

# World of Boomerangs



## Boomerangs – made for hunting?



Not everything that is curved is a Boomerang - a distinction is made between Kylies and Boomerangs. Kylies also have curved and profiled wings but fly straight on. These were primarily used as all-purpose tools, hunting weapons, even musical instruments! and are often confused with Boomerangs. The latter are much lighter, have ritual significance, return, and were used at most for hunting birds and fish.

## Made in Australia? – Nay mate!

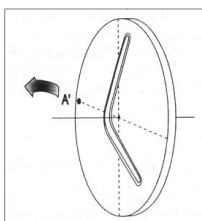
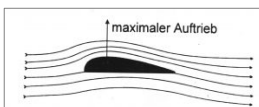
Boomerangs and throwing sticks were common all over the world. The oldest preserved throwing stick comes from Poland and is about 18,000 years old; Tutankhamun had a whole box of gold-decorated Boomerangs in his burial chamber, and Thor's hammer is believed to have been a ritual Boomerang. However, only the Aboriginal culture has been able to preserve the secret of Boomerangs until modern times...

## Throwing Boomerangs – a dangerous sports?

Today's sport Boomerangs have little in common with the Australian hardwood clubs except for their physical properties. Modern Boomerangs are easy to handle and made of plywood, plastics or even carbon fibre composites. Safety is the main priority, and nothing will be hunted...



## And why do Boomerangs return at all?



Two basic characteristics are a "must have" of every Boomerang:

- 1) Wings that generate lift like an airplane.
- 2) Rotation around a centre of gravity. Similar to a regular wheel (gyroscopic laws).

Basically, the circular flight already results from these two properties. However, despite intense research in modern physics and aerodynamics, there are still many details around the flight of the Boomerang, which have not been fully understood until today...

## Boomerang sports – what is it all about?

In modern Boomerang sports, a variety of disciplines have evolved. At tournaments, competitors usually participate in the following all-around contests:

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Fast Catch:</b>       | Throw and catch a Boomerang 5 times in the shortest time possible!  |
| <b>Trickcatch:</b>       | Throw one, then two Boomerangs – at the same time!- and catch it: One handed, behind the back, with your feet,... (Yes, you have read correctly!) |
| <b>Accuracy:</b>         | Let the Boomerang land next to you, as accurately as possible. The more accurate, the more points you gain.                                       |
| <b>Endurance:</b>        | Throw and catch your Boomerang as many times as possible within five minutes.   |
| <b>Australian Round:</b> | A challenging blend of: range, accuracy of the throw and catch – of course.   |
| <b>MTA:</b>              | Toss the Boomerang and measure the time to your catch. The longest time wins.   |

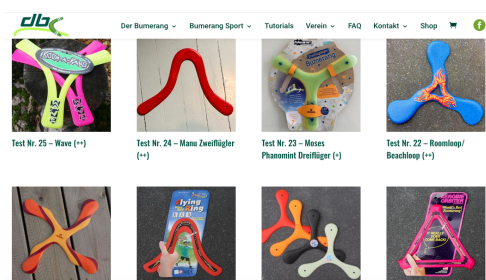
In addition, there are many other events such as long-distance throwing, juggling and the famous "Tapir-Terror-Round" among many others.

## Building my own Boomerang?

Building Boomerangs yourself is much easier than you may think. Simple cardboard Boomerangs are made in minutes and wooden Boomerangs can be built with simple materials in less than an hour. Instructions can be found in our tutorials. But be careful, once your homemade Boomerang flies, the crafting fever will haunt you. There are almost no limits to the shape of Boomerangs.



## Where do I find good Boomerangs?



As easy as it is to build a good Boomerang, so difficult it is to find -a good- one in stores. Unfortunately, most launchable toys are unsuitable, especially for children and beginners. This is why the German Boomerang Club tests models for their suitability and performance on its website, regularly!

## ***Just throw it... is that all?***

It is not quite that simple after all. Several points must be considered:



**Wind direction:** Right-handed? The wind must „kiss“ your left cheek.  
Left-handed? The “kiss” comes from your right.

**Release angle:** Boomerangs are released almost vertically!

**Rotation:** Let your Boomerang spin and achieve a good uplift.

Usually -with the right guidance- beginners manage their first return flight after a few minutes and the first catch within the first half hour. Manageable!

## ***Boomerang sports – more than you may imagine!***

Sophisticated techniques and materials brought Boomerang sports to new heights in recent years, redefining some of the limits of what is physically possible. Long-distance Boomerangs that fly over 200m and return travelled well over 500m - no other hand-thrown object has ever done this. Light carbon fibre Boomerangs (MTAs) can stay in the air for minutes. The longest documented flight is over 17 minutes! The sport has thus made it into the Guinness Book of Records more than once.

## ***Boomerang Competitions – don't the Australians win there all the time?***

International tournaments and regular world championships have existed since the early 80s. The USA, Europe and Japan have set the tone for many years. The German team alone has been world champion 7 times and has created several individual world champions and world record holders. In recent years, we are also pleased about new initiatives and participants from South America and Asia.

Boomerang tournaments are "family style events" and open to everyone. Beginners are always welcome. Guided and introduced by the more experienced throwers. The open exchange of knowledge and experience is a matter of course.



## ***Boomerang throwing in a nutshell...***

Boomerang enthusiasts are all united by the fascination of the unique Boomerang flight, the passion for a real outdoor sport, the love of tinkering, experimenting, inventing, and the exchange in a very family-like community.

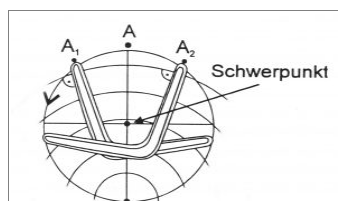
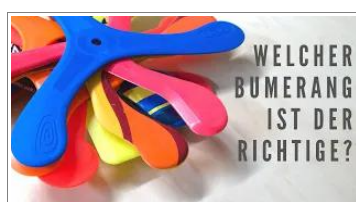
**Many Happy Returns**

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