

# Different models of reserve parachutes

The parachutes models can be round or square shaped or of «Rogallo» type. Their size should suit the total flying weight.



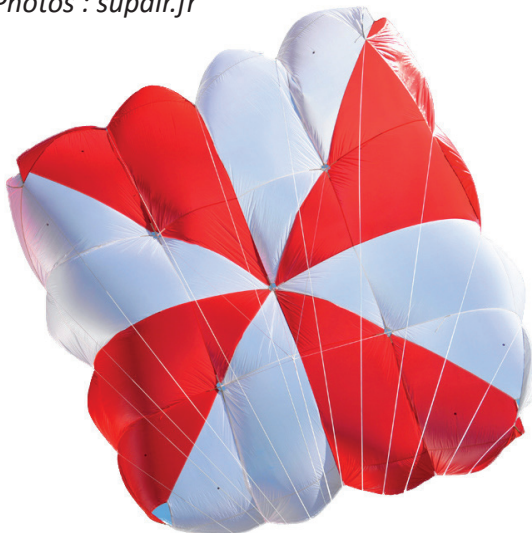
Most of pilots have chosen the «pull down» apex round parachute. It's easy to handle and it's also the cheapest one.

The choice of this type of parachute is mostly done because it's an easy reserve parachute. For each type of parachute the European Standard (EN) considers the structural strength and the opening delay. Weight and volume are important considerations for pilots but of relative importance.

Folding and packing of a round parachute, with the lines tensioned, is easy. This should encourage pilots to learn and do folding and packing.

It's the same main concern for the square parachute and for the round parachute, they are not steerable, making landing zone unprecise.

Photos : supair.fr



The square parachute (no-round) has a faster opening time, better stability and sometimes shorter lines.

These short lines offer a less risky opportunity for entanglement with the glider.

Its good stability induces a more constant sink rate and makes it more efficient quickly.

While its quick opening ability is an advantage, it can also amplify the shock on opening with higher stress on the rider and materials. The folding procedure given by the manufacturer must be followed.

The folding method for a square parachute is slightly more demanding than for a round parachute. Not all of them need to be folded under tension but each has a specific folding procedure.



The Rogallo parachute adds a good stability to a fast opening delay and a good sink rate. It's the only one to be steerable.

A pilot who wants to use such a parachute should at least be advised of its specific and demanding conditions of utilisation. The best models are built to open with a parachutal stall. At this stage their sink rate is similar to a round shaped parachute. Once getting rid of the mirroring effect and once having hands free, it's possible to grab the commands of the Rogallo in order to make it fly. When no more in the parachutal stall it becomes steerable, offers a better glide ratio and a better sink rate.

Folding of a Rogallo parachute is really delicate and requires a strict learning.

Photos Rogallo : highadventure.ch