

# How to deploy your life raft.



Inflatable life rafts are universally recognised as providing the most efficient method of evacuating survivors from a vessel in distress. The simple process of fully withdrawing the life raft's painter line means that within seconds of the life raft touching the water, it is fully inflated and ready to save lives.

No-one ever expects to have to use their life raft and survivors who have had to abandon their boats were no doubt grateful that their properly functioning life raft offered reassurance for their survival needs.

Time is always the critical factor and a knowledge of how the life raft operates and how to deploy it quickly can save precious minutes – and possibly lives.

1. Put on a life jacket
2. Ready the life raft for deployment and confirm that the painter line is attached to a strong point on the vessel
3. Throw the entire life raft overboard in the direction of the wind
4. Pull on the painter line to activate the inflation mechanism
5. Right upturned life raft if necessary
6. Enter the life raft
7. Throw rescue quoit to other survivors
8. Undo or cut the painter line with the safety knife near the life raft's entrance
9. Move away from the stricken vessel
10. Read the emergency guidelines for additional instructions

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**1. Tie off painter line and throw or drop life raft into water.**

**2. Pull painter line to initiate deployment process**



**3. Life raft will begin inflation and break its canister's lashing system. A valise packed life raft will break through its polyurethane outer case.**



**4. Inflation process will continue.**



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**5. Within 15 seconds life raft will begin to assume its proper shape.**



**6. Board life raft and check that all components are satisfactory and prepare to separate from stricken vessel.**