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## Which SEI Bravo Replacement Do You Need?

*A step-by-step guide to pinning down the right Bravo One, Two, or Three drive — ratio, case style, oil system and all — before you place the order.*

“Bravo” isn’t one drive — it’s a family. So when a MerCruiser® Bravo® fails and you go to order a replacement, “I need a Bravo” isn’t enough to get the right part to your door. Bravo One, Bravo Two, and Bravo Three look broadly similar at a glance but are built for different jobs, turn different props, and run different gear ratios — and within each, the ratio and the drive’s oil system determine what will actually bolt up. Order the wrong one and you’re looking at a return or a re-prop. This guide walks you through identifying exactly which SEI Bravo replacement your boat needs.

### Start Here: One Upper, Three Lowers

The most useful thing to understand about the Bravo family is that all three models share the same upper-unit series. What makes a drive a Bravo One, Two, or Three is the lower unit — so identification starts at the back of the drive. Here’s what SEI supplies, which also shapes how you order:

- Bravo One — available as a complete drive, or as a lower or upper unit.
- Bravo Two — built for larger, heavier boats, its lower swings a propeller up to 20" in diameter. SEI supplies the upper unit only (there is no SEI Bravo Two lower), so you reuse or source the lower separately.
- Bravo Three — available as a complete drive, or as a lower or upper unit (the SE128 series).

### Step 1: Count the Propellers

The fastest split in the whole process:

- Two propellers (dual-prop) = Bravo Three. Always. No other Bravo runs twin counter-rotating props.
- One propeller = Bravo One or Bravo Two. Move to Step 2.

### Step 2: Count the Propshaft Splines

For a single-prop drive, the propshaft spline count separates Bravo One from Bravo Two (and the high-performance variants):

- 15 splines = Bravo One
- 19 splines = Bravo Two (also the XR and HP variants)

Count carefully — this one number decides which family of parts you’re ordering, and 15 vs. 19 is an easy miscount if you rush it.

### Step 3: Nail Down Your Gear Ratio

Ratio is where the most expensive mistakes happen. Get the model right but the ratio wrong, and your prop is now mismatched to your engine — pushing your wide-open-throttle RPM out of spec and forcing a re-prop on top of the drive cost. Each Bravo runs its own set of ratios:

- Bravo One: 1.36, 1.50, or 1.65
- Bravo Two: 1.50, 1.65, 1.81, 2.00, or 2.20
- Bravo Three: 1.36, 1.50, 1.65, 1.81, 2.00, 2.20, or 2.43

**Pro Tip:** Don't guess your ratio from engine size or "what usually came on this boat." The drive serial number is the authority — it decodes to the exact ratio your unit was built with. The transom serial number will not tell you the ratio; you need the number off the drive itself. If you can't read it, SEI can help you confirm before you order.

### Bravo One Lowers: Single vs. Dual Water Inlet

Bravo One lowers come with a single water inlet (90-121-02) or a dual water inlet (90-122-02). The two are interchangeable — check which your original drive has and match it, or step up to the dual inlet, which is perfectly fine and gives you increased water cooling.

- Single water inlet has a set of intake holes on the sides of the lower unit.
- Dual water inlet has those side holes plus inlets at the front of the case bullet.

### Upper Case Shape: Original vs. Sweptback

Over the years the Bravo upper case changed from the original profile to the more streamlined "sweptback" shape. SEI's SE121 upper has the sweptback appearance, and it is compatible with the older-shaped drives in most instances. The important caveat: case shape is a separate matter from the drive's oil system (covered next), and you cannot tell which oil system you have by looking at the shape. Always confirm with the oil-recirculation check below before deciding whether you can replace just one half.

### The Oil Recirculation System — The Real Compatibility Check

This is the factor that actually decides whether you can replace a single half of your drive or must replace the whole thing. Starting in 1991, Bravo drives use an internal oil recirculation system — passages cast into the cases that circulate gear lube between the lower and upper. Earlier drives don't have it. You can't see this from the outside: separate the upper and lower and look at the mating surfaces — the top face of the lower case and the bottom face of the upper — for the oil recirculation hole.

- No recirculation hole (early and intermediate styles, 1988–1990): the halves don't share the recirc passages, so you must replace the complete drive — you can't swap in just an upper or a lower.
- Recirculation hole present (1991 to current): you can replace just the upper or lower half.

Because the two systems aren't compatible, never mix a recirc half with a non-recirc half. And since all sweptback cases are 1991-or-newer, a sweptback SE121 upper will replace an older-shaped upper as long as that drive already has the recirculation system.

**Important:** Check the mating surfaces on both halves for the oil recirculation hole before assuming a half-swap is possible. 1988–1990 early and intermediate styles lack it and require a complete drive replacement. 1991-to-current styles have it and allow a half-only swap.

## Don't Forget These When You Order

- No water pump in the drive. Unlike many lower units, Bravo drives don't carry a water pump — don't expect one in the box.
- Order the installation kit. It's the single most-forgotten item on a complete-drive order, and you'll want it in hand before you start.

## Side-by-Side: Bravo One, Two, Three

Factor	Bravo One	Bravo Two	Bravo Three
Propellers	One	One	Two (dual)
Propshaft splines	15	19	— (ID by twin props)
Gear ratios	1.36 / 1.50 / 1.65	1.50 / 1.65 / 1.81 / 2.00 / 2.20	1.36 / 1.50 / 1.65 / 1.81 / 2.00 / 2.20 / 2.43
What SEI supplies	Complete drive, or lower / upper	Upper only (no SEI lower)	Complete drive, or lower / upper (SE128)
Watch for	Single or dual inlet (interchangeable)	Source the lower separately	Dual-prop; aluminum carrier

## Bottom Line

Identifying the right SEI Bravo replacement comes down to a short, ordered checklist: count the props (two = Bravo Three), count the splines on a single-prop drive (15 = Bravo One, 19 = Bravo Two), confirm your gear ratio from the drive serial number, and — before you replace just a half — separate the cases and check for the oil recirculation hole. Get those right and a new SEI Bravo is a direct, bolt-on replacement backed by SEI's 3-year fault-free warranty, without the guesswork, the wrong-part returns, or the surprise re-prop bill.

If any step leaves you unsure — especially the ratio or the oil-system check — confirm with SEI before you order. Getting it right the first time is far cheaper than shipping a drive back.

## Bravo Application & Part-Number Chart

Find your drive in the rows below for the matching SEI upper, lower, and complete-drive part numbers.

Description	Ratio	Gear Ct. Upper	Gear Ct. Lower	SEI Upper	SEI Lower	Complete
Bravo One (Single Inlet)	1.36:1	29/27	15/19	90-121-01C	90-121-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo One (Single Inlet)	1.50:1	32/27	15/19	90-121-01B	90-121-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo One (Single Inlet)	1.65:1	30/23	15/19	90-121-01A	90-121-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo One (Dual Inlet)	1.36:1	29/27	15/19	90-121-01C	90-122-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo One (Dual Inlet)	1.50:1	32/27	15/19	90-121-01B	90-122-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo One (Dual Inlet)	1.65:1	30/23	15/19	90-121-01A	90-122-02	SE121 Complete
Bravo Two	1.50:1	29/27	18/25	90-121-01C	N/A	N/A

Bravo Two	1.65:1	32/27	18/25	90-121-01B	N/A	N/A
Bravo Two	1.81:1	29/27	16/27	90-121-01C	N/A	N/A
Bravo Two	2.00:1	32/27	16/27	90-121-01B	N/A	N/A
Bravo Two	2.20:1	30/23	16/27	90-121-01A	N/A	N/A
Bravo Three	1.36:1	29/27	15/19	90-121-01C	90-128-02AA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	1.50:1	32/27	15/19	90-121-01B	90-128-02AA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	1.65:1	32/27	18/25	90-121-01B	90-128-02BA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	1.81:1	29/27	16/27	90-121-01C	90-128-02CA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	2.00:1	32/27	16/27	90-121-01B	90-128-02CA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	2.20:1	30/23	16/27	90-121-01A	90-128-02CA	SE128 Complete
Bravo Three	2.43:1	30/23	13/24	90-121-01A	90-128-02DA	SE128 Complete

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## Ready to Order or Have Questions?

SEI Marine Products sells direct to dealers and retail customers.

Shop Bravo replacements: [sterndrive.cc](http://sterndrive.cc)

Call or text: 813-925-7127 (Mon–Fri, 8am–5pm ET)

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