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It's an Open and shut case in battle of the sexes

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'The Quicksilver 605 Open gives you that wind-in-the-hair exhilaration' © Mark Evans [Click Here to view large photo](#)

If you want to know what men like, and what women like, it's right here in the fibreglass fles - Forget 'Men are from Venus, Women are from Mars'.

Quicksilver 605 Open and 645 Cabin both sport a Mercury 150 four-stroke outboard but that's where the similarities end.

For blokes, the 605 is a breezy centre-console dayboat, the nautical incarnation of a convertible sports car. Wives and girlfriends on the other hand will love the 645, a people-mover with a bed and a head.

The 605 Open displays real athleticism when the throttle is planted, disregarding its bluff-bowed appearance by accelerating smartly to 38 knots for 5600 revs. Handling is as tame as the family hound.

When the 605's bow catches a breaking wake beam-on there's no slewing or slamming. It just brushes the wake aside and continues on course.

That's an important attribute, for this is more akin to a sundeck bowrider than a fishing centre console. Case in point, there are no side storage bins or fish wells in the cockpit, while rod holders are scarce on the coaming.

The bow seating converts into a full sun lounge with the addition of a fold-down panel, or the helm seats swivel aft if you'd prefer to socialise aft.

Drivers who love their electronics have plenty of scope at the console but why bother? As flamboyant as its French curves appear this is essentially a point-and-shoot pleasureboat for harbour daytrips, camping trips, and recreational skiing and fishing.

You won't be spending hours vacuuming the cockpit carpets (there are none) or fretting about wet feet on leather lounges.

The 645 is another boat that belies, if not defies, preconceptions. For starters, it doesn't appear to have a cabin.

But so intelligently utilised is the internal volume that you indeed get a lockable cabin beneath that flat foredeck, with a double berth and either a plumbed or portable toilet.

It's just perfect for a Sunday champagne cruise and snooze.

A bimini folds up from within a moulded recess to keep the party shaded, or you can create a maxi-sized sunbed by lowering the table and fitting a cushion. The table, incidentally, stows in an underfloor locker along with a 12-volt refrigerated icebox.

The latter will come in handy as there are no galley facilities. All food will have to be pre-prepared unless you buy a camping stove.

It's an easy boat to drive, relatively quick off the mark and viceless through tight turns.

The 605 Open comes in at around \$52K, not including a trailer, while the 645 Cabin starts at \$58,200 but realistically nudges \$69,000. Add a further \$10,950 for the trailer.

At these prices, most couples will have to choose – wouldn't it be great if life allowed you to have both. The ultimate his'n'hers accessory.

by Mark Rothfield



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