

The short hardtop and position of the helm seats allow you to comfortably sit and fish out the sides

Fishability	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Innovation	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Design and layout	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Handling and ride	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Ease of towing	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Stability	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Finish	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Ergonomics	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
X-factor	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Overall	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Due to the tall hardtop and large safety-glass front windows, visibility at the helm is excellent, both seated and standing, with plenty of headroom

Versatility plus

While the Scorpion 610 Hardtop lends itself more towards a capable all-round fishing platform, if you don't want to call it a day, the full-length berths with storage beneath would allow a comfortable night's sleep for a couple of good mates. Entry through the cabin door could be a bit of a squeeze for larger blokes, but once inside it offers a cosy, fully-lined bungalow, which could be completely enclosed with a canvas door if required.

Further inclement weather protection can be optioned in as well: "Clears can be fitted to the hardtop sides and we've also had a few customers add a road cover with a couple of zips running down the back, which gives you a fully-enclosed cockpit," explains Black.

The interior is fully lined in all the right places and the Sportcraft team has done an excellent job of both the carpet and overall finish. Handrails are perfectly placed and both the driver and passenger get footrests as well. Access to the anchor is through the good-quality front hatch, which allows easy access to the self-draining anchor well, although the aluminium edges here are a bit sharp for my liking.

To keep clean-up time to a minimum and enjoyment at a maximum, the floor is quick-clean tread plate, which drains into a bilge well (complete with a bilge pump) at the rear. It is completely sealed, providing underfloor buoyancy, but the side panels are bare aluminium and some non-skid should be optioned in for safety and comfort.

Earlier versions came fitted with a 90-litre underfloor tank, but as there's enough room under the transom, two 45-litre tote tanks are the cheaper, lower-maintenance option for extended

range. If you're on a serious mission, extra tote tanks can be stored under the squabs in the front cabin.

The battery is securely raised up on the rear parcel shelf, with additional storage available on either side. The battery switch is fully waterproof and an optional rear cover is available.

The positioning of the swivelling pedestal seats has been carefully thought out for maximum versatility: "The short hardtop and position of the helm seats allow you to comfortably sit and fish out the sides, with enough cockpit space to easily fish four people, making it more usable from a family point of view," explains Black.

The gunnels are at high height to keep any little ones safe and provide additional seating for anglers. The gunnels feature four rod holders, with five more available in the rocket launcher above. Dawn raids on big winter moochers can be done in comfort, thanks to the hardtop,



PERFORMANCE DATA

Scorpion 610 HT with 90hp Mercury Elpto 2-stroke and Mercury Vengeance 18P propellor

RPM	KPH	Knots
3500	24	13
4000	32	17
4500	42	23
5000	52	28
5500	62	33