

Inspecting a Used Car Cheat Sheet by [deleted] via cheatography.com/2754/cs/4668/

Dashboard	Interior	Frame
☐ Hazard lights working ☐ Headlights (high/low) working ☐ Breaklights working	☐ All gauges work ☐ Air conditioner working ☐ Doors open & closes with key	☐ Chassis not bent/cracked☐ No signs of crumpling
☐ Car alarm works ☐ Cruise Control working ☐ Gas Guage working ☐ No warning lights lite ☐ Seat Belt light working ☐ Speedometer working ☐ Turn Signals working ☐ Trip Counter working	□ Defrosters back/front working □ Heater working □ No heavy scent air freshener □ Power windows operate properly* □ Seat belts functional □ Seats unworn & free of cracks □ Seats adjust properly □ Sunroof opens and closes properly	Test Drive No grinding sounds No noises or vibrations No noise on Turns No pull to 1-side when braking No rattles or squeaks No transmission clunking sounds Power to climb hills Power to pass safely Vehicle does not drift
☐ Wipers work ☐ Wiper fluid dispenses	☐ Stereo working ☐ Trunk opens & closes	
Tires & Brakes All same size Tread worn evenly Inflated properly Jack & lug wrench Security Lugs Tread worn evenly Spare tire inflated Brakes - Does not pull to one side* Parking brake works *When applying the brakes the Vehicle	* may indicate a problem being concealed Engine Battery terminals corrosion free Exhaust emissions not blue* Exhaust emissions not black** Free of fluid or oil leaks Oil dip stick - no dark-black oil No Odor while engine running * indicates engine burns oil **indicates excessive oil consumption	□ Accelerates smoothly □ Brakes work smoothly □ Goes straight when hands off wheel □ Good steering control □ Revs not too high when idling □ Shifts smoothly between gears □ Quiet Fans (air & heat) □ Quiet Heater/Air conditioner Choose a half hour route that goes through city streets, winding hills and fast driving freeway.
steers straight and does not pull to one side. Body	Automatic Transmission □ Transmission fluid looks clean* □ Each gear shifts smoothly	Suspension ☐ Vehicle rests level ☐ Corners respond when bouncing*
☐ Body panels - colors match ☐ Fresh paint job* ☐ No body scratches	 Dirty or gritty can indicate possible internal transmission problem. 	When bouncing the vehicle's corners, no creaking noises are made and the car resumes its position.
□ No body dents □ Seams - Doors & fender aligned □ Seams - Trunk aligned □ Windshield free of cracks *if yes, it could be to conceal rust		
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