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## Vehicle Inspections for Private Buyers

Are you confident you're buying a car that's roadworthy and safe to drive?

So before you close a deal on a car, get peace of mind with an RAC Vehicle Inspection:

- Visual inspection and road test by an experienced RAC engineer.
- Full [RAC Car Data Check](#) to ensure the car isn't stolen or a write-off.
- Discuss the findings with the engineer on the same day as the inspection
- Get a written report posted (first class) or emailed to you the next working day.

### Book a Vehicle Inspection

You can also get a quote and arrange a vehicle inspection by calling **0800 085 2529**, or if you have any questions/queries email us at [visales@rac.co.uk](mailto:visales@rac.co.uk).

### Essentials

The crucial checks to make before buying a car - a mechanical and structural inspection, underbody check and road test to **make sure the car is safe, sound and roadworthy.**

Engine size	RAC Members	Non-members
Up to 1800cc	£135.00	£149.00
Over 1800cc	£148.00	£163.00

The following vehicles are exempt from this product: imports, 4x4s, convertibles, write-offs, vehicles over 10 years old, vehicles with more than 5 seats, prestige vehicles and vehicles that have completed more than 120,000 miles.

### Essentials Plus

Our fully comprehensive inspection can reassure you that your car is in excellent working order, with up to **65 extra checks.**

Engine size	RAC Members	Non-members
Up to 1400cc	£179.00	£194.00
1401cc to 2000cc	£183.00	£203.00
2001cc to 2500cc	£234.00	£254.00
Over 2501cc	From £234.00	From £254.00

### 4x4 Vehicle inspections

Engine size	RAC Members	Non-members
Up to 1400cc	£179.00	£194.00
1401cc to 2000cc	£183.00	£203.00
2001cc to 2500cc	£265.00	£295.00
Over 2501cc	£305.00	£346.00

### Vehicle inspections of vans, motorhomes and minibuses

Vehicle type	RAC Members	Non-members
Van	£179.00	£194.00
Motorhome	£213.00	£244.00
Minibus with 9 or more seats	£234.00	£254.00

### Car Insurance

Cover for less than **£143\*** (that's what 10% of our customers paid)



[Get a quote](#)

### Looking to buy or sell a car?

RAC Car Reviews give you an independent perspective on new and used cars and vans from over 50 manufacturers.



[Find out more](#)

### True stories

Read some real case studies about some of the issues car-buyers face when buying a used car.



[Find out more](#)

If your vehicle is 20 years or older please call for a Quote.

There are also other [checks and inspections](#) we provide after purchase, or after an accident.

To arrange a vehicle inspection please call **0800 085 2529**.

**Opening hours:**

Monday/Tuesday - 08:00 to 20:00  
 Wednesday to Friday - 08:00 to 18:00  
 Saturday - 09:00 to 17:00  
 Sunday and Bank Holidays - Closed

[Frequently asked questions](#) about RAC Vehicle Inspections.

<sup>1</sup> 10% of all customers buying car insurance with us from 1st January 2014 to 30th June 2014 paid less than £143. Based on comprehensive car insurance, excluding any additional products and upgrades, with payment on an annual basis. Your premium will depend on your circumstances and the level of cover you choose.

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(Charges will apply)

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## Checklist

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### Body exterior

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
1 Panel condition/alignment		✓
2 Paintwork		✓
3 Exterior trim		✓
4 Glass	✓	✓
5 Bumpers/number plates		✓
6 Door locks/operation	✓	✓
7 Fuel filler cover/petrol cap	✓	✓
8 Soft top (operation/condition)		✓
9 Body damage	✓	✓
10 Past repair evident *	✓	✓
11 Corrosion	✓	✓
12 Mud flaps		✓

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### Engine compartment

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
37 Starting system/ignition lock	✓	✓
38 Battery charging system	✓	✓
39 Headlights	✓	✓
40 Side light/running lights	✓	✓

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### Electrical/controls

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
37 Starting system/ignition lock	✓	✓
38 Battery charging system	✓	✓
39 Headlights	✓	✓
40 Side light/running lights	✓	✓

### Car Insurance

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[Find out more](#)

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
41 Rear lights/number plate lights	✓	✓
42 Stop lights	✓	✓
43 Indicators/hazard lights	✓	✓
44 Reverse/fog lights	✓	✓
45 Auxiliary lights	✓	✓
46 Panel lights	✓	✓
47 Mirrors (electric)		✓
48 Switches/controls	✓	✓
49 Instrument/controls function	✓	✓
50 Horn	✓	✓
51 Radio/cassette/CD/aerial		✓
52 Heater fan/controls		✓
53 Air con. operation		✓
54 Door locking	✓	✓
55 Window/sunroof operation	✓	✓
56 Wipers/washers	✓	✓
57 Headlamp washer/headlamp wiper		✓

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Interior luggage compartment

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
58 Steering wheel/adjustment		✓
59 Seat upholstery		✓
60 Seat mechanism	✓	✓
61 Seat belts	✓	✓
62 Carpets		✓
63 Door trim panels		✓
64 Door fittings/operation		✓
65 Door seals/hinges		✓
66 Interior sills		✓
67 Headlining/visors		✓
68 Sunroof		✓
69 Dash panel (condition)		✓
70 Cigarette lighter		✓
71 Mirrors - Internal	✓	✓
72 Rear parcel shelf		✓
73 Boot/tailgate lock	✓	✓
74 Luggage area trim/condition		✓
75 Illumination lights		✓
76 Tool kit etc.		✓
77 Soft top material		✓
78 Tonneau cover		✓

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Front suspension and steering

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
79 Engine underside leakage	✓	✓

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
80 Steering joints/ball joints	✓	✓
81 Steering rack	✓	✓
82 Chassis members	✓	✓
83 Power steering	✓	✓
84 Wheels hubs/bearings	✓	✓
85 Springs/suspension unit	✓	✓
86 Pipes/hoses	✓	✓
87 Dampers (conditions/leaks)	✓	✓
88 Gaiters	✓	✓
89 Sub frames/mountings	✓	✓
90 Suspension arms/mountings	✓	✓
91 Tie bars/anti roll bars	✓	✓
92 Corrosion protection		✓
93 Corrosion - floor/chassis	✓	✓

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#### Clutch/transmission - manual

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
94 Fluid/oil leaks	✓	✓
95 Cables/adjustment	✓	✓
96 Hydraulic system	✓	✓
97 Linkage (wear)	✓	✓
98 Casings	✓	✓
99 Mountings	✓	✓
100 Drive shaft assemblies	✓	✓
101 Universal/sliding joints	✓	✓
102 Backlash	✓	✓
103 Gaiters	✓	✓
104 Propshaft(s)	✓	✓
105 Bearings/supports	✓	✓

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#### Rear suspension and underframe

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
106 Springs/suspension unit	✓	✓
107 Anti-roll bar	✓	✓
108 Dampers/bushes	✓	✓
109 Suspension arms/fixings	✓	✓
110 Location rod/fixings	✓	✓
111 Bumpers stops/gaiters	✓	✓
112 Wheel hubs/bearings	✓	✓
113 Pipes/hoses	✓	✓
114 Sub frames/mountings	✓	✓
115 Chassis members	✓	✓
116 Corrosion protection		✓
117 Corrosion - floor/chassis	✓	✓

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**Wheels and tyres**

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
118 Wheel rims		✓
119 Wheel trims		✓
120 Front right tyre	✓	✓
121 Front left tyre	✓	✓
122 Rear right tyre	✓	✓
123 Rear left tyre	✓	✓
124 Spare	✓	✓

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**Exhaust system**

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
125 Manifold	✓	✓
126 Pipes	✓	✓
127 Silencer(s)/catalyst	✓	✓
128 Heat shields/mountings	✓	✓
129 Joints/couplings	✓	✓
130 System condition	✓	✓

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**Fuel system**

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
131 Tank	✓	✓
132 Tank fixings	✓	✓
133 Fuel lines	✓	✓
134 Breather pipes	✓	✓
135 Evidence of leaks	✓	✓

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**Brakes**

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
136 Master cylinder security	✓	✓
137 Fluid leaks	✓	✓
138 Servo/power system	✓	✓
139 Flexible hoses	✓	✓
140 Pipes/connections	✓	✓
141 Discs/pads (if visible)	✓	✓
142 Hand/parking brake operation/adjustments	✓	✓
143 Hand/parking brake linkage	✓	✓
144 Pedal/linkage	✓	✓

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**Road test**

Essentials Essentials Plus

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
145 Engine - performance	✓	✓
146 Engine - noise	✓	✓
147 Excess smoke	✓	✓
148 Overheating evidence	✓	✓
149 Gearbox operation/noise level	✓	✓
150 Auto changes/kickdown		✓
151 Final drive operation/noise level	✓	✓
152 Clutch operation	✓	✓
153 4wd operation		✓
154 Cooling fan operation **	✓	✓
155 Instrument/controls function	✓	✓
156 Steering wheel alignment		✓
157 Steering effort		✓
158 General steering/handling	✓	✓
159 Footbrake operation	✓	✓
160 Hand/parking brake operation	✓	✓
161 Suspension noise	✓	✓
162 Road holding/stability	✓	✓
163 Hot restarting		✓
164 Warning lights	✓	✓
165 Cruise control		✓

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**Final check**

	Essentials	Essentials Plus
166 Leaks - fluid	✓	✓

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**General notes & exclusions**

\* Repairs and replacement panels will only be reported if work has not been carried out to a professional standard

\*\* Providing engine reaches operating temperature on road test

**Our call centre staff can advise you of the best product to suit your needs.**

Call **0800 085 2529** or email [VLSales@rac.co.uk](mailto:VLSales@rac.co.uk).

Calls are free from UK landlines, mobile network charges apply. To ensure levels of service, calls may be recorded and/or monitored.

**Opening hours:**  
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 Sunday and Bank Holidays - Closed

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