

IP Ratings Explained

Life can get a little wet sometimes. Knowing how protected your prosthesis is from exposure to the elements is key to understanding what types of activities you can safely enjoy without worrying about ruining your device. For microprocessor knees, such as the C-Leg® and X3, it all comes down to what is called the IP rating.

What is an IP rating?

An IP or “Ingress Protection” rating refers to the degree of sealing effectiveness electrical enclosures have against the intrusion of foreign bodies (solids, dust, dirt, etc.) and liquid.¹ IP ratings consist of two digits and play an important role in determining what type of activities you can perform with your microprocessor knee.

68

Protection from solids:
From 0 (no protection)
to 6 (dust tight)

Protection from liquids:
From 0 (no protection) to
8 (continuous immersion)



IP68 - X3

- This is the highest level of protection offered in a microprocessor knee.
- Protects X3 from damage while being submerged in water.
 - Additional protection beyond the standard IP68 rating is offered by the X3 from strong water jets, like those found in a hot tub.
 - A corrosion resistant coating means that you can enjoy activities in fresh, chlorinated and salt water.
 - Not only is X3 fully waterproof, but it is also functional while submerged so you can rely on the safety it provides on land while in the water.
 - From the weekend to a demanding work week, X3's IP68 rating provides more protection for water-related activities than any other microprocessor knee on the market.

IP67 - Genium and C-Leg® 4

This rating protects C-Leg 4 and Genium from damage due to incidental contact with or temporary submersion in fresh water*.

- Unlike the X3, C-Leg 4 and Genium do not have additional corrosion resistance. They were not designed to be routinely submerged or used while showering, in chlorinated pools or salt water.
- C-Leg 4 and Genium are considered weatherproof, so you don't have to worry about incidental splashes while walking in the rain or playing with your kids at the lake.
- Activities like watering the garden where fresh water could be splashed onto the knee are okay.



Get the most out of your microprocessor knee

It is important to keep your knee clean. Rinse the knee with fresh water and thoroughly dry it after every water-based activity.

Sources
¹ International Standard of EN 60529 (British BS EN 60529:1992, European IEC 60509:1989)
*Do not use the knee under extreme conditions like diving or jumping into the water.