

MY USED VEHICLE, A WISE PURCHASE?

C H E C K L I S T

GENERAL RULES

- Determine your requirements and your financial resources.**
(Expenses: taxes, registration, insurance, repairs, etc.)
- Take a road test.** The merchant cannot object.
- Have the vehicle inspected before the purchase.**
The merchant cannot refuse.
- Ask for invoices relating to maintenance and check the stated milage.**
- Consult the Register of personal and movable real rights (RDPRM) to check whether a business has rights to the vehicle.***
- Consult the vehicle's history at the SAAQ.**
(Prior milage, use, origin, has the vehicle been rebuilt.)*
- Check with the SAAQ to determine if you are entitled to register the vehicle.** A person with unpaid fines cannot sell or purchase a vehicle.*
- Set out all agreements in the contract.**
(Repairs to be made, installation of tires, etc.)

SPECIFIC RULES FOR PURCHASES FROM A MERCHANT

- Demand to see the label** which must be affixed on vehicles sold by a merchant.
- Inform yourself about the merchant's practices.**
(Word of mouth, Web site of the Office de la protection du consommateur.)

SPECIFIC RULES FOR PURCHASES FROM AN INDIVIDUAL

- Verify that the vendor is not a "fake individual".**
Some "individuals" are, in fact, merchants.
- Determine whether the contract contains restrictions on the warranty.**

*Subject to a fee

Visit the Web site of the CSJ (www.csj.qc.ca) for more details.



Legal Aid: A Network At Your Service

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WARRANTIES



Manufacturer's warranty on new vehicles (basic or extended)

It is advisable to ask the manufacturer or a dealer if the warranty is still valid.



Legal warranty of good working order

This warranty, offered by merchants, varies depending upon the age of the vehicle and the vehicle's mileage.



Legal warranty of normal use

Merchants must warrant that a vehicle can be used for a normal period of time in light of the price paid. This warranty applies even if there is no warranty of good working order or if it has expired.



Warranty against latent defects

Merchants must provide a warranty against latent defects.

This warranty can be limited if the purchase is made from an individual who indicates in the contract that the purchaser is purchasing the vehicle without a warranty ("at his own risk" or similar expressions).



Vendor's warranty or additional warranty

In addition to the legal warranties, a merchant who sells a used vehicle can offer a contractual warranty for which the merchant will be responsible. The merchant can also sell an additional warranty offered by an independent entity. Check for exclusions and conditions!

RIGHTS AND RECOURSES AFTER THE PURCHASE



If a problem arises, you should quickly send the vendor a demand letter asking the vendor to respect the warranties and repair the vehicle. If the vendor does not do so, you must institute proceedings in order to have the contract cancelled or your obligations as a purchaser reduced.



Under the *Consumer Protection Act*, merchants have several other **obligations** regarding the form and content of the contract as well as the manner in which they deal with consumers.

For more information regarding your rights and recourses, contact the legal aid office nearest you. Visit the Web site of the CSJ (www.csj.qc.ca) for more details regarding the checklist.

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