

Car Buyer Guide

Bing Ye

November 13, 2005

From the talk with Randy at Foreign Aid, the best choices are Honda and Toyota. Next is Nissan and Mazda. Europe car can be Workwage. Other Europe car is hard to fix because the high price of parts. There are several junk cars for sure: Ford Terry, Neon and other new sub-models of this type. Mitsubishi and Hyundai are OK, not a good choice.

For new Honda and Toyota, at 90k mileage, it needs to change Time-belt and Turn-up, which cost around 500 USD.

How to Test a Car First check the parking spot to see if there is any obvious leakage. Then turn on the car to see if how easy it is to start. Then drive a car at a normal speed to see how smooth the transmission change with speed. For a careful drive, it should change around 2000 rpm. Then fast accelerate to see how smooth the transmission change. If leave the hand away from the handler, it should not shift to one side much. After this, let the car run about 10 minutes to see the front fan turn on when the temperature is high and then off when cool down.

What to Ask First thing first is to show that you have interest for the car you are talking about. First question: Are you the first owner of this car? Second question: Is there any accident happened to this car? Third question: In the past is there any problem with the engine and transmission?

For the car price, the salvage title means the car was serious damaged before, another possibility is the car was damaged and then owned by insurance company, for detail you can check some information online. But salvage title car will have a lower price then clean title car. Usually for mileage and year, if it's a one-year or two-year old car, those two factors doesn't count much. But for some car after five-year old, IMO, each one more year will deduct \$1000, and each 10,000 more mile will deduct \$1000. But still, its depend on market, which I'm not very familiar with now.