

Types of Surfboards

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Over the years there have been many modifications and new designs of this thing we call a “surfboard”. As new technology became available, surfboards have changed drastically. Although technology continues to change, one component of the surfboard will stay the same. That component is the different surfboard types – Shortboards, Funboards, Longboards, SUP Boards, Fishes, Guns, Single Fins.... the list goes on.

Here is a summary of each of the major board types:

Shortboards:

Shortboards- Shortboards are high performance boards which can be used in all kinds of surf conditions. They are used by intermediate and advanced surfers on steep and fast waves. Pro surfers on the ASP World Tour use Shortboards. Shortboards are great for performing aerials and other high-speed maneuvers. These boards are the most popular type of board for young high performance surfers.

Funboards:

Funboards- Funboards are used for smaller less powerful waves than Shortboards. They provide better paddling while still being able to perform somewhat like 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. Think of a Funboard as a mix between a shortboard and longboard. These boards are great when you just want to go cruise at your favorite beach but do not want to lug around a big longboard.

Longboards:

Longboards are making a huge come back today in the world of postmodern surfing. These boards were also popular back in the 60's. Longboards are made for having fun on both small and large waves. These boards catch waves with ease and paddle very good compared to Shortboards. With their long, wide and smooth shape, they are very good for small waves, which have little power. 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 have high performance Longboards. Although many still like the classic Single Fin longboard, which is built for nose rides.

Fishes:

Fishes are used in summer and other times when the waves are small and crowded. They aid surfers with catching waves because they are thick and wide compared to Shortboards. Many surfers use a fish board on slow moving waves because their width help them glide through flat sections. These are fun

boards to ride because of their paddling abilities. They are also easier to carry and transport than long boards, which are long and wide.

Guns:

Guns are long and skinny surfboards used for big wave surfing. These boards are used at places like Mavericks in Northern California and on the north shore of Hawaii. Guns provide paddling power with the high performance side of a shortboard. Having a good reliable gun is essential for any big wave surfer.