

# Motor vehicles as scrap metal



## AM I ALLOWED TO ACCEPT MOTOR VEHICLES AS SCRAP METAL?

If a scrap metal dealer intends to buy a motor vehicle as scrap metal, the dealer **MUST** ensure that the motor vehicle has an identifier such as a VIN, chassis or engine number. These details must be recorded so that police officers can verify details when required.

## WHAT IS CONSIDERED TO BE A MOTOR VEHICLE?

A motor vehicle is a **motor vehicle (other than a light rail vehicle) or trailer within the meaning of the Road Transport Act 2013** and includes the body, engine or chassis of a motor vehicle.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF SOMEONE TRIES TO SELL A MOTOR VEHICLE THAT DOES NOT HAVE AN IDENTIFIER OR IT HAS BEEN REMOVED, OBLITERATED, DEFACED OR ALTERED?

A scrap metal dealer **MUST NOT** buy, sell or dispose of the motor vehicle unless you have been provided with a written authority for disposal of that motor vehicle issued by the NSW Police Force. The written authority authorises a scrap metal dealer to purchase the motor vehicle. If you suspect someone is trying to sell a stolen motor vehicle, you **MUST** inform the NSW Police Force. Buying or disposing of unidentified motor vehicles incurs a maximum penalty of 500 penalty units (\$55,000 fine).

## HOW CAN I GET AN AUTHORITY FOR DISPOSAL OF A MOTOR VEHICLE?

Only a police officer can issue an authority for disposal of a motor vehicle. Contact your nearest police station for assistance.

## WHAT SHOULD I RECORD IF A MOTOR VEHICLE HAS BEEN PROCESSED (CUBED, CRUSHED OR SHREDDED) PRIOR TO PURCHASING IT?

There is no need for the scrap metal dealer to record a unique identifier if a motor vehicle has been processed prior to purchase. Dealers should record a general description of the quantity and/or weight and indicate that the vehicle has been cubed, crushed or shredded (example: 4 x cubed motor vehicles).

It will always be the responsibility of the scrap metal dealer who received the motor vehicle in a pre-processed state to record its unique identifier.

## WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

The information provided in this Fact Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and scrap metal dealers should familiarise themselves with the *Scrap Metal Industry Act 2016* and the *Scrap Metal Industry Regulation 2024*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website ([www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)).