

# How to Select a Portable Toilet

All the portable toilets sold by Fisheries are “dual tank” models – with separate tanks to hold clean flushing water, and a lower holding tank to contain waste.

These “flushing” portable toilets are designed to provide clean bowls and provide a more home-like experience.

During disposal, the tanks are separated, and the holding tank taken to a disposal facility for emptying. Some models offer the option to permanently, or semi-permanently, “hard plumb” the toilet to a traditional pump-out deck fitting via a dedicated hose.

It is worth noting that the holding tanks of modern portable toilets have O-ring or gasket seals at every opening which keep waste where it belongs, and virtually eliminate odor problems.

Additionally, there is a variety of seat styles, colors, design styles, and special features such as pour spouts or tank level indicators available.

## Choose From Two Sizes

Portable toilets are typically offered in two main versions – shorter models with 2-1/2 gallon holding tanks, and taller models with 5 gallon holding tanks. (Some tanks vary slightly.)

5 gallon models take up more space, but their higher 15-1/2” seat level makes them more comfortable for most users. Additionally, 5 gallon tanks have the capacity to go longer between emptying and to accommodate larger crews.

2-1/2 gallon models are shorter, with a 12-1/2” seat height, making them easier to stow in cramped boats and RVs.

By way of reference, household toilets typically have a 14-1/2” bowl height, with “comfort height” bowls being about 16-1/2” high.

ALL portable toilets have completely sealed, separating holding tanks (so you can carry them without spillage). This allows you to stow them in two pieces when not in use, if desired. This feature makes the 2-1/2 gallon models especially adaptable to the smallest of boats.

## Flush Mechanisms

A second distinguishing feature among portable toilets is the variety of flushing mechanisms available.

Traditional models have a small hand-operated flushing pump.

Pressure-flush models have accumulator-style flush water tanks which are pre-pressurized by hand pumping and then are good for powering several flushes without additional pumping. Still other models have battery powered electric pumps to do the flushing.

Depending on the amount of water used per flush, 2.5 gallon holding tank models are typically marketed as being good for 20 to 30 uses between emptying, while 5 gallon models can handle 40 to 50 uses.