## **Used car Inspection Checklist**

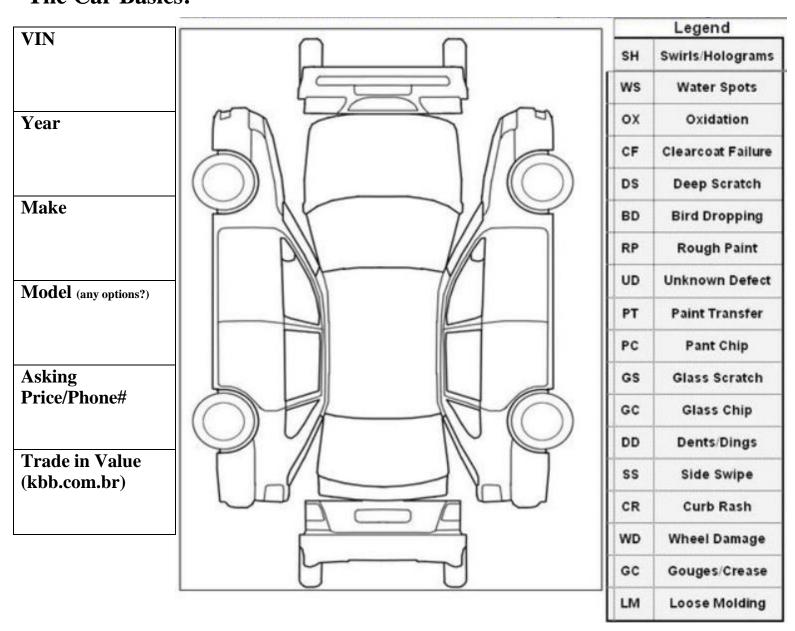
### **Things to Bring:**

-OBDII Scanner -Magnet -Flashlight -Paper towel -Pen

### Questions to ask the owner (make sure story is realistic and answers questions consistently)

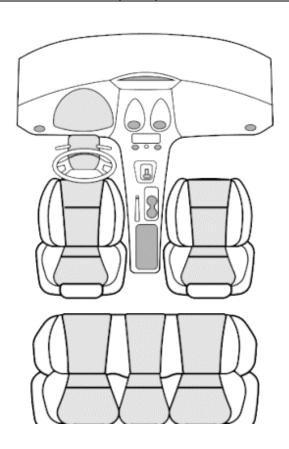
- 1.) How long have you owned the car?
- 2.) Why are you selling it?
- 3.) Does everything work/any problems?
- 4.) Any service records, what have you done since owning the car?
- 5.) What did you use the car for?
- 6.) How many miles did you put on it when you owned it?
- 7.) What car are you looking to get now? Why?

### The Car Basics:



# **Exterior:**

Lights	
High/Low Beams	Front Running Lights
Front Fog Lights	Front Turn Signals
Brake Running Lights	Pressed Brake Lights (3 <sup>rd</sup> brake light)
Rear Turn Signals	Rear Fog Lights
Bodywork	
Panel Gaps	Paint Seams on edge of panels
Bondo (magnet and tapping methods)	
Tires	
Turn lock to lock	Inspect tread-wear
Inspect camber/toe angle	Rusty Brake rotors?
Tire tread	All 4 tires/wheels the same?
Wheel damage?	
<b>Under the Car</b>	
Leaks (near engine and rear diff)	Leaks (near engine and rear diff)
Suspension (tie rods, ball joints, shocks, axle, etc)	Frame Damage (from collision)



## Interior

Seats: Front and rear	
Damage, rips, tares, stains, smell	Solid/no movement
Adjust properly (forward, back, tilt)	
Carpet: Front, rear, and trunk	-
Check Under Carpets (rust, water)	Floor mats?
Stains, holes, cuts, smell, dampness	
Trunk:	
Spare (holds air, not rusty)	Jack with lug wrench
Spare tire carrier round (no indents)	Lug nut key (locking lug-nuts)
Water marks, damp carpet?	
<b>Vehicle Options:</b>	
Power Windows (roll up/down, scratches)	Window tint (bubbles, legal)
Power Mirrors (heat and movement)	Power Locks (all doors lock/unlock)
Radio (am/fm/clock set right, speakers work)	AC/Heat (all settings, all vents)
Navigation (make sure it locates)	Sunroof (opens/closes, no leaks)
Rear View Mirror (auto-dim)	Parking Sensors (beep in reverse)
Lights (glove box, map, dashboard, etc)	Emergency Brake Holds car in Neutral
Heated Seats	Wipers and washer fluid work
Check for Owner's Manual	All Gauges Work
Headliner:	<u>'</u>
Sagging?	Water Damage, Burns, damage
Wear and Tear:	
Gas/Brake Pedal	Steering Wheel
Shift Knob	Seats /Carpet

Engine (start cold, let warm up, go for ride)

Scan Engine with OBDII Scanner (P1000= codes cleared recently)  Before Startup		
Frame (straight, no kinks)	Clean vs Dirty (was the engine detailed)	
Inspect for leaks (oil, coolant, tranny)	Any damage/new parts	
Oil level and oil (no metal, not frothy)	Oil Cap (no froth under cap)	
Check Coolant (make sure it's not hot when you check)	Hoses, belts, battery post, wires, etc	
Cold Startup		
Any strange noises/smoke? (ticking, grinding, etc)	Does it take too long to start?	
Does the motor move a lot (bad motor mounts)	Check under oil cap (strong pulses/smoke)	
Idle (does the idle drop and smooth out)	Check exhaust for smoke upon startup	
Warm Startup		
Any strange noises/smoke? (ticking, grinding, etc)	Does it take too long to start?	
Check under oil cap (strong pulses/smoke/froth)	Idle (does the idle drop and smooth out)	

Test Drive (go for a regular drive city and highway)

Acceleration Test: smooth, no knocks or hesitation,		
Regular Acceleration	Hard Acceleration	
Turning Test		
Stationary- turn lock to lock (noise/feel)	Moving- turn 360 (noise/feel both ways)	
Turn back and forth in motion to sway car (controlled, squeaks, knocks)	Hard turn while moving (controlled, squeaks, knocks)	
Brake Test -smooth, no pulls, no noises, no vibrations		
Regular Braking	Hard Braking (try to activate abs)	
ABS Light on dash?	Noise/pulling?	
Highway: stop and go, bumps, turns, slower		
RPM (top gear/overdrive)	Smooth/controlled/comfortable/solid	
Noises (thuds, squeaks, whines)	Downshift at cruising speed	
Cruise Control		
City: stop and go, bumps, turns, slower		
Noises (thuds, squeaks, whines)	Vibrations	
Does the car feel good to drive?	Shifting (smooth, crisp, no slipping)	
Scan Engine after Test Drive		