

## **Printable Checklist – What to Inspect When Buying a Used Car.**

Use this checklist when inspecting any of the **best second-hand cars under \$10000 in Australia** to make sure you cover all essential points before making an offer.

### **Vehicle Details**

- ☐ Make, model, year, and variant match the listing
- ☐ VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) matches registration papers
- ☐ Number plate and chassis number visible and untampered

### **Exterior Inspection**

- ☐ No major scratches, dents, or signs of rust
- ☐ All lights (headlights, brake lights, indicators) work properly
- ☐ Tyres have legal tread depth and are evenly worn
- ☐ No obvious fluid leaks underneath the car
- ☐ Paint is consistent across panels (no respray evidence)

### **Interior Condition**

- ☐ Seats, dashboard, and carpets are clean and undamaged
- ☐ All windows open and close properly
- ☐ Air conditioning, heater, and demister function correctly
- ☐ Infotainment system (radio, Bluetooth, etc.) works
- ☐ Warning lights (engine, ABS, airbags) turn off after ignition

### **Under the Bonnet**

- ☐ Oil levels are clean and filled
- ☐ Coolant is full and looks clear (not murky or rusty)

☐ No visible corrosion on battery terminals

☐ Drive belts and hoses are in good condition (no cracks)

☐ **Test Drive**

☐ Starts without delay or unusual noise

☐ Brakes feel firm and responsive (no grinding)

☐ Steering is straight (no pulling to one side)

☐ No smoke or hesitation during acceleration

☐ Gears shift smoothly (manual or automatic)

☐ **Paperwork and Ownership**

☐ Valid registration (check expiry date)

☐ Roadworthy or safety certificate available

☐ Service logbook or receipts present

☐ No outstanding finance (verify online or ask for PPSR certificate)

☐ Written receipt or sale agreement drafted and signed