Buying a Used Classic Car: the checklist

The 8-point checklist · Charlie Roberts

- [ ] **1. Set the budget first**
  Set your budget before you look at adverts. Allow roughly ten to fifteen percent of the price every year for running costs, and get an insurance quote before you view.

- [ ] **2. Check the V5C**
  Ask to see the V5C logbook. The person selling should be the registered keeper, at the address on the document.

- [ ] **3. Run a history check**
  Run an HPI style history check for outstanding finance, write-offs and stolen markers.

- [ ] **4. Read the MOT history**
  Read the MOT history free on GOV.UK. Repeat advisories show what was patched, not fixed. Cars over forty can be exempt, so it may be thin.

- [ ] **5. Match the numbers**
  Check the VIN and engine numbers on the car match the paperwork.

- [ ] **6. Hunt for rust**
  Rust is the big cost. Check the sills, wheel arches and floor, and lift the carpets for damp or water stains.

- [ ] **7. Check tyre age**
  Read the four digit date code on each tyre. Old tyres can look fine and still be unsafe. Our guide budgets to replace any over seven years old.

- [ ] **8. Drive it, then inspect**
  Drive it yourself. Brake hard and feel for pulling, watch for smoke, and try every gear. Then get an independent inspection.

No money until the paperwork, history check and inspection are all clear.

Full version: **Classic Cars for Over 60s** (the full buyer's guide and printable viewing sheet) — https://payhip.com/b/CdJfl

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