



## Frequently asked questions

### What is TXTB4UBUY and why should I use it?

**TXTB4UBUY** is a convenient way to search if a vehicle is subject to a security interest registered in the PPSR. A registered security interest means that someone may still owe money on the vehicle. The person that is owed money may be able to repossess the vehicle from subsequent owners and sell it to repay the debt. It is important to search the PPSR before you buy a vehicle from someone other than a registered motor vehicle trader. For NZ\$1.02 you could avoid buying someone else's debt.

### How much does it cost?

It costs NZ\$1.02 per submitted search.

You will not be charged again to complete your TXTB4UBUY search online using the SMS ID returned in your SMS search.

### Why is a vehicle's registration number and VIN recommended?

A vehicle's registration number is easily accessible therefore is commonly used. However, a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is a **unique** 17-character number that is the **main way** vehicles are identified for administrative purposes.

It is important to use both the vehicle's VIN and registration number when using TXTB4UBUY, as registration numbers can change.

When submitting your TXTB4UBUY search, you can enter the identifiers in any order, by separating each with a ? (question mark). for example, ABC123?12345678901234567

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### Where do I find a vehicle's VIN?

The owner's manual will tell you where to locate the VIN. Generally, the VIN can be found:

- stamped into the vehicle structure (often the firewall) during manufacture, or
- stamped on a metal plate and fixed onto the vehicle body, or
- etched on to the rear window of the vehicle.

### Why should I complete my SMS search online?

Complete your SMS search online with your SMS ID to:

- view the full result list;
- view the details of the financing statement if a security interest exists; and/or
- print out proof of your search.

### Where do I find out more information?

#### About the TXTB4UBUY service

Call the PPSR info line on **0508 PPSR INFO** (0508 777 746) during normal business hours, 8:30am – 5pm weekdays.

#### About buying a car

Visit the Ministry of Consumer Affairs website at [www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz](http://www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz).

