

Pre Purchase Inspection Checklist: Shop Lift PPI

Blank copy

Vehicle, seller, and inspector

INSPECTION DATE

INSPECTOR NAME

BUYER / CUSTOMER

SELLER TYPE

YEAR

MODEL

VIN (DASH PLATE)

LICENSE PLATE

ASKING PRICE (USD)

LIFT AVAILABLE

TIME STARTED

SHOP NAME

SELLER NAME

INSPECTION LOCATION

MAKE

TRIM / BODY STYLE

VIN (TITLE)

ODOMETER MILES

GVWR CLASS

☐ Buyer or seller authorized this independent shop PPI before purchase (FTC / AAA).

☐ Engine was presented cold (not idled for an hour before this look).

Body, glass, and flood (visible)				
Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Panel gaps and alignment	☐	☐	☐	
Paint match and overspray	☐	☐	☐	
Dents, dings, and scratches	☐	☐	☐	
Blistered paint and bubbling rust	☐	☐	☐	
Rocker panels and sills	☐	☐	☐	
Windshield	☐	☐	☐	
Side and rear glass	☐	☐	☐	
Wipers and washers	☐	☐	☐	
Hood, doors, and trunk operation	☐	☐	☐	
Exterior lamps (operation)	☐	☐	☐	

Flood silt in cabin and dash	☐	☐	☐	_____
Trunk, spare well, and cargo floor	☐	☐	☐	_____
Musty odor or heavy deodorizer	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible unibody aprons and core support	☐	☐	☐	_____

Engine compartment

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Hood latches and stay	☐	☐	☐	_____
Engine oil level and condition	☐	☐	☐	_____
Coolant level and appearance	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake fluid reservoir	☐	☐	☐	_____
Power steering fluid (if hydraulic)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Drive belts and tensioner	☐	☐	☐	_____
Coolant, vacuum, and heater hoses	☐	☐	☐	_____
Under-hood leaks	☐	☐	☐	_____
Powertrain mounts (visible in bay)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Battery, cables, and hold-down	☐	☐	☐	_____
Air filter housing and intake	☐	☐	☐	_____
Abnormal engine noises (bay)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Brakes and wheels off

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Wheels removed (minimum one front and one rear)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Pad / lining thickness (1/32 inch)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Lining cracks and attachment	☐	☐	☐	_____
Rotor or drum within spec	☐	☐	☐	_____
Calipers, backing plates, and hardware	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake hoses and lines	☐	☐	☐	_____
Master cylinder and visible leaks	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake failure indicator lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____
Pedal integrity (125 lb / 10 seconds)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake pedal reserve	☐	☐	☐	_____
Vacuum power assist (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Parking brake cables and hold	☐	☐	☐	_____
Roller or platform equalization (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Grease or oil on friction surfaces	☐	☐	☐	_____

Undercarriage, steering, and suspension

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Frame rails and crossmembers (on lift)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Floor pans and spare-well underside	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering lash (570.7 Table 1)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering linkage play (1/4 inch)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering free turning	☐	☐	☐	_____
Tie rods, rack boots, and sockets	☐	☐	☐	_____
Ball joints and seals	☐	☐	☐	_____
Control arms, bushings, and radius rods	☐	☐	☐	_____
Stabilizer bar, links, and bushings	☐	☐	☐	_____
Springs, struts, and mounts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Shock absorbers and bounce	☐	☐	☐	_____
CV boots, axles, and drive shafts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Exhaust, hangers, and heat shields	☐	☐	☐	_____
Fuel tank, lines, and filler	☐	☐	☐	_____

Tires and wheels

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Tread depth (2/32 inch, GVWR 10k or less)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Front tread if GVWR over 10,000 lb	☐	☐	☐	_____
Uneven tread wear	☐	☐	☐	_____
Size and construction match	☐	☐	☐	_____
Sidewall and carcass damage	☐	☐	☐	_____
Inflation vs door placard	☐	☐	☐	_____
DOT week/year (age note)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Spare and TPMS lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel rims and discs	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel nuts and bolts	☐	☐	☐	_____

Interior, restraints, and electronics

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Dash lamp bulb-check	☐	☐	☐	_____
Malfunction indicator lamp (MIL)	☐	☐	☐	_____
ABS warning lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____
Airbag / SRS lamp	☐	☐	☐	_____
Seat belts and buckles	☐	☐	☐	_____
Airbag covers and history flag	☐	☐	☐	_____
Seat tracks, adjusters, and heaters	☐	☐	☐	_____
Heat, A/C, and blower	☐	☐	☐	_____
Power windows, locks, and mirrors	☐	☐	☐	_____
Horn, defroster, and interior lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Gauges and odometer display	☐	☐	☐	_____
Pedal, wheel, and seat wear vs miles	☐	☐	☐	_____

Powertrain and diagnostics

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Retrieve and record DTCs	☐	☐	☐	_____
Pending codes and freeze frame	☐	☐	☐	_____
Transmission fluid (if accessible)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Transmission case, pan, and cooler lines	☐	☐	☐	_____
4WD / AWD operation (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Clutch and shifter (manual)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cooling fan and clutch	☐	☐	☐	_____
Leaks with engine running (lift)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Fuel cap and visible EVAP lines	☐	☐	☐	_____
Hybrid / EV orange cables (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Controlled road test

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Not a 570.5(d)(2) certification stop	☐	☐	☐	_____
Launch and idle in drive	☐	☐	☐	_____
Acceleration	☐	☐	☐	_____

Transmission shift quality	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering and tracking	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake pull, noise, and delay	☐	☐	☐	_____
Ride over bumps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Vibration or shimmy	☐	☐	☐	_____
Highway or higher-speed run	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parking brake on a grade	☐	☐	☐	_____

History and paperwork notes

TITLE BRAND SEEN (NOTES ONLY)

NMVTIS NOTES (BRANDS, LATEST ODOMETER, SALVAGE / TOTAL LOSS)

NHTSA RECALL NOTES (VIN LOOKUP)

OPEN SAFETY RECALLS ON THIS VIN

OTHER HISTORY-REPORT NOTES

VIN MATCH NOTES (DASH, DOOR, TITLE)

ODOMETER VS TITLE MILES (NOTES ONLY)

SERVICE-RECORD NOTES

Defects and sign-off

DEFECTS FOUND

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST (USD)

RECOMMENDATION

INSPECTOR NOTES

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

DATE SIGNED

TIME SIGNED

☐ Written report given to the buyer with make, model, and VIN (FTC).

Reference only. Verify against the vehicle OEM procedure and applicable regulations.