



A 30hp Suzuki is an economical yet powerful option for the Seascape Viper.

# Seascape Boats 4.2m Viper

IT has been probably 20 years or so since the now popular V-nose punt impacted on the Australian boat scene and in that time most Aussie boat manufacturers have introduced their own particular versions.

Generally boat designs entail a degree of compromise in order to achieve a boat for all seasons, and the V-nose punt has been the most successful in fulfilling the requirements of many prospective boat purchasers.

This design of boat is excellent on impoundments, offering a stable platform for lure casting and a comfortable ride when on the move.

When fishing in a more exposed environment the V-nose can handle a fair amount of chop while maintaining a comfortable ride for its occupants.

Seascape Boats has a fine example named the Viper which was supplied by Matt Boyce of Laguna Marine in Noosaville on the Sunshine Coast for the purpose of this review.

The first impression of the Viper 4.2 is of its smooth sides.

Although it isn't a plate construction it has straight sides and when painted in black it's visually very sleek and looks fast even when sitting on a trailer.

Internally it's typical of a well thought out design, including a host of storage options, all concealed under a well-proportioned casting platform at the



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bow with another two compartments located either side of the transom for fuel tank storage.

Provision for a live bait tank is included under the casting platform and all other compartments are carpeted internally, which not only offers protection to stored items but also a high degree of sound dampening.

Four seating positions are included in the Viper with two at the rear, one on the portside in the middle of the boat and one in the centre of the casting platform at the sharp end.

A substantial platform is located on the portside bow for the inclusion of a bow mount electric motor.

Four hand rails are located on the deck either side of the front and rear of the boat.

The front hand rails incorporate provision for nav lights and although not everyone is a fan of hand rails, these are small enough not to create an obstacle but big enough to offer a degree of safety and rider comfort when experiencing rough conditions.

One of the hull design features of the Viper 4.2 as described by the manufacturer is that the bottom is almost flat, providing all the attributes of a perfect fishing rig such as

land-based stability, low horsepower planing ability and very competitive high horsepower top end speeds.

Less draft also means effortless gliding using minimal thrust when propelled by an electric motor.

Seascape also incorporated forward sheet angles in the boat construction to minimise water slap on the hull that may scare fish.

As far as the ride is concerned it can only be described as very comfortable, although conditions on the day were good and the only way to simulate choppy conditions was to ride over the Viper's own wake; even so this was barely noticeable.

To sum up, the Viper is an extremely good example of this kind of boat and will suit a variety of fishing applications not to mention fly fishing.

The long wand fraternity would find the Viper an excellent choice when fishing for barra at Lake Awoonga or Monduran, as would lure fishers.

The Viper would also be at home crabbing, with the generous deck space being ideal for the secure storage of crab pots and an easy retrieve over the side of the boat without the clutter of oversized hand rails. ⚡

## Specifications

**Length Overall:** 4.2m

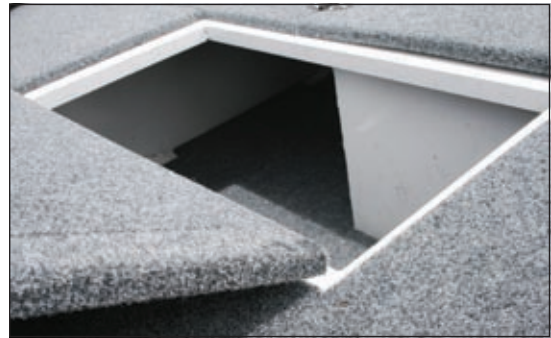
**Material Bottoms:** 3.0mm (5 V pressings on bottoms)

**Material Sides:** 2.5mm Plate

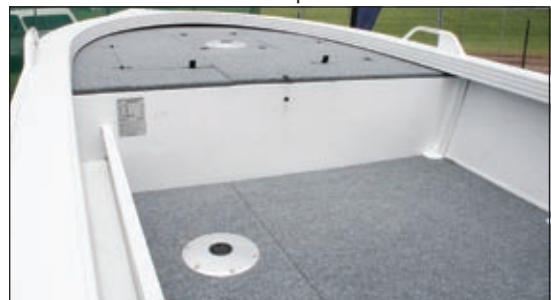
**Max Horsepower:** 50hp

**Recommended Horsepower:** 25hp 2-stroke;  
30hp 4-stroke

**Max Transom Weight:** 120kg  
2 Year Limited Warranty



Hatch covers are carpeted both sides.



Front casting deck and side pocket.



A well situated driving position.