

# Prospective Buyers Pre-Purchase Check Sheet



We would love to help you with your pre-auto purchase. We have created a list of steps you can do on your own which will aid your mechanic and help you to narrow down your choices to just one or two vehicles. Once you have completed the pre-auto purchase, come into 27<sup>th</sup> St. Automotive with the Prospective Buyers Pre-Purchase Check Sheet. 27<sup>th</sup> Street Automotive will complete a thorough pre-purchase inspection for you and note any concerns you mentioned in the Prospective Buyers Pre-Purchase Check Sheet. **[Note: This form should be used to aid you in the purchase of a pre-used vehicle and is by no means a replacement for a pre-purchase inspection]**

Model:

Mileage:

Engine Type:\_\_\_Trans:

4x4:

	Item	Comments
1	Examine exterior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Make sure the vehicles doors fit accordingly and excessive gaps between the door and frame do not exist.</li> <li>b. B. Examine the vehicle paint and look for any peeling of the clear coat or excessive wear in isolated areas, these could indicate bodywork was done on the vehicle (post-accident repairs).</li> </ul>	
2	Visually inspect - as best you can - the underside of the vehicle. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Checking axels by tires for any rubber components. You will be looking for cracks in rubber housings; and leaks/ build-up of gunk on any parts. Looking also for metal crimping or any irregular fastenings of components or parts.</li> <li>b. Examine exhaust for excessive rust and perforations. Note any excessive rust under the car and rims.</li> <li>c. Drive and evaluate. When driving listen for noises coming from the suspension (undercarriage) by driving over bumps.</li> <li>d. Look again under vehicle after the test drive for oil leaks.</li> </ul>	
3	Visually check tires for tread depth and wear pattern. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check to make sure your vehicle is equipped with a spare tire and its treads are good and is holding the proper amount of air.</li> </ul>	
4	Overall broad scan of engine compartment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check means by which the hood stays open.</li> <li>b. Inspect underside of hood padding for any chemical residue or burn markings.</li> <li>c. Scan and touch a COOL engine and shake the hoses and coverings to make sure all fastenings are functioning.</li> <li>d. If you can identify the water pump, belt, fan clutch, electric fan do so. Look for noticeable damage to housing, tubes, lines, and hoses.</li> </ul>	
5	Suspension. While vehicle is level press down at each corner of the vehicle above the tires. Check for any creaking noises or excessive bouncing. This might indicate degenerating shocks/suspension concerns.	

6	<p>Battery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check and note battery type and any dates upon battery.</li> <li>b. Look at the battery cables/lines (visual only). Look for corrosion, split wiring/jerry-rigging, rust and fasteners</li> </ul>	
7	<p>Upon driving vehicle perform a slow speed fast stop in a safe place, such as a parking lot free of other vehicles. Note any noises or shuddering of gas pedal or steering wheel.</p>	
8	<p>Examine engine oil condition and service interval documentation. Oil dipstick should note proper fill line and color should be transparent with slight viscosity.</p>	
9	<p>Examine timing belt/fan belt documentation (if any). In engine compartment complete a visual inspection of the timing-belt and serpentine belt. (not all Cars have timing belts) . Note any cracks or tears/sheering.</p>	
10	<p>Window operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Do they open with ease?</li> <li>b. Check for unusual motor noise when rolling up and down.</li> </ul>	
11	<p>Documentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check maintenance documentation.</li> <li>b. Does the vehicle need 30-60-90-120k-___service?</li> <li>c. Check for any and all work completed on car and any transferable warranties. Manufacturers recommended oil changes are crucial as are belt changes-look for these documents.</li> </ul>	
12	<p>Accidents/Body Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check CarFax or other reporting source regarding the vehicles accident history.</li> <li>b. Inquire whether or not the airbags have been deployed and if so, have they been replaced.</li> <li>c. Make sure all seats move as they should and lock in place.</li> </ul>	
13	<p>Gauges and Engine Lights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Check gauges, dash light, horn, and sunroof, test panic button and auto door opener.</li> <li>b. Upon starting the vehicle make sure ALL gauge lights come on then turn off.</li> <li>c. Test all turn signals, headlights (high/low), parking lights, interior and vanity lights, as well as visors, rear and side view mirrors.</li> <li>d. Check emergency brake and go through all gears on both automatic and standard and make sure it flows easily.</li> <li>e. Make sure the check engine light works and it turns off after engine has been running for a few seconds. Be aware sellers can have the check engine light turned off in an attempt to deceive a buyer, when this happens the check engine light will turn on again after a few drive cycles.</li> </ul>	
14	<p>Emissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is the vehicle compliant and up to date with emissions?</li> </ul>	

15	Heater and AC Vent and Operation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. AC should cool within a short period of time. Test all fan speeds and vent outlets (Note Smells, Noises and Strength Of Flow).</li> <li>b. Heater should be operational, test while the vehicle is running.</li> </ul>	
16	Test Drive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Upon test-driving note temperature gauge at the start of the drive and then note again at the completion.</li> <li>b. A short drive may not show anything significant but conditions in the weather may aid you (hot vs. cold weather, rain) by revealing vehicles shortcomings.</li> <li>c. When driving test cruise controls, acceleration.</li> <li>d. Test steering on a level street and see if car can go straight with minimum adjustments, and that wheel is centered when doing so. This is to check alignment.</li> </ul>	
17	Brake test. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Safely complete a fast stop in an area free of traffic, listen for noise, examine where you can access and look for excessive grime/dust.</li> <li>b. Look for cracks in hoses or gunk build-up. Note any unusual feeling in steering wheel (pull or vibration). No pulling to either side upon braking.</li> </ul>	
18	<b>Found the car that passes the test? Call us for a pre-purchase inspection. 208-890-8739. 1105 N 27<sup>th</sup> St., Boise, ID 83702</b>	<b>Remember-preventative maintenance is less costly than repairs.</b>

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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