

# PNR STATUS GUIDE

Guide to IRCTC pnr status checking and booking. Including tips and tricks.

by: <http://irctc-pnr-status.com/>

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## 1-PNR STATUS EXPLAINED

The PNR status of your IRCTC or Indian Railway ticket can easily be checked on our website. Just enter your PNR number and click the button where indicated. A new window will appear showing your current status.

## What is PNR status and what does it tell me?



*pnr status details : the actual pnr status of the ticket*

PNR status is the status of your booking. It tells you whether your ticket is confirmed, wait listed, reserved, etc.

## When do I need to know my PNR status?

When traveling by train in India, you may find that your train ticket is on a waitlist. This is quite common and to find out whether your ticket is confirmed you need to check your current *PNR status* . You can easily do this online at [www.irctc-pnr-status.com](http://www.irctc-pnr-status.com) . To see the current status of your train ticket on the IRCTC booking system waitlist, just use the form at the top of this page.

## What does “PNR number” mean?



*pnr number on Indian Railways ticket*

PNR stands for “passenger name record” and it tells you your current status on the WL (waitlist) or RAC (reservation against cancellation queue). If you buy a WL ticket or an RAC ticket, you will be assigned a unique 10-digit [PNR number](#) .

## 3 ways of checking of Indian Railways pnr status

There are three ways to check your PNR status:

1. Online via your PC
2. Via SMS service
3. Via a smartphone app

### Online via your PC

The easiest way to check your PNR status is to submit a request on our website [www.irctc-pnr-status.com](http://www.irctc-pnr-status.com) or on official Indian Railways website.

### Via SMS service:

Using SMS service Check your PNR status by sending an SMS in one of the following formats:

- your 10-digit PNR number to 139
- your 10-digit PNR number to 5676747

Note: the correct format of the sms text is '9876543210' (sample number – use your unique PNR number). Note that you just need to type your 10-digit PNR number.

## Via a smartphone app

Using smartphone apps to check PNR status Internet-connected smartphones and tablets are commonly used so we have listed the following helpful apps for checking your PNR status:

### Android apps:

One of the best is "[PNR status app](#)", which you can download from the Google Play store.

### iPhone app

There is no dedicated iPhone app to date (10/2014). We will let you know once one is available!

## PNR status and railway reservations explained step by step ...

### WL and RAC

When all available seats on a train are sold, the railway ( [Indian Railway](#) or [IRCTC](#) ) releases RACs for railway reservations. Once all of those are sold, WL tickets are released. On almost every train, tickets are canceled for a variety of reasons. These cancellations can get you on the train if you bought an RAC or WL ticket. When the reservation chart of a particular train is ready (usually meaning that the train is due to depart in a few hours) and there are still some available tickets in different quotas, those will be given to RAC/WL ticket holders.



passenger details on Indian Railways ticket



seat class of the Indian Railways ticket

Here is an example of a railway reservation situation. Tickets are sold in the following order:

1. Available 02
2. Available 01
3. RAC 01
4. RAC 02
5. RAC 03
6. RAC 04
7. WL 01

## 8. WL 02

### **Understanding your ticket and WL number of PNR status**

On your ticket, there are two numbers. They tell you the position at which you joined the waitlist and your current position – in this order. Here is an example:

You are booking a ticket online (Indian Railway, IRCTC, etc...). You find the train and class/seat/berth that you want along with the date and time. At the end of the reservation, you buy a ticket with WL5/WL2.

In this example you joined the WL at position 5, but by the time you actually bought the ticket online you moved to position 2 (due either to a cancellation or to someone not making a final booking). The first number will stay the same – it indicates when you JOINED the queue. The second number will decrease until you get a ticket (hopefully).

Your railway reservation could look like:

- WL 5/WL 2 (this is your starting position)
- WL 5/WL 1
- WL 5/RAC 3
- WL 5/RAC 2
- WL 5/RAC 1
- WL 5/CNF

WL 5/WL 2 = Waitlist ticket: you cannot board the train.

WL 5/RAC 3 = RAC ticket: you are allowed to board the train, but you may end up on a seat instead of a berth.

WL 5/CNF = Confirmed ticket: you can board the train and you have a berth to yourself.

## **WL and RAC refunds**

If your train is ready for departure and its reservation chart is finalized, the cost of your WL ticket will be automatically refunded to your bank account.

NOTE: There can be significant movement on the waitlist on the very last day, so you may get an RAC status at the last minute. In such a case, you will not get a refund, as an RAC is actually a boarding ticket.

## **2-BOOKING EXPLAINED**

### **Booking guide**

If you plan to book a ticket for an Indian Railway train, do it soon. It doesn't really matter where and how you do it, but if you want to be sure you get a ticket there is no better advice than to plan your journey in advance and make the reservation as soon as possible – this means the very first day the train tickets are being sold.

### **Booking at the railway station**

You need to find the nearest train station, fill in the relevant form and wait in a queue. As these queues tend to be very long, we recommend that you make the reservation online. If you have no option but to book your ticket in person, [here is the list of all railway stations in India](#)

### **Booking online**

Learn how to book a ticket with IRCTC using our [railway reservation](#) guide.

## Last-minute booking

If for any reason you do not have a ticket and your journey is just a few days away, there still is a chance to get one. This option is called Tatkal ticket and here is the [Tatkal booking](#).

## 3-HOW WL POSITION IMPROVES

### Is my RAC or WL position likely to improve? When?

WL and RAC positions always improve, but this depends on a number of factors. The main factor is how far in advance you booked your ticket. Later we will tell you how to see if it is even possible to become confirmed if you have a WL position.

### Here are the top 3 ways a WL/RAC ticket position can improve:

Many tickets are cancelled due to the fact that the cancellation fee is very low. For this reason, people who are not 100% certain when they are traveling will book a number of tickets for one itinerary and then later, when they have decided exactly which train to take, they cancel the rest. This is when your ticket improves its position.

1. All trains eligible for online reservations have different quotas; these seats are reserved for various people – government employees, military employees, rail employees, the handicapped and a few others. Often these tickets are not sold and this is another reason why a WL position can improve.
2. Ticket holders can upgrade free of charge to a higher class (up to two classes higher than originally booked). When the final reservation chart is calculated and there are available seats in the higher classes, passengers may move to those classes, making their original seats available.



Exception: During Indian holidays, all trains in general, and some busy trains in particular, can be sold out virtually within a minute after they are released for online booking. On those trains, the wait lists are very long and the chance of getting a confirmed ticket is low.

### **Can I check if my WL position has improved? PNR status check.**

Along with your ticket, you receive a unique PNR number. This is printed on the upper right corner of your ticket and contains 10 digits. You use this PNR number to check your current status.

- Click [here](#) to enter your PNR number and check your status.

## **4-PNR NUMBER EXPLAINED**

### **PNR number explained**

The PNR number (passenger name record) is a 10-digit number printed on the upper right corner of your Indian Railway ticket. (It used to be divided into 2 parts, 3+7 digits, but no longer...)

This PNR number gives you the ability to check your PNR status online.

There are five main items of information that will be printed on your issued ticket:

1. Passenger name
2. Travel agent details
3. Ticket details – ticket number
4. Itinerary

5. Name of the person booking the ticket

[Here](#) you can read a more detailed explanation of the PNR number information.

(source=wikipedia.org)

## 5-APPENDIX

This Guide is brought to you by <http://irctc-pnr-status.com/>. We are proud to offer complex information on PNR status subject since 2012.

### About Us

We aim to provide you with an easy way of checking your PNR status as well as extended information about Indian Railways.

The “www.Irctc-Pnr-Status.com” website is not affiliated with The Ministry of Railways of India or Government of India in any way.

“www.Irctc-Pnr-Status.com” does not reproduce, transmit, or store any information, data and content from the official website of Indian Railways .

Our purpose is to provide the public with extensive information about ticket booking and PNR status checking.

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