When you buy a second hand car from a dealer they must give you a Consumer Information Notice (CIN). The dealer fills out the CIN and you and the dealer must sign it. Make sure the information checks out. Putting your signature on the CIN says you agree everything in it is correct. Pay close attention to:

### Trader details
Search the Motor Vehicles Traders register.

If what’s listed isn’t the same as what is on the CIN, walk away.

### Security interest
A yes means there is money owing on the car.

If the previous owner doesn’t keep up with payments, the car could be repossessed.

### Actual distance travelled
Odometers can be wound back.

Pay attention to wear and tear, eg on pedals, gear lever, steering wheel, arm rests and seat edges.

Be suspicious if the odometer reading is low but these look worn.

### Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
Compare the number on the CIN and the car. Be wary if they aren’t the same.

Use the VIN to check the vehicle’s history online, eg on the Car Jam website.

Make sure what your dealer tells you, eg how old the car is, matches the information you find.

### Warrant of Fitness (WOF)
Having a WOF doesn’t mean a car is problem-free. It proves it passed certain safety tests when the warrant was issued.

Have a mechanic look at the condition of the car. Check tyre tread is legal — tyres can be swapped.

### Re-registered vehicle
A yes could mean the car was in an accident or badly damaged.

Or it may have been off the road for over a year.

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Keep the CIN in a safe place. You will need it if you have problems.

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Read more about Buying a car from a dealer.