

Buying A Surfboard

By:

The Surfboard Man

<http://www.thesurfboardman.com>

thesurfboardman@gmail.com

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One of the biggest mistakes beginning and intermediate surfers make is buying the wrong board. In this free E-Book I will walk you through the steps of choosing the right board for your skill level and surf conditions. I invite you to continue reading to ensure you don't make the same mistake 90% of beginner surfers make.

Lets first start with the basics. There are 4 common types of surfboards – Shortboards, Funboards, Long boards and Softtops. These are the most common types or genres of surfboards. There are plenty more but these are the 4 you need to know about.

Shortboards:

Shortboards- Shortboards are high performance surfboards. Intermediate and advanced surfers use Shortboards. These boards are used in powerful waves. Surfers on the ASP World Tour use Shortboards. Shortboards are great for performing aerials and other radical maneuvers. However, I must make it very clear that you do not want to learn to surf on a shortboard.

Funboards:

Funboards- Funboards are used for smaller less powerful waves. Funboards provide better paddling while still being able to perform similar maneuvers to a shortboard. These boards are commonly used during summer when the waves are relatively small and crowded. These boards are also used as a transitional board between a longboard and shortboard. Many older people use Funboards as well, if they prefer not to use a longboard. These boards are great when you just want to go cruise at your favorite beach but don't want to lug around a big longboard.

Long boards:

Longboard Longboards are making a huge come back today. These boards were popular back in the 60's. These boards are made for having pure fun. These board catches waves with ease and paddle very good. With there long, wide and smooth shape they are very good for small waves. These boards are widely used at popular breaks like Malibu and San Onofre and sometimes even trestles. Longboards are definitely retro which fits with the retro trend right now. These days they even make high performance Longboards. Although many still like the classic longboard built for nose rides. A longboard is the right surfboard to learn on.

Softtop Surfboards:

Many people buy a new board and to be honest there is nothing wrong with that. I recommend buying a new softtop longboard. Two good brands are INT Surfboards and Surface Surfboards. These boards are safer to learn on and rarely get dings. Another advantage with softtops is that you do not need to wax them. These boards can be found

online or at your local sporting goods store such as Sports Chalet. The only downside with these boards is that you can only progress so far with your skills on these boards.

Is there a Perfect Board?

I will be honest and say that there is no perfect “beginner” board, and no perfect “pro” board. Surfing is all about personal preference and what kind of waves you surf. The best thing to do is go to a **local surf shop** and ask what kind of board they **recommend**. If they seem more interested in selling you a board and making a quick sale then go somewhere else. You may also want to borrow some of your friend’s boards so you can get a feel for what kind of board to buy. Be prepared to spend at least \$400 on a good board unless you buy a foam board. Make sure that you are buying a hand shaped board by a reputable shaper. If you did not get a chance to read the article about pop-outs make sure you do.

Three things to keep in mind:

1. You should always learn on a longboard
2. Short-boards are 10x harder to ride
3. Don’t buy your first board off ebay or craigslist.

Go to A Surf Shop:

When buying a surfboard you want to get a good quality board. One place that you can get a good board and sound advice is your local surf shop. They want to help you choose the best board possible to ensure you come back to them to buy your next board. This works in your best favor because they are giving you the best advice. If you are **Honest** about your skill level and where you surf the most than they will find you the best board possible.

One last thought: Surfing gear is all about personal preference so just try different things.

See Ya at The Beach,
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Contact Information:

<http://www.thesurfboardman.com/>
thesurfboardman@gmail.com

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