



Quintrex 430 TOP ENDER TS

With features flowing on from its bigger brothers, the performance of the new Quintrex smaller boats is continually getting better. **Jim Harmon** reports.

Quintrex's unique hull fabrication process has been extended to its 430 Top Ender TS, offering boaters who want the convenience of use and ease of launching a small boat some of the comfort and performance advantages enjoyed by larger boats. The result is a boat that performs bigger than its 4.3 metres and is suitable for both fresh and salt water.

Hull Design

When Quintrex first released its Millennium Hull it was only available on its larger boats. The technology required to create the hull shape, a shape that had previously only been available in fibreglass hulls, has advanced to the point that it can be applied to smaller hulls. This allows boaters in small craft to enjoy the advantages

of larger boats through improved handling, performance, dryness and comfort.

The Millennium Hull provides maximum lift with a deep-V to slice through swell and bring you onto the plane quicker. Indeed, Quintrex claim that it's the Millennium Hull's variable dead rise that delivers the softest, quietest and driest riding aluminium boat available. The wide chines, aided by the hull design, get the boat up faster and keep it higher in the water than conventional designs.

The 430 Top Ender also incorporates the flared hull design. By putting a concave curve in the side panels water is deflected away from the sides of the boat. This means that in choppy water or at speed the water doesn't 'hang' and come back onto the boat occupants.



The deck provides a clear, stable fishing platform.



The Millennium Hull and the flared bow direct water away and low, improving the ride comfort and performance.



The main casting deck. Note the side pocket for storage of longer items.

Ride and performance

When I got into this boat I expected that it would perform like its larger brothers and I was not disappointed. What struck me as unusual was that the boat had a 30 hp Mercury outboard—the standard motor. Usually any boat taken for testing has the maximum recommended motor size attached (in this case 40 hp) so that performance is maximised. However, with the smaller motor and three people on board it performed and handled extremely well, getting out of the hole in a lively fashion and while the conditions on the Gold Coast Broadwater could not be considered rough, there was enough wake and wind activity to provide assurance that this boat's ride is soft and predictable.

When underway the boat performed up to expectations and very little spray entered the boat. As the wind came up during the test, very little spray was thrown up towards the occupants and the ride continued to be dry.

The beam of 2.0 m and the tiller steer motor left plenty of room to move about in the boat. Even then, the stability was excellent, making this a great fishing platform—this is probably due to a combination of the wide beam and the hull design.

Fitout and layout

With a boat that can accommodate up to four passengers it was great to see that the manufacturers had put four seat spigots as standard in the floor. This makes a change from the minimum that is usually put in and provides flexibility even if only a couple of passengers are in the

boat. The passenger can be placed where speed and activity are best suited. The front position being ideally set up for a front-mount electric if fitted.

This package has been designed to maximise the area available for passengers. While the layout may look a little Spartan at first glance, there are plenty of areas where this package can be set up for the fisherman. The forward casting platform provides plenty of all-round space. A large under-deck storage area in the front can easily handle safety and other essential equipment with room to spare. The rear live bait tank comes standard and is positioned next to a battery well.

A side pocket provides storage to keep longer items out of the way on the port side while the starboard area is tailor-made to set up horizontal storage for rods. Speaking of which, four rod holders in the gunwales come as standard.

The anchor well is also standard, as is the plywood and carpeted floor. A number of small, often overlooked items that make the craft more useable are standard and include transom handles, bowroller and check plate and a cleat on the front deck.

Overall

The 430 Top Ender TS is an extremely affordable boat that performs well beyond its size in comfort and performance. This boat package at \$19,548 is a great value, all-round craft for general freshwater and estuary work. It would be an excellent choice for first time boat buyers, providing functionality beyond normal expectations of a boat of this size.

FWF SPECIFICATIONS

Length overall	4.41 m
Length bow to transom	4.30 m
Beam	2.00 m
Depth	0.87 m
Bottomsides	2.0 mm
Topsides	1.6 mm
Transom shaft length	L/S
Max. hp	40 hp
Main motor weight	120 kg
Max people	4

FWF FEATURES

Standard
 Rod holders (4)
 Carpeted/plywood floor
 Cleat on front deck
 Flared Bow
 Front casting platform
 Transom step and rail
 Transom handles (2)
 Millennium Series Hull
 Roto-moulded anchor well
 Bowroller and check plate
 Extruded side decks
 Mercury 30 hp 4 stroke
 Side pocket
 Short side rails
 Low split bowrails
 Seat positions (4)
 Seat Quinnee skipper
 Live bait tank

Optional extras
 Accessory kit large
 Side console box
 Underfloor fuel tank 50 L
 Skipper spigot position u/floor
 Transom step and rail

FWF CONTACT

To find your nearest Quintrex dealer call 1300 727 188 or visit www.Quintrex.com.au



There is plenty of storage for safety and other essential equipment.



The live bait tank and anchor well are well positioned and come as standard.



The transom design means more useable space in the back of the boat while the motor is still easily accessed.