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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.

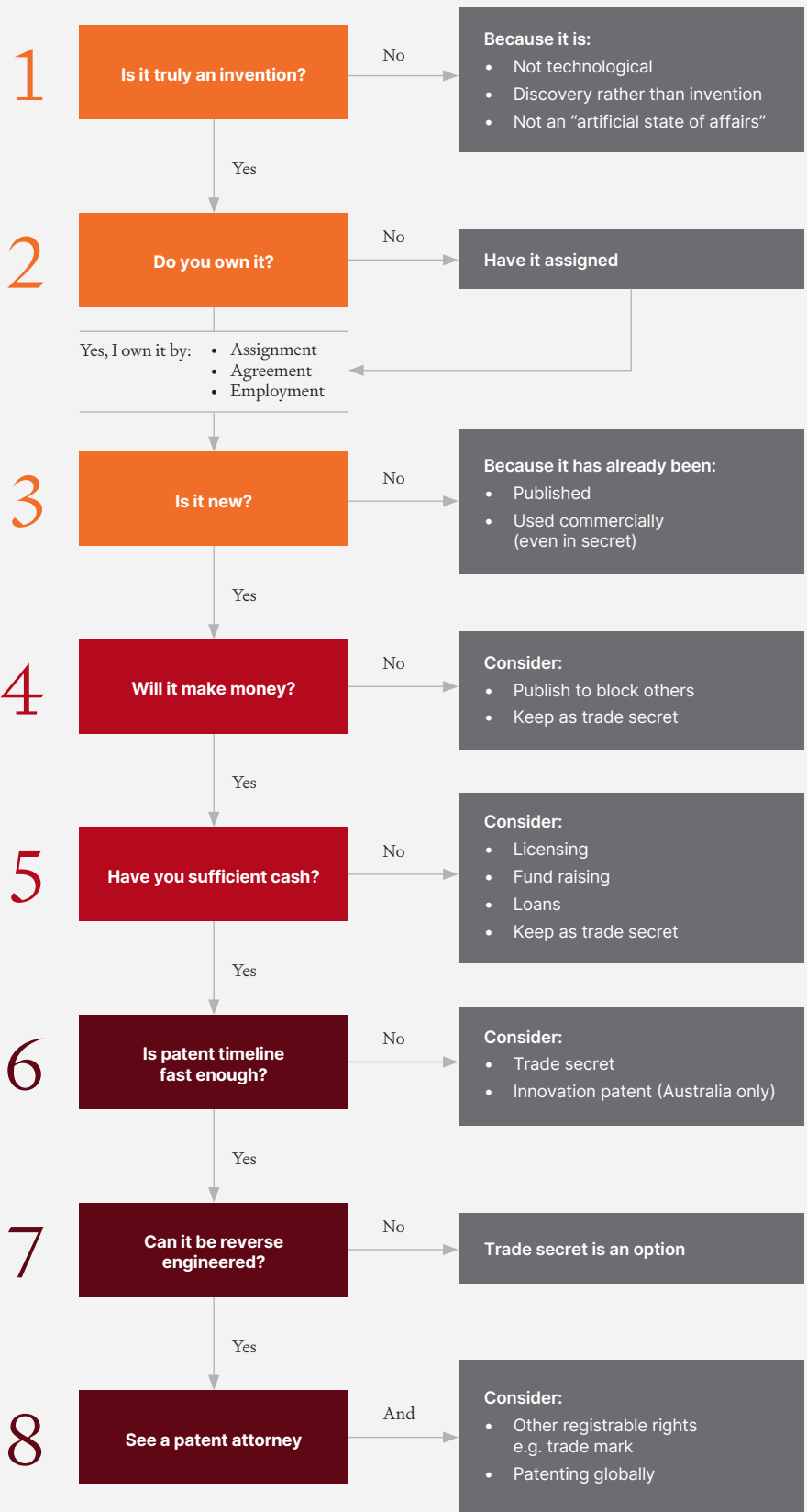
Spruson & Ferguson provides a comprehensive range of services for the protection, commercialisation, enforcement and management of all forms of intellectual property including patents, trade marks and designs.

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