

Selling safely checklist

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(The Vehicle Safe Trading Advisory Group)



Be prepared

Have all the relevant paperwork together, such as the V5C, service history and MOT certificate, for a potential buyer to review.

You should check if your vehicle has any outstanding recalls and resolve those before advertising, you can do this online at www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-recall.

Buyers may wish to check details such as the address on the V5C and the mileage in the most recent MOT certificate. Never let the buyer photograph your documents.

Beware of scammers

Always meet the buyer. Request the potential buyer's contact details, such as their phone number or full home address, and a proof of identity, i.e. a driving licence. This should give you further reassurances, and a legitimate buyer should be happy to provide this information.

Stay on home ground

Always arrange to meet a buyer at your home, never meet halfway or at their premises.

Test drive advice

- Make sure you ask the buyer to bring their driving licence and proof of insurance if they want to test drive the vehicle.
- Check their level of insurance to test drive the car, this should prevent you being liable for damages in the event of an accident.
- Be sure to retain your own insurance policy during the selling process, even if you've bought another vehicle in the meantime.

Never allow a buyer to test drive the car alone

Never leave a potential buyer alone with the vehicle, or give them the keys. If you have a keyless fob, keep hold of it at all times, even on a test drive. Never jeopardise your personal safety and if you feel uncomfortable at any time, walk away.

Payment

- Never release the vehicle until you have confirmation that the payment to you has cleared in your account.
- If you accept a cheque or bankers draft for payment be aware it can take a few days for these funds to clear.