

Selling Your Car: Getting the Most from a Private-Party Sale

Part 1 Checklist

Read the complete article at AskPatty.com, Automotive Advice for Women!

Before you get ready to sell your car, you should make sure it is in the best shape (physically and aesthetically) that you can get it in with a minimal investment. Keep in mind how a vehicle looks at a dealership when it's for sale: it is clean, well-maintained and ready for the new owner to personalize and make it their own. This is the kind of atmosphere you want to replicate when you sell your own vehicle.

Use this checklist to get your car in shape to sell!

Getting It in Good Working Order

- Get your oil changed.
- Have the fluids topped off.
 - Wiper fluid
 - Antifreeze
 - Oil
- Do a quick walk-around inspection.
 - Headlights
 - Tail lights
 - Blinkers
 - Windows & windshield
 - Locks
 - Window controls
 - Seat controls
- Check the tire pressure.
- Fill the gas tank.
- Get the inspection done (if necessary).
- Replace any burnt-out bulbs.

Make It Look Showroom Worthy

- Clean out the clutter.
 - Glove box
 - Console
 - Door pockets
 - Under and between seats
 - Floor
 - Trunk
- Wash and vacuum the car.
- Wax the car (if possible).
- Wipe down the dash and interior panels.
- Get an air freshener, or have a professional cleaning done.
- Remove any bumper stickers or window clings.