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# Can I patent my invention?

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#### **Basic Criteria**

To be able to validly protect your invention using a patent, your invention must meet three basic criteria:

- 1. The invention must be new.
- 2. The invention must be inventive (i.e. not be obvious).
- 3. The invention must be patentable subject matter (e.g. the invention must address a technical problem with a technical solution).

Ideally, the invention should not have been disclosed to the public prior to filing a patent application. If it has, it may still be possible to protect your invention with a patent in certain jurisdictions (e.g. Australia, United States) if a complete patent application is filed within certain timeframes of the first disclosure.

The patent process can be a complex process, but can be easily navigated with the assistance of a patent attorney.

#### **About Spruson & Ferguson**

Spruson & Ferguson is a leading provider of intellectual property (IP) services across the Asia-Pacific Region, with more than 480 staff working from our offices in Bangkok, Beijing, Brisbane, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Melbourne, Singapore and Sydney.

Spruson & Ferguson provides a comprehensive range of services for the protection, commercialisation, enforcement and management of all forms of intellectual property including patents, trade marks and designs.

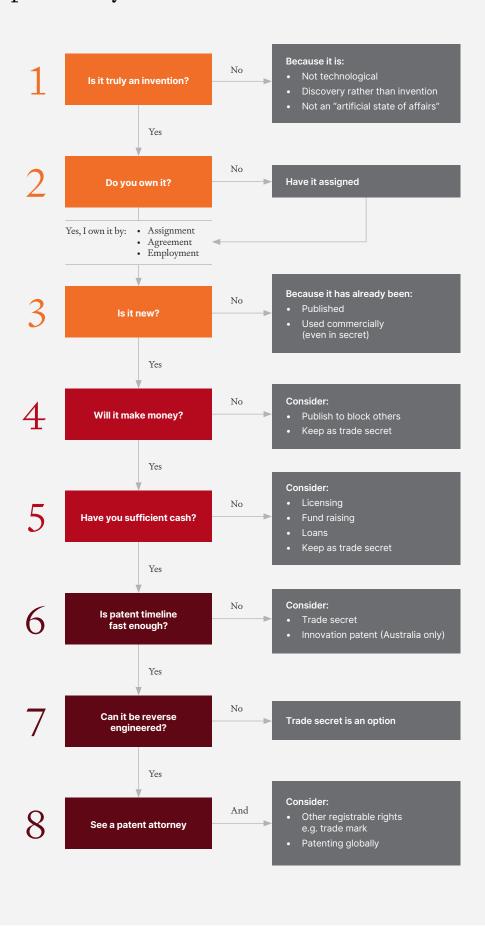
Please contact us to discuss your IP needs:

P +61 2 9393 0100

E mail.au@spruson.com

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## Our offices

#### Bangkok

Telephone: +66 2 256 9164 Email: mail.asja@spruson.com

#### Beijing

Telephone: +86 10 8225 5655 Email: mail.hk@spruson.com

#### Brisbane

Telephone: +61 7 3011 2200 Email: mail.au@spruson.com

#### **Hong Kong**

Telephone: +852 2161 9999 Email: mail.hk@spruson.com

#### Jakarta

Telephone: +62 21 252 3853 Email: mail.asia@spruson.com

#### Kuala Lumpur

Telephone: +60 3 2283 1668 Email: mail.asia@spruson.com

#### Manila

Telephone: +63 282 467 750 Email: mail.asia@spruson.com

#### Melbourne

Telephone: +61 3 8637 7131 Email: mail.au@spruson.com

#### Singapore

Telephone: +65 6333 7200 Email: mail.asia@spruson.com

#### Sydney

Telephone: +61 2 9393 0100 Email: mail.au@spruson.com

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