

Maxum 2200 SR₃

Lots of great boats are introduced each year, but once in awhile a model leaps out of the fleet and shouts: "Hey there, I've got something new!"

Maxum is one of the brands of the Brunswick Boat Group of Knoxville, TN. These are the big guys — sister brands include Bayliner, Sea Ray, Baja, Boston Whaler and Princecraft.

Clearly, the Maxum team wants to stand out and offer a unique product, so it has designed the 3 Series — a quartet of models that add extra beam (eight feet six inches on the 2200), extended swim platforms and fresh styling to the established line of sport boats.

The new 2200 SR₃ yummies up an enticing combo of speedy performance and *bling bling*. I confess I love this boat, so read on through my rose-coloured glasses.

OUTER SPACE To be fair, it measures an inch shy of 24 feet overall, counting the two-foot swim platform extension, so the 2200 name is a trifle deceiving. (A more traditional design, the Maxum 2100 is 21 feet six inches overall for comparison, with its swim platform integrated in the transom.) You need to understand this when you step aboard or you'll be totally confounded by the wide-open space. Not your uncle's 23.

A lot of the credit for the racy lines comes from the design of the back end; the low bustle looks like a Depression-era roadster with a sculpted trunk used for storing fins and water toys. A freshwater shower completes the back end.

ABOVE, RIGHT:

Protected by a plexi glare shield, the dash includes brushed aluminum gauges and positive-matching toggle switches for lights and horn.

Let's go forward, where the fairly conventional (can't have everything rad) bowrider area provides good seating, and under-seat storage is the norm. A filler cushion converts the space into a sunpad — clearly a priority on this boat.

Over the engine, as with many runabouts, is another sunpad. Extended right across the stern with the filler cushion over the aft walk-thru, this one is extremely spacious. Using a supporting strut to form a chaise, the portside section of the pad folds up. Pass the lemonade and wake me when I start to turn pink!





CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP, LEFT:

What good is a sport boat without an in-floor ski locker? This one is large enough to stow loads of equipment.

In the portside hatch with the draining cooler, refreshments are only an arm's length away.

Watersports accessories neatly disappear into a sculpted trunk easily accessible from the swim platform.

Remove the starboard section, and it's an easy walk to the swim platform, which features a hidden swim ladder and a stereo remote.

Under the cushy sunpad is the engine compartment, with easy access space and storage for the cockpit table used in either the bow pedestal or cockpit rider area.

DASHING Another distinctive and seductive touch is the dash. Brushed aluminum gauges are clustered in a distinctive triptych with positive-matching toggle switches for lights and horn, and a matching high-tech tilt steering wheel. A small plexi glare shield is a spiffy touch.

Seating in our review boat is lounge style, and while most hard cases prefer buckets (three configurations are available), I find these comfortable enough. I have yet to see anyone lounge on a lounge, but perhaps I don't get out enough.

Two hatches are located where you normally find the glove box on the passenger side. One is a conventional box with sound system, 12-volt outlet and space for keys and shades. The other is a draining cooler right where it's needed. Here, too, curvy lids and styling continue the sweet look.

Rounding out the list of delightful finds are the in-floor ski locker, side storage pockets and drink holders.

DANCING Fortunately, performance does not play second fiddle to the *cha-cha* looks of the 2200. With the optional 250-hp MerCruiser 5.7L Alpha I, the boat is off across the lake with the high kick of a true sport boat. Not that I'm a speed addict or anything, but as we get close to 5000 rpm I am delighted to watch the speedo top 50 mph. The ride is stable and the tracking excellent thanks to a fairly deep-V forward with flat exit and well-placed strakes for control. The factory quotes top speed with the stock engine at nearly 50, or a gentler 35 mph at about 3500 revs.

The Maxum 2200 SR₃ is the most interesting boat in its class to come down the lake in some time. For style, it's a new standard with abundant pep and verve. If you are after a craft to add zing to your cottage experience, this boat shouldn't be missed. Anyone in the market for a hot runabout should crisply hightail it to the local Maxum store and try this sweetheart on for size.

Ray Winch

SPECIFICATIONS

MAXUM 2200 SR₃

LOA:	7.29m/23'11"
Beam:	2.59m/8'6"
Weight (with engine):	1,529kg/3,370lbs.
Deadrise:	20 degrees
Hull:	Fibreglass
Passenger capacity:	12
Fuel capacity:	189.3L/50gal. US
Power (standard):	MerCruiser 5.0L Alpha I 220hp
Power (as reviewed):	MerCruiser 5.7L Alpha I 250hp
Retail price (base):	\$40,700 (Prices in Canadian
Retail price (as reviewed):	\$43,700 Dollars)

Quoted setup may not be exactly as depicted in photos.

REVIEW BOAT PROVIDED BY

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