

Before you inspect

Take this sheet to the seller and workshop. Tick a question only when you have an answer; write down missing evidence. This is a buyer's worksheet, not an inspection report or certificate.

Vehicle / year: _____ Mileage: _____

Listing reference: _____ Date: _____

1. Ask the seller

- ☐ Match the VIN on the vehicle with the registration and seller's documents.
- ☐ Ask for dated service invoices and records; note any missing periods.
- ☐ Ask about previous repairs, warning lights and known faults; keep evidence separate from verbal claims.
- ☐ Obtain permission for the agreed workshop inspection and any road test. Confirm access and transport arrangements.

2. Keep the checks separate

RTA technical inspection

Licensing roadworthiness check. Follow the current RTA testing route for the relevant transaction. [1]

RTA Technical Vehicle Status Report

Historical records with the owner's consent. RTA says this report excludes accident data and records may be incomplete. [2]

Independent pre-purchase inspection

Condition findings within an agreed scope. Record what was checked, what was inaccessible and what needs further diagnosis.

3. Record unanswered questions

Use page 2 to agree the inspection scope before booking. Do not treat a blank box as a passed check.

Agree the scope. Keep the gaps.

Ask the workshop to confirm each area for this vehicle. Write Included, Excluded or Further check in the status column. These questions do not mean every procedure is included in a starting price.

AREA	AGREE BEFORE BOOKING	STATUS / NOTES
Body and underside	Visible repair indicators; inspection access and any dismantling exclusions.	
Mechanical	Engine, gearbox, leaks, cooling and fluid observations within the agreed scope.	
Brakes and tyres	Brakes, tyre condition, steering and suspension checks to be recorded.	
Diagnostics	Modules covered, recorded faults and any unsupported or inaccessible systems.	
AC and electrical	Functions tested and conditions of the check; unresolved symptoms.	
Road test	Permission, insurance and vehicle condition. Record if a road test is not done.	
Written findings	Observed condition, limitations, further diagnosis and repair-cost questions.	

Before deciding

Keep the written findings with the service records. Separate the inspection fee from repair estimates. A clear fault-code scan or a history report cannot establish that every system is healthy. Hidden, intermittent or future faults may remain.

Further checks / repair quotes to obtain:

Arrange a workshop inspection: activeauto.me/booking

Bring the make, model, year, mileage and seller availability. Confirm the scope and report timing first.

Full guide: activeauto.me/guides/used-car-buying-checklist-dubai

Official sources (checked 05 Sep 2026): [1] RTA Vehicle Inspection · [2] RTA Technical Vehicle Status Report
Open the links for current requirements and report limitations.