

USER GUIDE

Mini Skid Match User Guide

A practical guide to the seven-question Quick Match, the 22-question Detailed Match, catalogue research and seller verification.

Version 1

158 machines across 26 manufacturers and suppliers

Independent research starting point

Mini Skid Match does not tell you which machine to buy. It turns your stated requirements into a shortlist, explains trade-offs and identifies what still needs confirmation.

Updated 1 September 2026

Machine information may be incomplete, outdated or incorrect. Always confirm specifications, configuration, pricing, warranty, safety, support and attachment compatibility in writing.

GETTING STARTED

1. Start with the right route

Choose the level of detail that matches where you are in your research.

Quick Match

Use this when you want a fast first shortlist. It asks seven essential questions and can accept more than one planned attachment.

Detailed Match

Use this when access, terrain, exact load, lift height, hydraulics, travel speed, service, warranty or evidence quality may change the result. It asks 22 questions.

Catalogue and guides

Browse every recorded model by manufacturer, compare specifications, review attachment planning notes and prepare seller questions without completing a match.

Good practice

If you are uncertain, use the closest honest answer and treat the result as provisional. A confident guess can remove suitable candidates or admit unsuitable ones.

QUICK MATCH

2. The seven Quick Match questions

Each answer has a specific job. Width and transport are strict maximums; capacity and hydraulics require careful confirmation.

Question	What it controls
1. Main work	Initial job and duty fit
2. Maximum width	Hard access limit
3. Heaviest required lift	Compared with the Estimated Conservative Lift Comparison
4. Planned attachments	Multiple selection; the most demanding hydraulic requirement sets the initial screen
5. Two hydraulic functions at once	Independent simultaneous secondary-function requirement
6. Transport	Hard machine-mass limit
7. Budget	Indicative price route and ceiling

Multiple attachments

Select every attachment you realistically expect to use. The matcher checks each pathway and uses the most hydraulically demanding selection for the initial flow screen.

CAPACITY

3. Loads, lifting and capacity

The matcher asks one simple question: What is the heaviest load you want the machine to lift?

One common comparison

The answer is compared with an Estimated Conservative Lift Comparison (CLC), which gives buyers a consistent research screen when manufacturers publish ROC, tipping load or lift information using different methods. A plain-language explanation button beside the question lets the buyer review the method before answering.

CLC formula

The CLC uses 65% of published tipping load; ROC divided by its stated percentage and multiplied by 65%; or ROC divided by 50% and multiplied by 65% when the percentage is unstated. A published rated load, operating load, working load, load capacity or non-maximum lift capacity is retained provisionally without a second percentage reduction. An explicit maximum-lift claim uses 90% with documented test conditions or 80% when the test basis is unstated, rounded down to 50 kg. The lowest applicable basis is used. Breakout, hydraulic and lifting-force-only claims are not converted unless a separate conservative load figure exists.

Supporting ROC reference

Manufacturer ROC remains visible. Where only rated/maximum lift is published, a Provisional ROC estimate may also be shown: first 90% with documented test conditions or 80% with an unstated basis, then 35% for tracked, convertible or unknown undercarriages or 50% for wheeled machines, rounded down to 25 kg.

Estimated comparison - verification required

CLC and Provisional ROC figures are estimates, not manufacturer-rated capacities, guaranteed maximums, safe working loads, load charts or permission to lift. Actual capability varies with attachment weight, load position, height, reach, configuration, ground and operating conditions. Confirm the exact machine with the manufacturer or authorized dealer and follow its operating manual and safety instructions.

HYDRAULICS

4. Attachments and hydraulic demand

Attachment compatibility is more than a single flow number.

- Confirm minimum and maximum flow and working pressure.
- Ask for hot continuous flow at the front couplers, not only pump displacement.
- Check return pressure, case drain, coupler size, cooling capacity and hydraulic oil requirements.
- Confirm attachment mass, mounting plate, electrical controls and guarding.
- For mulchers, stump grinders and mowers, confirm continuous-duty limits in writing.

Two functions at once

A machine may offer selectable high and low flow on one auxiliary circuit yet still be unable to power a main motor while operating a second hydraulic action. The Quick Match question treats simultaneous operation as a separate requirement.

Forestry mulchers

A missing model-specific mulcher listing is not a hard rejection when published auxiliary flow clears the initial planning screen. Values within 0.5 L/min of the 40 L/min lower planning figure are treated as nominal conversion or rounding differences. Flow alone does not prove compatibility.

Example

A rotating grapple or a stump grinder with hydraulic swing may need an independent secondary circuit while the main attachment function continues to run. For a mulcher, confirm flow, pressure, hot continuous output, cooling, return pressure, case drain, couplers, guarding, mass and written carrier approval.

SITE AND TRANSPORT

5. Access, terrain and transport

Measure the real route to the work area and the complete transport combination.

Access

Measure gates, doors, turns and overhead obstructions at their narrowest point. Allow practical clearance; a machine equal to the opening width is not a comfortable fit.

Terrain

The matcher can express relative suitability, but it cannot approve slope or side-slope operation. Ground condition, attachment load, operator position and manufacturer limits still govern.

Transport

Check the machine, attachment, fuel, spare tools, trailer, tow vehicle ratings and local licence or axle rules. The Quick Match transport answer is a hard machine-mass ceiling, not a complete towing calculation.

- Confirm operating weight for the exact configuration.
- Check tie-down points and loading angle.
- Verify trailer payload, axle, tyre and coupling ratings.

READING RESULTS

6. How results are presented

The shortlist separates eligibility, relative fit, verification status and unresolved checks.

Suitable

The recorded information passes the hard limits you selected. This still requires seller confirmation.

Provisional

A core value is missing, conflicting or not sufficiently sourced. The machine may remain visible with a warning.

Not eligible

A recorded hard conflict exists, such as excessive width, transport mass, insufficient capacity or an unmet required hydraulic function.

Relative score

The score compares candidates for your answers. It is not a universal quality rating and should not be compared across different answer sets.

Read the reasons

Open the full result and read both why the machine may suit you and what must be checked before buying.

EVIDENCE

7. Verified and provisional information

Mini Skid Match records both the specification and the strength of the supporting evidence.

- Manufacturer specifications are preferred for model-specific dimensions and ratings.
- Dealer pages may add regional price, warranty and support details.
- Owner material can provide useful context but does not replace standards-based capacity data.
- Conflicting figures remain provisional until the exact model and configuration are resolved.
- Source-checked mode may exclude machines that cannot prove a hard requirement.

What verified does not mean

It does not certify the machine, guarantee current availability or prove suitability for your site. It means the recorded field has supporting evidence that meets the site's current research standard.

Exact model matters

Ask the seller to identify the model code, serial range, engine, track width, counterweights and attachment package covered by every specification.

COMPARISON

8. Compare machines and buying routes

Use comparisons to expose trade-offs, not to force a single winner.

- Compare dimensions and mass in the same units.
- Separate direct-import pricing from dealer-supported pricing.
- Check who provides parts, labour and warranty service in your postcode.
- Confirm whether taxes, freight, customs, port charges and assembly are included.
- Compare attachment availability, couplers and control requirements.

Dealer brief

Download or copy the seller questions generated from your answers. Send the same brief to every seller so that responses are comparable.

Saved shortlist

A saved or shared result captures research context, not a permanent specification. Re-run the match when your work, budget or machine data changes.

No paid placement

Payment or a commercial relationship does not determine which machine appears in a shortlist.

GUIDES

9. Attachment and importing guides

The guides help you plan the questions around the machine purchase.

Attachment guides

Twenty-one implement guides cover common planning issues, sample suppliers and compatibility questions. Supplier position is informational and is not an endorsement.

Importing

Direct import can change the responsibility for customs, conformity, delivery damage, assembly, parts and warranty. Obtain a complete landed-cost estimate and written responsibility map.

- Confirm the attachment plate standard and hydraulic couplers.
- Ask who carries replacement wear parts and motors.
- Identify the legal warrantor and return process.
- Inspect the machine before acceptance where possible.

Local law

Import, workplace, road, emissions and machinery-safety requirements vary by country and use. Obtain local professional advice where needed.

BEFORE BUYING

10. Seller verification checklist

Use written answers and documents before paying a deposit.

- Exact model, year, serial range and delivered configuration
- Overall width, operating mass and track configuration
- Standards-based capacity figure and test basis
- Auxiliary flow, pressure, cooling, return pressure and case drain
- Whether simultaneous attachment functions are supported
- Attachment mass, mount, couplers, controls and guarding
- Warranty term, hour limit, exclusions, freight and labour
- Parts stock, service territory and response time
- Complete price, taxes, freight and delivery terms
- Operator manual, maintenance schedule and conformity documents

Keep records

Save the listing, quotation, specification sheet and seller answers that supported your decision.

NEXT STEPS

11. Final decision

Use Mini Skid Match to narrow the field, then verify the exact purchase independently.

A sound process

- Run Quick Match for the first screen.
- Use Detailed Match when requirements are close or complex.
- Compare the shortlisted machines and recorded evidence.
- Send the same verification brief to each seller.
- Inspect or demonstrate the exact machine with the intended attachment.
- Confirm safety, support and total ownership cost before purchase.

Start again when requirements change

Adding a forestry mulcher, heavier load, narrower access route or simultaneous hydraulic function can materially change the shortlist.

Mini Skid Match Version 1

Guide basis: 158 machine records across 26 manufacturers and suppliers, updated 1 September 2026.