

TEST DRIVE CHECKLIST

BEFORE YOUR TEST DRIVE

Tires

- Do they have good tread depth?
- Are they properly inflated?
- Do they even wear?

Under the Hood

- Are there any signs of leaks?
- Is the oil level good?
- Is the transmission fluid level good?
- Is the coolant level good?
- Does the engine run smooth?

Under the Car

- Are there any leaks/puddles?
- Is the exhaust system/muffler secure?

Body of the Car

- Are there any signs of repairs?
- Are there any scratches, dents, rust, chips?
- Are there any cracks or chips in the windshield?

Brakes (if you can see through the wheel spokes)

- Are there any signs of damage on the rotors?
- How thick are the brake pads?

Doors

- Do ALL doors open and close properly?
- Is there any rust on the door edges or hinges?
- Do the door locks work properly?

Lights

- Do both headlights work?
- Do all brake lights work?
- Do the turn signals work?

Trunk

- Does the trunk open and close properly?
- Is the trunk sufficient in size?
- Is the spare tire and jack present?
- Is there any rust or rotting under the carpet?
- Does the backseat fold down?

Interior

- Are there any large/obvious stains?
- Any cracks/damage on dash, door panels, or leather seats?
- Are there any rips in upholstery?
- Any offensive smells? (remove air freshener if necessary)

Comfort

- Is the vehicle easy to get in and out of?
- Can the seat be adjusted to your comfort?
- Are power seat buttons/adjustment levers easy to reach?
- Does the steering wheel position suit your comfort?
- Can the steering wheel be adjusted?
- Are controls easily reached (AC, heat, radio, mirrors, etc.)
- Are the seatbelts comfortable?

Additional Requirements:

- _____
- _____
- _____

DURING YOUR TEST DRIVE

Driving

- Does the vehicle accelerate smoothly?
- Does the transmission shift smoothly?
- Does the vehicle have a smooth ride?
- Does the vehicle respond well on bumpy roads?
- Does the vehicle handle curves and turns well?
- Does the vehicle pull to the right or left?
- Is the steering responsive? Does it respond properly?
- Does the steering wheel vibrate? Is there play in the wheel?

Brakes

- Is the brake pedal firm or squishy? Do you have to push the pedal to the floor?
- Do the brakes respond quickly?
- Does the emergency brake engage?

Vehicle Sounds

- Do you hear any clunks, rattles, vibrations?
- Does the engine run smoothly and quietly?

Features

- Does the stereo and all its components work (CD player, bluetooth, etc.)
- Does the AC work?
- Does the heater work?
- Do the vents open and close properly?
- Does the cruise control work?
- Does the 4 wheel drive engage?

Parking

- Is the vehicle easy to park in a parking lot?
- Is the vehicle easy to parallel park?

Safety

- Do all the seatbelts work properly?
- Are there any dashboard lights illuminated?
- Are the windshield wipers in good condition and do they work properly?
- Does the washer fluid system work?
- Do the power mirrors work?
- Can the mirrors be adjusted for good visibility?
- Do you have good visibility? Are there large blind spots?

Comfort

- Is the driver's seat comfortable?
- Is there sufficient leg/head room?
- Is there enough room in the back seats for any passengers who may be in the vehicle?
- Are there arm rests?

Additional Requirements

- _____
- _____
- _____

AFTER YOUR TEST DRIVE

- Get the VIN or request a vehicle history report
- Have an independent mechanic inspect the car
- Book a second drive test