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General info on kayaks

Types of Kayaks

- **Sit ON** - some are very stable and suitable for beginners and some are faster known as skis or their brand name, Enduro.
Light weight, suitable for all levels, sit lower in the water, easy entry/exit, less stable and protection in wind and swell.

Skis are less of a hassle getting as no fitting adjustments are required to accommodate paddlers of different sizes - hop on, find the moulded well that suits your leg length and start padding.

- **Sit IN** - enclosed cockpit which makes access more awkward, but offers more stability and protection and year round usage. Pedals & rudder OR skeg for steering.

Sit-ins are better suited for longer trips, better performance with faster speed and tracking - the reward for the time taken to set the kayak up to suit you.

Skeg vs Rudder

- Rudder is for active steering. You actively control the rudder using foot pedals in the cockpit. Pressing the right pedal turns the kayak to the right, left pedal turns it to the left. Pedals should be adjusted for leg length
- A skeg helps the kayak track straighter. Paddlers don't actively steer with a skeg. Suits paddlers with slightly more advanced paddling technique.

1. Neutral Bay Kayaks

G3 & G4 & G6



All three are very similar – sit-in kayaks, manufactured by Australis, model name Gecko.

Details – G3, G4 and G6 are sit-in, enclosed cockpit, sea kayaks. All have the same easily adjustable pedals, rudder for easy steering and control, two storage hatches. 20kg, 4.4m long.

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts. G3 and G4 are exactly the same. G6 is a slightly older model, slightly heavier but better built.

S1 & S3



Both are the same – sit-in kayaks, manufactured by Australis, model name Salamander.

Details – S1 and S3 are slightly bigger and heavier (0.8m and 5kg) version of Gecko. Sit-in, enclosed cockpit, sea kayak, adjustable pedals, rudder for easy steering and better control, with three storage hatches

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts. S1 is suited to taller paddlers as the footrests are set further back in the craft.

T2



Details – T2 Odyssey is a sit-in, sea kayak, heavier than most kayaks in the fleet with adjustable pedals and a skeg. Enclosed cockpit, three storage hatches, made by Wilderness

Best For - excellent option for intermediate to expert paddlers.

Valley Aquanaut



Details – made for average size paddlers. It is a heavier kayak with adjustable pedals, skeg, and three storage hatches.

Best For - excellent option for intermediate to expert paddlers

Ski Pullen



Details – older style sit-on surf ski manufactured by Larry Pullen. Skeg steering.

Best For - experienced paddlers of this style.

Scout



Details – Scout is a sit-on kayak with a large single storage hatch and skeg steering, requiring some experience to maintain course, 19kg with 4 carry handles.

Best For - beginners or paddlers wanting to do shorter trips.

Venus



Details – sit-on kayak, bulky and slower, no pedals and skeg steering that requires some experience to maintain course. Single storage hatch, 20 kg.

Best For - good option for beginners to intermediates.

Ski Blue & Ski Green



Details – the Blue Ski & Green Ski are also known by their model name - Enduro. Designed for maneuverability, speed and stability with an adjustable skeg steering system. Both are sit-on kayaks weighing 17 kgs and 3.8 ms long.

Best For – designed for speed and best suited for intermediate to experienced paddlers.

2. Pearl Bay Kayaks

G2 & G7

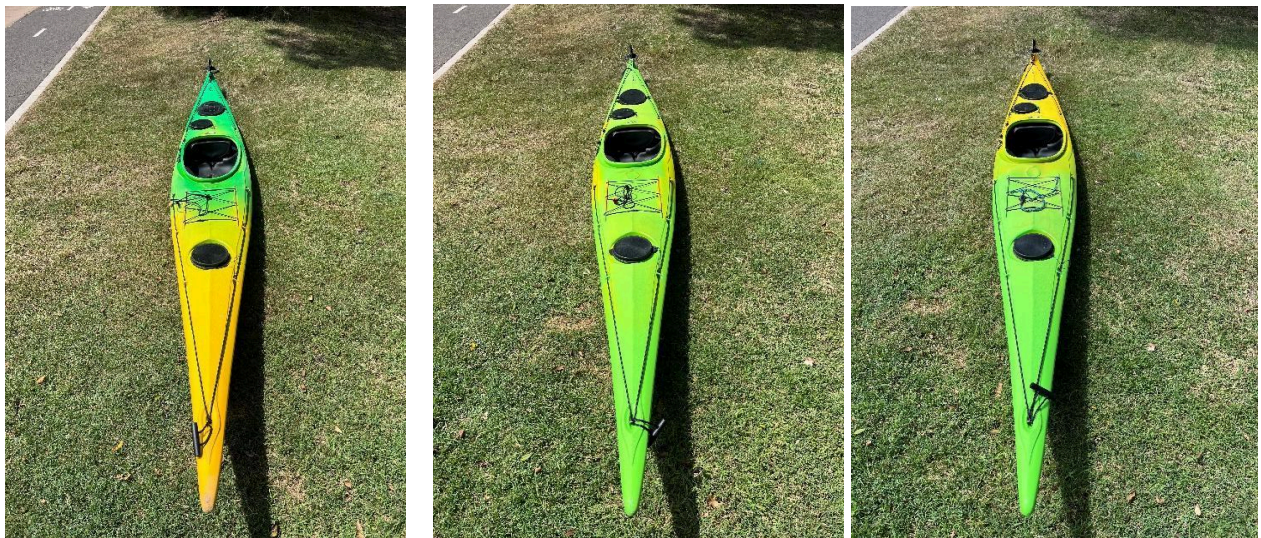


Both are the same – sit-in kayaks, manufactured by Australis, model name Gecko.

Details – G2 and G7 are sit-in, enclosed cockpit, sea kayaks. All have the same easily adjustable pedals, rudder for easy steering and control, two storage hatches. 20kg, 4.4m long.

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts. G2 has pedals further away for taller paddlers.

S2 & S4 & S8



All are the same – sit-in kayaks, manufactured by Australis, model name Salamander.

Details – S2, S4 and S8 are a slightly bigger and heavier (0.8m and 5kg) version of Gecko. Sit-in, enclosed cockpit, sea kayak, adjustable pedals, rudder for easy steering and better control, with three storage hatches

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts. S2 has pedals further away for taller paddlers.

Riot



Details –designed to balance manoeuvrability and straight line tracking. Sit-in, enclosed cockpit, adjustable pedals controlling a rudder for steering. Two storage hatches, 27 kg and 4.5m long.

Best For - beginners to experts.

Ski Pink 1 & Ski Pink 2



Details –These skis are older versions of the Green & Blue Enduro skis at Neutral Bay. Both are sit-on kayaks, weighing 17 kg, 4m long, with skeg steering.

Best For - older style skis designed for fast padding and best suited to paddlers who prefer skis

3. Kirribilli Kayaks

S5 & S6



Both are the same – sit-in kayaks, manufactured by Australis, model name Salamander.

Details – S5 and S6 are a slightly bigger and heavier (0.8m and 5kg) version of Gecko. Sit-in, enclosed cockpit, sea kayak, adjustable pedals, rudder for easy steering and better control, with three storage hatches

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts.

Contour



Details – Sit-in, good stability makes it suitable for beginners. rudder for easy steering and better control. 22 kg and 3.7m long, two storage hatches

Best For - designed for beginner to intermediate paddlers

Expression



Details – sit-in kayak, good backrest for comfort, adjustable pedals with rudder and skeg steering for control, three storage hatches. 24kg and 4.4m long, made by Perception

Best For - excellent option for beginners to experts

T1 & T3



Details – sit-in, sea kayak, adjustable pedals and skeg.. Enclosed cockpit with three storage hatches. Manufactured by Wilderness, slightly heavier than other kayaks in the fleet.

Best For - excellent for beginners to experts.

Kirribilli Skis (msg Loretta)



Details – All four skis (Kookaburra, Seahorse, Dolphin & Starfish) are identical in colour and features and located on the western racks at Kirribilli site.

To minimise damage to the skis users need a brief training lesson. Contact Loretta if you are interested in taking one out.

Best For - excellent option for beginner to experienced ski paddlers.
