

PWC Driving Licence Knowledge Test

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Are you allowed to enter a 'no boating zone' on your PWC?

mkt-032_en

- A. Yes, but only if you are entering or leaving the waterway
- B. Yes because a 'no boating zone' only applies to boats
- C. No because a PWC is a powered vessel and the 'no boating zone' applies

33

What speed and distance rules apply when you are part of a group of PWC drivers?

mkt-033_en

- A. The speed and distance restrictions do not apply when you are part of a group
- B. The usual speed and distance restrictions apply to all members of the group
- C. The group can agree to a maximum speed and distance

65

Who is responsible if a PWC is driven without registration?

mkt-065_en

- A. Both the owner and driver
- B. The owner only
- C. The driver only

75

Are people aged under 16 permitted to drive a PWC faster than 20 knots?

mkt-075_en

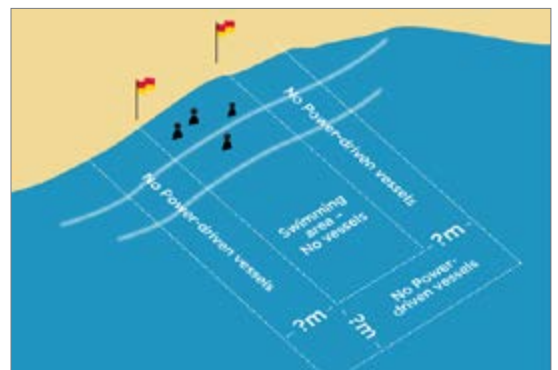
- A. Yes, if they have a PWC licence holder on board with them
- B. No, unless it is a licensed event with special exemptions
- C. Yes, if they stay out of shipping channels and swimming areas.

76

When driving a PWC at any speed, what is the minimum distance you must keep from a person in the water in a surf zone or swimming area?

mkt-076_en

- A. 30 metres
- B. 10 metres
- C. 60 metres



PWC Driving Licence Knowledge Test

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mkt-077_en

When driving a PWC at 6 knots or more, what is the minimum distance you must keep from another vessel, where possible?

- A. 30 metres
- B. 20 metres
- C. 10 metres



78

mkt-078_en

When driving a PWC at a speed greater than 6 knots, what distance must you keep from moored or anchored vessels where possible?

- A. 30 metres
- B. 20 metres
- C. 10 metres



79

mkt-079_en

Who is responsible if an unlicensed person is driving a PWC?

- A. The owner only
- B. The driver only
- C. The owner and driver

80

mkt-080_en

Is irregular driving allowed in a PWC restriction zone?

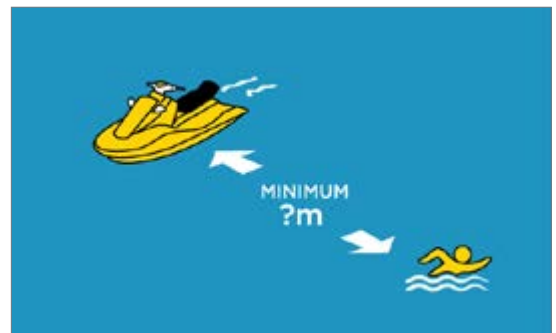
- A. Yes, in all areas
- B. Yes, but only between sunset and sunrise
- C. Yes, but only when 200 metres or more from the shore

81

mkt-081_en

When driving a PWC, what is the minimum distance you must keep from a person in the water, where possible?

- A. 60 metres
- B. 10 metres
- C. 30 metres



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mkt-082_en

When towing a water skier behind a PWC, what distance must you keep both the PWC and the skier from a person in the water where possible?

- A. 30 metres
- B. 10 metres
- C. 60 metres



83

mkt-083_en

Where are PWC not permitted to go?

- A. Sydney Harbour
- B. Any area with a signposted speed restriction
- C. Open waters

84

mkt-084_en

The way you drive a PWC is restricted in which of these areas?

- A. All open waters 2 or more nautical miles from shore
- B. The Sydney basin area – between Port Hacking, Wamberal and the Blue Mountains (not including open waters)
- C. All open waters near State borders.

85

mkt-085_en

Which statement is true when it comes to continuous driving of a PWC close to residential areas:

- A. It is not a problem because noise restrictions only apply at night
- B. It is not a problem unless there are people on the shore
- C. Noise annoys – penalties can apply

86

mkt-086_en

The PWC Behaviour Label must be displayed on a PWC:

- A. Where it is visible to the driver
- B. On the port side near the registration numbers
- C. On the stern so people climbing on from the water can see it

PWC Driving Licence Knowledge Test

87

mkt-087_en

When driving a PWC, what is the minimum safe distance you must keep from the sides of a designated swimming area?

- A. Variable. Depends on the conditions and whether there are any swimmers present
- B. 30 metres
- C. 60 metres

88

mkt-088_en

Can you drive a PWC between sunset and sunrise?

- A. Yes, when driving within 200 metres of the shore
- B. Yes, when displaying navigation lights
- C. No, never

89

mkt-089_en

When must you carry your PWC driving licence on a PWC?

- A. Never – as long as it is current you don't need to carry it
- B. Only when travelling above 10 knots
- C. At all times

90

mkt-090_en

Registration numbers and letters displayed on a PWC must be:

- A. Any size and colour, as long as they can be read from 20 metres away
- B. At least 100mm high, solid and clear, in a contrasting colour to the hull
- C. In the size and colour that best matches the graphics of the PWC

91

mkt-091_en

How should you indicate that you are in distress if your PWC has broken down?

- A. By taking off your lifejacket and waving it above your head
- B. By trying to swim to shore
- C. By raising and lowering your arms

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92

mkt-092_en

What happens to your PWC when you reduce power?

- A. It will be easier to turn
- B. The steering will stay the same
- C. It will be harder to turn

115

mkt-115_en

What type of lifejacket must you wear on a PWC on enclosed waters?

- A. Level 50S or above
- B. No lifejacket is required on enclosed waters
- C. Level 100 or above

116

mkt-116_en

What is the best type of lifejacket to wear on a PWC?

- A. An inflatable lifejacket
- B. A non-inflatable (foam) lifejacket
- C. A lifejacket is not required on a PWC

130

mkt-130_en

What is the best way to drive your PWC in a restricted zone?

- A. Drive in a circle
- B. Weave in between other vessels
- C. Generally in a straight line

148

mkt-148_en

What happens when a kill switch is activated?

- A. The driver's lifejacket is automatically inflated
- B. A distress signal is activated
- C. The engine shuts down

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157

mkt-157_en

What is the purpose of a kill switch lanyard attached to a PWC driver's wrist or lifejacket?

- A. To shut down the engine if the driver falls off
- B. To automatically inflate the driver's lifejacket
- C. To activate a distress signal



165

mkt-165_en

If your observer does not hold a General Boat or PWC driving licence, what is the minimum age they can be when you are towing a person?

- A. 16 years
- B. 12 years
- C. 14 years

170

mkt-170_en

When can you tow a person from a PWC without having an observer on board with you?

- A. When towing on dams or lakes
- B. When travelling at less than 10 knots
- C. Only when towing in a surf break in accordance with tow-in surfing requirements

184

mkt-184_en

When must you wear a lifejacket on a PWC?

- A. At all times
- B. At all times except when close to shore
- C. At all times except when in a group of PWC

185

mkt-185_en

When must a passenger wear a lifejacket on a PWC?

- A. Only when they are aged 16 or younger
- B. At all times
- C. Only when they are aged 12 or younger

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mkt-
186_en

What navigation mark is this and what should you do?

- A. South cardinal mark – only pass on the south side
- B. Isolated danger mark – do not pass close on any side
- C. Port lateral mark – keep it on your port side when travelling upstream



PWC Driving Licence Knowledge Test

Answers

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 8. A | 85. C |
| 9. C | 86. A |
| 14. C | 87. C |
| 17. B | 88. C |
| 30. A | 89. C |
| 31. C | 90. B |
| 32. C | 91. C |
| 33. B | 92. C |
| 65. A | 115. A |
| 75. B | 116. B |
| 76. C | 130. C |
| 77. A | 148. C |
| 78. A | 157. A |
| 79. C | 165. A |
| 80. C | 170. C |
| 81. A | 184. A |
| 82. C | 185. B |
| 83. A | 186. A |
| 84. B | |