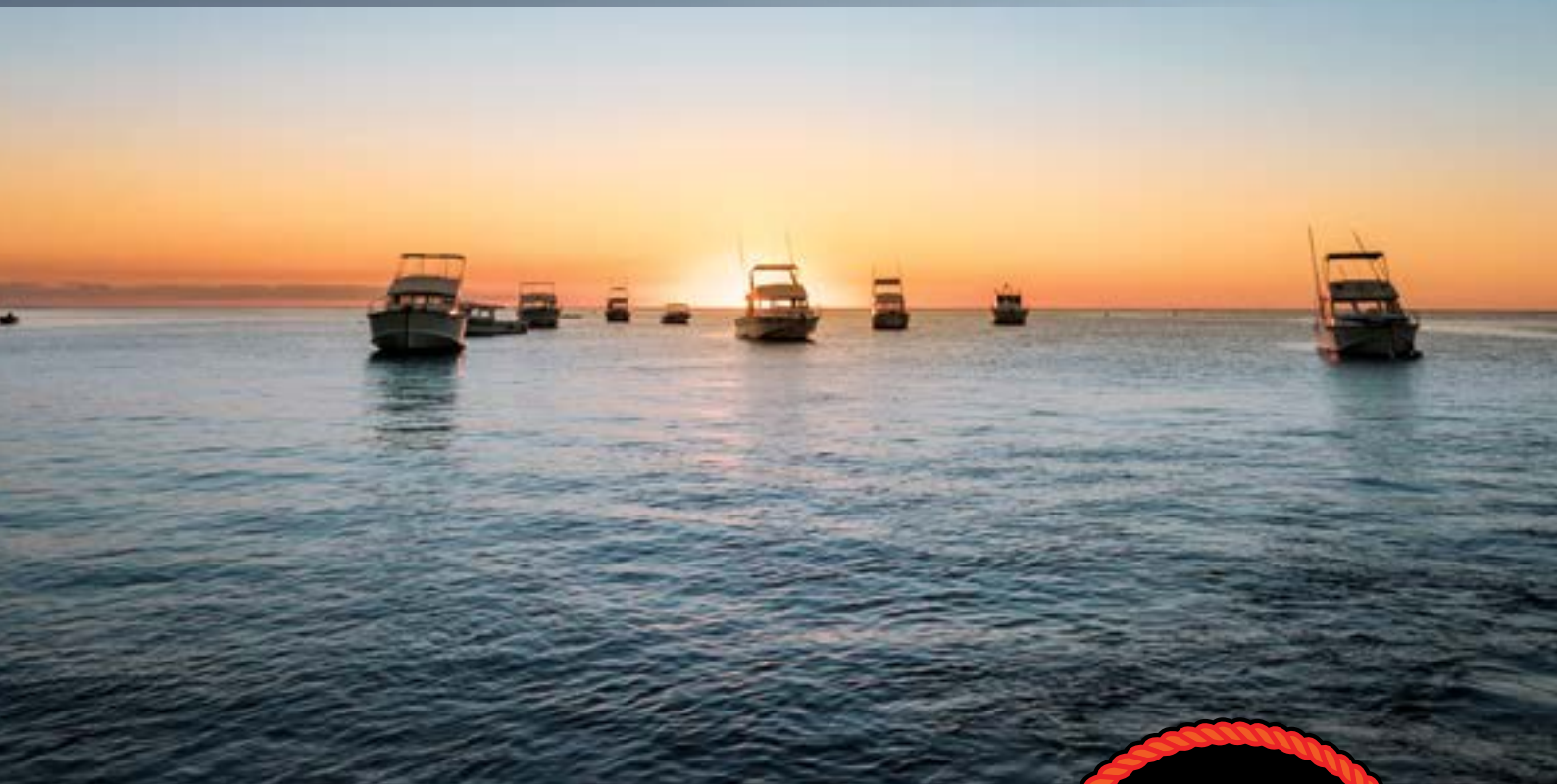


WELCOME TO YOUR

BOAT PRE-PURCHASE GUIDE

BY SEAWORTHY INSPECTIONS



**BUY AND SELL
YOUR BOAT WITH
CONFIDENCE**

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**SEAWORTHY
INSPECTIONS**

Welcome to your **BOAT PRE-PURCHASE GUIDE**

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**SEAWORTHY
INSPECTIONS**

Buying a boat is not like buying a car. For most people, cars are much more familiar than boats. Boats have their own secrets and peculiarities; after all, boats are exposed to some pretty harsh conditions like rocking around bending and flexing whereas cars not so much on the road. Buying a boat demands attention to a very different type of details and a keen eye to choose between a good purchase from a bad one. "But where should I start? What should I look for?" is the question.



"But where should I start? What should I look for?"

DON'T PANIC. WE'VE GOT YOU.

Don't panic. We've got you. We know that buying a boat isn't always easy. We also know that a good advertised photograph can be quite misleading. It is hard to tell the real condition of the boat by just looking at it online or in person without the skills. Therefore, we decided to put this pre-purchase guide together to help you ask some of the right questions to find a good boat for you.

Before going any further, please note this guide does not seek to replace boat inspections or the role of boat inspectors by any means. This guide provides tips and advice to boat purchasers so they can be more equipped and feel more comfortable whenever assessing a boat's condition at first sight. We cannot stress enough the importance of a thorough professional inspection made by a trained Inspector. If you noticed something odd or you are not sure if it might be a future problem, ask for expert help straight away. This is the only way to ensure the best and safe outcome as possible.

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Much like Cars, used boats in perfect condition are very rare. Even new boats sometimes can come with some defects that are often overlooked. Knowing the difference between fair wear and tear and a concerning defect will come with experience.

Motors are often the most expensive part of a boat. A bad engine can turn a shiny looking boat purchase into a nightmare. Identifying most problems can be quite hard, especially for someone without enough knowledge about engines. However, our hints may help you identifying obvious problems. You should dedicate some time for this as it might save some big bucks in the future.

FOCUS ON THOSE 4 MAJOR AREAS



VESSEL



TRAILER



MOTOR



ELECTRICAL

Remember to ask for professional help if you are not sure.

DO A QUICK OVERVIEW

- Remove the boat covers and outboard cowling
- Start with a quick boat walk-around and check for its overall condition
- Ask when was it last used
- Ask is it registered
- Ask when was it last serviced and is there receipts

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VESSEL / HULL



- Has the boat been washed or polished regularly
- Is the paint or gel coat chalky? Run your finger over the hull, if it leaves a powdery residue the hull has some porosity and will require some attention to restore its surface.
- Are there any obvious cracks in the hull? Are there any obvious points of impact or delamination. If you are unsure of the difference between surface cracks and structural, then consult a professional inspector.
- Are seats and vessel furniture/cabinetry well fastened? You don't want things moving around at sea.
- Are the cleats, railing and bow eye secure? These are critical to stopping your boat from getting away from you if unattended.

TRAILER



- Look for excessive corrosion on the wheels, guards, chassis and vessel supports. If you are unsure of the difference between surface rust and structural, then consult a professional inspector.
- Does the hitch lock onto the car towball well? Is the chain shackle load rated?
- Is the vessel balanced on the trailer to road regulation standards? Not too heavy and not floating.
- Do all the trailer lights work.
- Do the trailer brakes work mechanical or electric/hydraulic (if fitted)
- Is the vessel secured to the trailer (typically 3 points is acceptable)
- Are the tyres bald, cracked or perishing?

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ENGINE / MOTOR

- Start the engine, does it crank over or are the battery/batteries flat?
- If the fuel is old or stale, it may not start.
- 2 Stroke engines may normally appear to have an excess smoke until the engine is warm.
- Are there any major leaks of oil or water on the engine?
- Are the rubber lines cracking when squeezed or flexible still?
- Are there any unusual noises like knocks or ticking? If you are unsure of the expected/unexpected noises, then consult a professional inspector.
- Do all the engine gauges on the dash operate?
- Is the steering free to operate fully from lock to lock?
- Does the engine tilt up manually or electrically (if fitted)?



ELECTRICAL / ELECTRONIC

- Check all batteries are in fair physical condition and secure.
- Check there is a method to disconnect the battery. Isolator switch is best.
- Look for clean, dry and corrosion free fuses and fuse/termination blocks
- Wiring is secured and tied up to prevent wire breaks
- Check if all lights are operating including navigational, anchor, spot and courtesy lights
- Check if all gauges and indicators are operating correctly with backlighting when fitted.
- Check if the Radio turns on, and the speaker is working. Try to transmit to another boat nearby if possible.
- Check all electric bilge pumps operation.



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THANKS FOR READING

Purchasing a boat is a big investment, and it is important to ensure you know what you're paying for. If you need any further help, please contact us. Our team is ready to help you.

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