



Body Condition

- Check for uneven gaps between panels which may indicate poor repair jobs after a collision
- Check all body lines for consistency and look for evidence of repainting
- Check all lights for cracks or fogging
- Open and close doors, the bonnet and boot to check they close smoothly
- Inspect the rubber seals around the doors and windows

Tyres

- Check that all tyres meet the required safety levels
- Check the spare tyre and tools are intact
- If a car has low mileage and old tyres, the tyres may of been replaced

Glass

- Check the windscreen carefully for chips and cracks
- Make sure all windows are working and can easily roll up and down

General Considerations

- Walk around the car and make sure it is standing level
- Test the suspension by pushing down on each corner
- Check each tyre for unexpected play which may indicate suspension problems
- Check carefully for rust spots
- Check beneath the car for possible oil or fluid leaks
- If the car has an alarm, check it is working properly

Inside the Car

- Check the car for a damp smell that could indicate a leak
- Make sure to check under all floor mats and check pedal wear
- Try every driver control to make sure they are all functional
- If the car has air conditioning, make sure it is working
- Check the condition of the upholstery on all seats

Questions to Ask your Dealer

- Has the car ever been in a crash?
- Is there any finance owed on the car?

The Test Drive

- Ensure the car starts first time
- Make sure the driver's seat can be put in a comfortable driving position for you
- Move the steering wheel through the full range while stationary to check for unusual pulls
- While moving the car should hold a straight line with no pull
- If the wheel rattles at high speeds there could be a problem with the wheel balance
- Keep a close eye on the dashboard to make sure all lights and dials are working
- Test the breaks in a safe area
- Drive the car slowly on bumpy terrain to test the suspension

Prior to Purchase

- Check all lights are working before you purchase including both high and low beam lights
- Perform a car history check which will tell you if the car has ever been written off
- Get a qualified mechanic to do a complete check over such as the [AA Autocheck](#) service

If you have any questions about buying a used car, Cloghran Car Sales would be more than happy to help you out. Please do not hesitate to contact Ray Carter on +353 1 8621484, 087 2222 004 or ray.carter@cloghrancarsales.com