THE MAGIC SURFSKATE SELECTOR FORMULA

4 Steps for Selecting Your Ideal Surfskate Model from Any Company

Surfskate Love

www.surfskate.love

© Copyright by Surfskate Love LLC

www.surfskate.love

Surfskate Love

THE MAGIC FORMULA

STEP 1: DETERMINE YOUR WHEELBASE RANGE

First, measure your stance width. Then add an inch below and an inch above your stance width to get your wheelbase range. For example, if your stance width is 16", your wheelbase range is 15"-17".

STEP 2: MATCH WHEELBASE RANGE WITH YOUR TRUCK

Using the Cheat Sheet, use your stance width column to match the appropriate wheelbase range for any given surfskate truck. Eliminate all decks from that company that are out of your wheelbase range (at least those narrower than the low number of your range).

STEP 3: NARROW DOWN BY STYLE & PURPOSE

Determine your riding style/purpose/environment/etc. How do you want to skate? Narrow down your deck selection by corresponding wheelbase with riding style and purpose.

STEP 4: FINAL DECISION

Consider all other deck factors (width, concave, kick tail, foot placement, etc.).

Surfskate Love

STEP 1: FIND YOUR WHEELBASE RANGE

Stand in your bare feet with your feet shoulder distance apart, as if you were surfing or standing on a surfskate.

Use your hips and knees to shift your body weight, going up and down and in circles. While moving around, as if you were surfing, shift your stance width slightly until you settle into the stance that feels the most comfortable, grounded, and balanced for you, while also allowing for the most flexibility.

Now measure the distance between the arches of your inner feet. This is your stance width.



STANCE SHOWN: 18"

Surfskate Love

DETERMINE YOUR WHEELBASE RANGE

Add an inch below and an inch above your stance width to get your wheelbase range.

In the example shown below, the stance width is 18". Therefore, the wheelbase range for this stance is between 17" and 19".



STANCE SHOWN:
18"

WHEELBASE RANGE:
17" - 19"

Surfskate Love

THE MAGIC FORMULA KEY PRINCIPLE:

The surfskates that fit you best are those with a wheelbase that most closely align with your stance width.

FOLLOW-UP PRINCIPLE:

Since every surfskate truck is designed differently, you have to calculate for how the particular truck design changes the wheelbase.

Surfskate Love

STEP 2: MATCH WHEELBASE RANGE WITH YOUR TRUCK

Using the Cheat Sheet on the following page, use your stance width column to match the appropriate wheelbase range for any given surfskate truck.

For example, if your stance width is 14", use the column labeled 14" to determine the appropriate wheelbase range for the surfskate truck of your choice.

This particular wheelbase range tells you the complete systems you should be considering for your preferred company.

***Wheelbase is the distance between the inner bolts on a deck.**

***The Carver C7 truck is the surfskate truck that is closest to true wheelbase distance. Therefore, it is the baseline by which all wheelbase measurements are determined on other surfskate trucks. In the first column of the Cheat Sheet you will see all the surfskate trucks listed. Under some trucks you will see a minus number. This represents the distance that particular truck loses in wheelbase by being more offset from the bolt hole wheelbase. For example, the Carver CX truck is set back .5" relative to the Carver C7. This means that on the CX, you lose a half inch in wheelbase relative to the C7. The SpiceSkate SpacePilot is offset 1" relative to the Carver C7, which means you lose an inch of wheelbase.**

Surfskate Love

SURFSKATE BUYER'S GUIDE CHEAT SHEET

Truck System Wheelbase**	Stance Width*						
	14" 35.6cm	15" 38.1cm	16" 40.6cm	17" 43.2cm	18" 45.7cm	19" 48.3cm	20" 50.8cm
Carver C7	13-15" 33-38cm	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm
Slide V3	13-15" 33-38cm	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm
Carver CX -.5"	13.5-15.5" 34-39cm	14.5-16.5" 37-42cm	15.5-17.5" 39-44cm	16.5-18.5" 42-47cm	17.5-19.5" 44-50cm	18.5-20.5" 47-52cm	19.5-21.5" 50-55cm
SpiceSkate SpicePilot -1"	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm	20-22" 51-56cm
YOW Meraki -1.75"	14.75-16.75" 37-43cm	15.75-17.75" 37-45cm	16.75-18.75" 43-48cm	17.75-19.75" 45-50cm	18.75-20.75" 48-53cm	19.75-21.75" 50-55cm	20.75-22.75" 53-58cm
SwellTech -3.5"	16.5-18.5" 42-47cm	17.5-19.5" 44-50cm	18.5-20.5" 47-52cm	19.5-21.5" 50-55cm	20.5-22.5" 52-57cm	21.5-23.5" 55-60cm	22.5-24.5" 57-62cm
Smoothstar Thruster -.4"	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm	20-22" 51-56cm	21-23" 53-58cm	22-24" 56-61cm	23-25" 58-64cm

*Stance width is determined by standing in your natural stance and measuring between the middle of your inner feet.

**Wheelbase is the distance between inner bolt holes.

EXAMPLE USING AN 18" STANCE WIDTH

If your stance width is 18", you would follow the 18" column down to find the appropriate wheelbase range for your chosen surfskate truck. For example, if you want the YOW Meraki, then for an 18" stance you should only consider YOW completes that have a minimum wheelbase of 18.75".

Truck System Wheelbase**	Stance Width*						
	14" 35.6cm	15" 38.1cm	16" 40.6cm	17" 43.2cm	18" 45.7cm	19" 48.3cm	20" 50.8cm
Carver C7	13-15" 33-38cm	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm
Slide V3	13-15" 33-38cm	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm
Carver CX -.5"	13.5-15.5" 34-39cm	14.5-16.5" 37-42cm	15.5-17.5" 39-44cm	16.5-18.5" 42-47cm	17.5-19.5" 44-50cm	18.5-20.5" 47-52cm	19.5-21.5" 50-55cm
SpiceSkate SpicePilot -1"	14-16" 36-41cm	15-17" 38-43cm	16-18" 41-46cm	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm	20-22" 51-56cm
YOW Meraki -1.75"	14.75-16.75" 37-43cm	15.75-17.75" 37-45cm	16.75-18.75" 43-48cm	17.75-19.75" 45-50cm	18.75-20.75" 48-53cm	19.75-21.75" 50-55cm	20.75-22.75" 53-58cm
SwellTech -3.5"	16.5-18.5" 42-47cm	17.5-19.5" 44-50cm	18.5-20.5" 47-52cm	19.5-21.5" 50-55cm	20.5-22.5" 52-57cm	21.5-23.5" 55-60cm	22.5-24.5" 57-62cm
Smoothstar Thruster -.4"	17-19" 43-48cm	18-20" 46-51cm	19-21" 48-53cm	20-22" 51-56cm	21-23" 53-58cm	22-24" 56-61cm	23-25" 58-64cm

Surfskate Love

NOW NARROW DOWN YOUR OPTIONS

Eliminate all decks from that company that are out of your wheelbase range (at least those narrower than the low number of your range).

UNDERSTANDING WHEELBASE

The reason you don't want to go any narrower than your recommended wheelbase range for your surfskate truck is because as your stance narrows, your front foot needs to be further up on the truck, which causes you to tip easier.

While you can ride models that are wider than your stance width range, the wider you get, the more of a specialty ride it becomes (e.g. the YOW Malibu or Carver Tyler 777), versus a more versatile surfskate.

THE MORE YOUR SURFSKATE WHEELBASE BECOMES NARROWER THAN YOUR STANCE, THE MORE UNSTABLE IT BECOMES. THE WIDER YOUR SURFSKATE WHEELBASE GETS, THE MORE STABLE IT IS, BUT THE LESS NIMBLE.

YOUR STANCE WIDTH



Surfskate Love

EXAMPLE: CARVERS WITH WHEELBASES 17"+

Applying the formula to Carver, and using an example stance width of 18", we get a recommended wheelbase range of between 17" and 19". We then find all the Carver models that have a wheelbase of at least 17". Then, we can use our wheelbase range calculator to map how any deck will perform for us based on its wheelbase.

EXAMPLE STANCE WIDTH: 18"

(Recommended Wheelbase Range 17-19")



Tighter, More Nimble Carving
Quicker Acceleration
Better for Short Distances
Less Stable for Beginners
Better for Parks/Bowls

Wider, Flowier Carving
Slower Acceleration
Better for Longer Distances
More Stable for Beginners
Better for Cruising

Surfskate Love

STEP 3: NARROW DOWN BY STYLE & PURPOSE

Determine your riding style/purpose/ environment/etc. How do you want to skate?

This matters because if all you're doing is lazy long-distance cruising, you don't need much concave and you can have a wider wheelbase than your recommended range. If you want to ride bowls, however, you want a deck with a narrower wheelbase, very high concave, and solid foot placement to lock your feet in.

YOUR RIDING STYLE DETERMINES THE CHARACTERISTICS YOUR DECK NEEDS BEYOND WHEELBASE AND LENGTH.

Surfskate Love

Narrow down your deck selection by corresponding wheelbase with riding style/purpose.

Using this as a guide, let's suppose you want a deck you can use for bowl riding, in which case you want high concave. In this case, you can eliminate all decks on the lower end of your wheelbase range that have low concave.



Surfskate Love

STEP 4: FINAL DECISION

Consider all other deck factors (width, concave, foot placement, etc.).

Using the example of Carver with a stance width of 18" and a wheelbase range of 17" to 19":

Black Tip

"Sports Car" For Tight Surf Maneuvers & Bowl Riding



LENGTH: 32.5"
WHEELBASE: 17.5"
CONCAVE: DEEP
TAIL ROCKER: HIGH
LOCKED-IN FOOT POCKETS

Proteus

"Sedan" For Longer Distance Cruising



LENGTH: 33"
WHEELBASE: 18 3/8"
CONCAVE: MEDIUM
TAIL ROCKER: MEDIUM

Surfskate Love