



SmartCraft® Connect - Frequently Asked Questions

Get answers to your SmartCraft Connect questions.

Updated: November 2025

Overview of SmartCraft® Connect

Q: What is SmartCraft Connect?

SmartCraft® Connect is a family of compact devices that can be installed on board a vessel and integrated with a Mercury engine's digital operating system. Once installed, your chosen SmartCraft Connect device can wirelessly stream engine data to the Mercury Marine app.

There are two types of SmartCraft Connect devices. SmartCraft Connect Mobile devices provide only Bluetooth® connectivity for streaming data to the app. Standard (non-Mobile only) SmartCraft Connect devices provide Bluetooth functionality plus the ability to integrate with multi-function displays from various leading brands through an NMEA® connection. Once connected, these devices allow you to track performance data from the connected helm display and use the display to control some advanced SmartCraft functions such as Troll Control, Autopilot, Skyhook® and Smart Tow®. Additional hardware is required to enable some functions.

Q: What are the differences between SmartCraft Connect Mobile and standard (non-Mobile) models?

SmartCraft® Connect Mobile devices provide only Bluetooth® connectivity for streaming data to the app. Standard (non-Mobile only) SmartCraft Connect devices provide Bluetooth functionality plus the ability to integrate with multi-function displays through an NMEA® network. Standard models allow data streaming to both compatible helm displays and the Mercury Marine app, while Mobile models only stream to the app.

Q: What engines are compatible with SmartCraft Connect?

SmartCraft® Connect is compatible with Mercury SmartCraft-capable engines and electric motors, including:

- Mercury® and MerCruiser® engines 40hp and higher, 2004 and newer
- Mercury and MerCruiser engines 25hp and higher, 2022 and newer
- Avator electric outboards (the module comes pre-installed on Avator 20e and up)

Kicker applications are not supported.



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Q: How many engines are supported by SmartCraft Connect?

Depending on the part number, SmartCraft® Connect can support 1–4 engines. It is not compatible with 5/6 engine installations and does not support kicker applications.

Models:

- Single engine under cowl = 1 engine only
- Single engine under helm = 1 engine only
- Multi-engine under helm = 1–4 engines

Q: What is the difference between under-helm and under-cowl part numbers?

Both offer the same functionality.

- Under-cowl part numbers are installed on the engine itself and have a built-in resistor required for ensuring proper data communication. Under-cowl part numbers cannot be used at the helm of the boat.
- Under-helm models are designed to be connected at the helm via a 10-pin junction box and are used to integrate with the Mercury SmartCraft® network.

Q: Will SmartCraft Connect work as a replacement for VesselView Link?

SmartCraft® Connect (non-Mobile only) provides many of the same functions as VesselView® Link and adds wireless connectivity to the Mercury Marine app, but it is not a direct replacement. VesselView Link and SmartCraft Connect cannot be used on the same boat and are compatible with different displays. If you want mobile connectivity on a boat equipped with VesselView Link, you'll need a SmartCraft Connect Mobile device.

Choosing the Right Hardware

Q: How do I choose the SmartCraft Connect device that is right for me?

Since SmartCraft® Connect is a family of products, there is likely an application that fits your needs.

Ask yourself:

- How many engines are on your vessel?
- Where do you intend to mount the hardware (under the cowl or at the helm)?
- What level of connectivity do you require (mobile app only or NMEA® capability plus the app)?



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Q: Can I use SmartCraft Connect with my VesselView Link or VesselView Displays?

No, SmartCraft® Connect is not compatible with VesselView Link or VesselView 403, 502, 703 or 903 displays. When connected to the same NMEA 2000® or SmartCraft network, these devices operating together may cause communication errors. It is compatible with the VesselView 704 display. SmartCraft Connect Mobile delivers engine data directly to a mobile device and does not require connection to the NMEA network.

Q: What displays are compatible with SmartCraft Connect?

SmartCraft® Connect single- and multi-engine models are compatible with a variety of displays from leading brands, including:

- Navico® (Simrad®) – NEON™-based displays (NSX® and NSS 4™)
- Garmin® – GPSMAP®, TD 50 and NMEA 2000® capable ECHOMAP™
- Raymarine® – LightHouse displays

Some units and software versions may not support all capabilities. Visit the MFD manufacturer's website to confirm compatibility. SmartCraft Connect Mobile cannot share data with displays.

Q: What does it mean when a display is compatible with SmartCraft Connect?

When SmartCraft Connect and a compatible display are installed and connected via the boat's NMEA® network, the display can present the Mercury VesselView® user interface and live engine performance data. Some displays also allow access to SmartCraft features like Troll Control, Cruise Control, Skyhook®, Autopilot and Smart Tow® (additional hardware often required).

Certain displays (e.g., FURUNO® and Humminbird®) may only show basic engine data through the NMEA network and not the full VesselView experience.

Q: Can I use SmartCraft Connect Mobile with VesselView Mobile?

Yes. SmartCraft Connect Mobile and VesselView Mobile hardware are compatible and can provide similar data to a mobile device. However, Mercury has stopped manufacturing VesselView Mobile hardware and no longer updates the VesselView Mobile app. While existing VesselView Mobile hardware can stream data to both the VesselView Mobile and Mercury Marine apps, Mercury recommends transitioning to SmartCraft Connect Mobile and the Mercury Marine app for continued feature updates.



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Installation and Setup

Q: How do I install SmartCraft Connect?

SmartCraft® Connect plugs into the Mercury Marine 10-pin port either on the engine (under-cowl models) or a Mercury junction box at the helm (under-helm models). Non-Mobile/standard models also connect to an NMEA® network port if applicable. Basic steps:

1. Identify the installation location and remove the weather cap from the 10-pin port on the engine or junction box.
2. Firmly press the 10-pin connection of the SmartCraft Connect hardware onto the port until it clicks in place.
3. If applicable, connect the NMEA connector from the SmartCraft Connect hardware to an open space on the NMEA backbone.
4. Secure the module using supplied cable ties or screws.

Installation tips:

- If installing on the engine, mount as high as possible.
- Keep the module away from moving parts and high-heat components.
- Avoid mounting near high-output electrical components such as spark plugs/wires or alternators.

Q: When do I need to calibrate the system, and what app do I use?

Calibration is performed through the SmartCraft® Manager app and is required only when using SmartCraft Connect (non-Mobile) with a compatible multi-function display. Calibration is typically part of initial setup and is generally not needed unless you add or replace sensors (e.g., fuel or trim senders).

Q: When do I need to use the SmartCraft Manager app?

The SmartCraft® Manager app is required only during setup or when configuring optional sensors and calibrating fuel tanks for compatible MFDs. It also allows you to select engine types and supports over-the-air (OTA) updates. If SmartCraft Connect was pre-installed by the boat manufacturer or dealer, this setup may already be completed.



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Q: Do I need to create an account to use SmartCraft Connect

Yes. You must create an account within the Mercury Marine app to use SmartCraft® Connect. The account ensures accurate information is linked to you and your vessel, and it helps ensure only authorized vessel owners can make changes to propulsion configurations. Mercury is committed to data security and does not sell or share your information with third parties.

Apps Overview

Q: What app do I need to use SmartCraft Connect?

SmartCraft® Connect (including SmartCraft Connect Mobile) is compatible with the Mercury Marine app. The SmartCraft Manager app is used for initial setup when connecting to displays. Note: The VesselView Mobile app is not compatible with SmartCraft Connect hardware.

Q: I have SmartCraft Connect Mobile. Do I need the Mercury Marine app and SmartCraft Manager app?

No. If you have SmartCraft® Connect Mobile, you only need the Mercury Marine app. The SmartCraft Manager app is only required when configuring a connection between a standard (non-Mobile) SmartCraft Connect device and a compatible multi-function display.

Q: What apps are available from Mercury in the app store?

In the app store, you will likely see three apps from Mercury:

- Mercury Marine app – This is the latest, most advanced consumer app, compatible with SmartCraft Connect, SmartCraft Connect Mobile and VesselView Mobile hardware. All new app features and capabilities will be added to the Mercury Marine app exclusively.
- VesselView Mobile app – This app is still supported but no longer being updated. It is compatible only with VesselView Mobile hardware.
- SmartCraft Manager app – For consumers, this app is only needed when configuring a connection to a compatible multi-function display. It is compatible only with SmartCraft Connect (non-Mobile) hardware.



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Q: What app can I use with VesselView Mobile hardware?

Mercury VesselView Mobile® hardware is compatible with both the original VesselView Mobile app and the Mercury Marine app. Mercury is transitioning from VesselView Mobile to the Mercury Marine app.

Q: What is the Mercury Marine app?

The Mercury Marine app is Mercury's latest mobile app solution that provides powerful engine data, maintenance tracking, preferred dealer tools, GPS mapping and much more. Without SmartCraft Connect, the app offers warranty tracking, engine manuals, product information and maintenance tracking. With SmartCraft Connect, it streams live performance data and other advanced features wirelessly from your propulsion system.

Q: Why is the Mercury Marine app beneficial?

The Mercury Marine app is your ultimate digital boating companion. It provides quick assistance and access to information such as warranty data, owner's manuals, parts and specs, dealers, service schedules, maintenance tracking and more. When connected to SmartCraft® Connect, the app can also stream live performance data, gauges and fuel tracking, while providing the ability to share data with your dealer.

Q: Can I use the Mercury Marine app even if I don't have SmartCraft Connect?

Yes, the Mercury Marine app provides all Mercury owners with helpful tools. Even without connected hardware, you can access information such as warranty details, manuals, tutorials, videos and maintenance tracking. Adding SmartCraft® Connect enables you to stream live performance data and access other advanced features.

5. Using the Mercury Marine App

Q: How do I use the app's features?

Adding product:

- There is no limit to the number of vessels you can add. To add a product, select (+) on the Vessels page. If you have SmartCraft Connect, search for the device's Bluetooth signal and connect. If you do not have SmartCraft Connect, enter your engine serial number.



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Accessing Live Data:

- Ensure the ignition key is in the on position. Open the app and select Connect. Once connected, data can be viewed in real time on the Live Data tab.

Adding engine Deep Dive Data:

- In the Live Data page, select (>) in the upper-right corner of the Data box. This opens the Deep Dive Data page. Press and hold the desired data item to drag it to the top of the list; top items appear on the main Live Data page.

Accessing Deep Dive Fuel Data:

- In the Live Data page, select (>) in the upper-right corner of the Fuel Data box and drag items to reorder which fuel data appear on the main Live Data page.

Adding fuel:

- When connected to SmartCraft Connect, fuel can be added from either the Home screen or Live Data page. If not connected, go to the Vessels tab, select the fuel bar, and complete the pop-up form.

Viewing and tracking maintenance:

- In the Vessels tab, click the Maintenance bar to open the Maintenance page. Click the Maintenance status window to view individual items. To record maintenance, select Record Maintenance and follow prompts for 100- or 300-hour service. The Maintenance page also includes videos, specs and dealer info.

Accessing charts, POIs, overlays:

- Select the Charts tab for on-water navigation. Use the Pin icon to enable key points of interest and the Layers icon to enable Range and Data layers on the map.

Q: How do I access more engine or fuel parameters in the Live Data page?

Tap the (>) symbol in the upper-right corner of the data box to open the More Data menu. This menu can be customized to show up to seven additional engine data parameters. To access the additional parameters, tap the gear icon in the upper-right corner. You can organize parameters by pressing and holding the value; the topmost item will appear on the main Live Data page. Note: available parameters depend on engine model.



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Connectivity and Compatibility

Q: Can I use SmartCraft Connect and the Mercury Marine app while streaming music?

Yes, you can stream music while using the Mercury Marine app and when it's connected to SmartCraft® Connect hardware.

Q: Why does trim not show in data on the Mercury Marine app or my connected display?

Mercury 40-115hp engines do not include digital trim senders that can be read by SmartCraft® Connect. To see this information on your display or mobile device, Mercury offers digital conversion kits. Ask your Mercury Authorized Dealer which product is correct for your engine. After installing a digital trim sender, configure it using the SmartCraft Manager app.

Troubleshooting and Support

Q: Will SmartCraft Connect replace VesselView Link?

SmartCraft Connect provides many of the same functions as VesselView® Link and adds wireless connectivity to the Mercury Marine app, but it is not a direct replacement. VesselView Link and SmartCraft Connect are incompatible on the same vessel.

Q: Why doesn't trim data show on the app or display?

Trim data won't show on certain engines (typically 40-115hp) because those engines lack digital trim senders. Installing a digital trim sender conversion kit and then configuring it via the SmartCraft Manager app will enable trim data.

Q: Can I use SmartCraft Connect and VesselView Link together?

No. SmartCraft Connect and VesselView Link may conflict when connected to the same NMEA/SmartCraft network. They are not intended to operate together on the same boat.

For additional support, contact your Mercury Authorized Dealer or Mercury Customer Support