



Australian Government

Australian Financial Security Authority

Is that used boat, boat trailer or outboard motor ...

- ✓ free from debt?
- ✓ safe from repossession?

Is the boat trailer ...

- ✓ reported written-off
or stolen?

**Check before
you buy!**



Check the PPSR
Available online, 24/7
It costs just \$3.40 to do a check

www.ppsr.gov.au



Personal Property
Securities Register

PPSR check

If you're buying a used boat **from a private or unlicensed seller** – you can check to see if it still has any finance owing on it **BEFORE** you make the purchase.

You may also want to check the motor and trailer separately.

Why check?

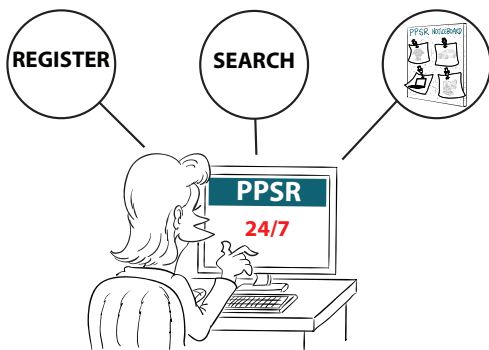
Because if the previous owner stops making payments, a finance company might be able to repossess it from you without paying you a cent.

About the PPSR

The PPSR is the single, national online register that covers the whole of Australia. When a bank or financier provides secured finance for a boat, trailer or outboard motor, they will usually register their interest on the PPSR.

For \$3.40, you can check the PPSR to see if the second-hand boat, trailer or outboard you are interested in buying has any finance owing.

The PPSR can also be used to check other second-hand personal property is free from debt, such as machinery, equipment, motorbikes, caravans, tractors, cars and more.



PPSR check – the second-hand boat bought privately

What will you need to do a PPSR check?

- debit/credit card (\$3.40)
- HIN (hull identification number)
- your email address.

Go to www.ppsr.gov.au to start the check.



Tip

Additional watercraft information such as make, model and colour are not available from the PPSR and will not be returned as part of a search.

When doing a check, PPSR ignores the use of upper/lower case and any dashes and spaces. Please double-check the HIN before proceeding with your request.

More about the HIN

A HIN, sometimes called the boat code, is the nautical equivalent of the VIN (vehicle identification number) on your car.

It is usually moulded in the hull or engraved on a metal plate that is fastened to the hull.

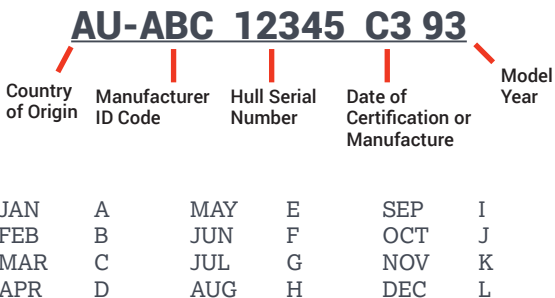
The HIN is a unique series of usually 14 characters and numbers assigned to your vessel and is required when a boat is:

- registered for the first time
- transferred to another owner.

HINs for newer boats are usually provided by the manufacturer. Older boats that do not have a HIN can get one from a boat code provider.

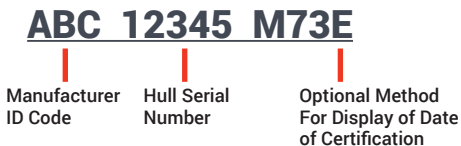
The HIN is usually required to be shown on the State certificate of registration.

It can look like this:



(Note: HIN format after August 1, 1984)

or this:



FACT: The PPSR has more than 9 million registrations and more than 8 million searches are conducted each year.

PPSR check – the second-hand boat trailer bought privately

As most second-hand boat trailers are classed as motor vehicles, they are likely to have a VIN (vehicle identification number). Using the VIN, you can check the PPSR using the ‘quick motor vehicle search.’

What will you need to do a PPSR check against the VIN?

- debit/credit card (\$3.40)
- vehicle identification number (VIN)
- your email address.

Click on the [quick motor vehicle search](#) at www.ppsr.gov.au – it only takes a few minutes to get a result.

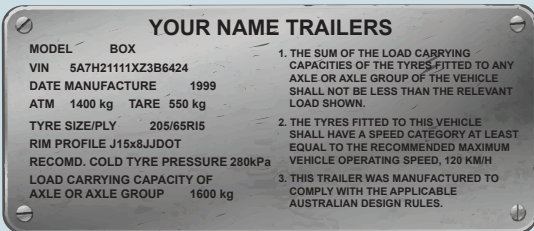
What is the VIN?

The VIN (vehicle identification number) is the unique identifier of a ‘motor vehicle,’ in this case a boat trailer.

The VIN is usually stamped on a small metal plate which is attached to the trailer.

The plate can vary in size and shape. Some have a lot of information, some don’t.

A VIN has 17 numbers and it could look like this:



Tip

Your search result will display written-off data as recorded on NEVDIS. States and territories have different reporting requirements, but most only require larger trailers to be reported when written-off. Check with your local road transport authority to see what applies in your state/territory.



Personal Property
Securities Register

PPSR check – the second-hand outboard motor bought privately

Why check the boat motor separately?

- Because an outboard motor can be of significant value, and is detachable from a boat, the motor may have been used (instead of the whole boat) as the collateral for raising finance.
- Because outboard motors are not registered by serial number, you must check the PPSR against previous owners (which can be a person or a business).

This means an outboard motor requires a different search – known as search by ‘individual grantors’ or ‘organisation grantors.’

For more information, see *searching by grantor* on www.ppsr.gov.au

What will you need to do a PPSR check?

- debit/credit card (\$3.40)
- name of person or name of organisation selling you the outboard motor
- your email address.

Go to www.ppsr.gov.au to start the check.

Tip

The PPSR does not list outboard motors as watercraft. Outboard motors generally belong to the collateral class ‘other goods’.