

TOP TEN TIPS FOR BUYING AT AUCTION

- 1. DO YOUR RESEARCH.**

Try to attend an auction as a trial run to get a flavour of the place. Decide what type of car you want to buy and make a note of how much they end up selling for.
- 2. GET A CATALOGUE.**

This lists all the vehicles in the auction. Arrive in good time before the bidding starts and view the vehicles you are interested in buying.
- 3. VIEW THE VEHICLES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN**

Try to get there early and examine the vehicles you are interested in. Read the car entry forms which is usually displayed on the windscreen and gives a description of the car. Check under the bonnet, ask to turn on the engine hear how it sounds, and check the overall condition –paintwork, trims tyres. All these factors are “sold as seen”. If you do not know much about cars take some-one with you who does.
- 4. ASK QUESTIONS.**

As with buying from a new or second-hand dealership ask the staff questions. Ask if the mileage is warranted; is it sold with no major mechanical faults; does the car have a MOT or a full service history? **Remember you do not have the same consumer rights as you would do if you purchased from a dealer or a trader.**
- 5. READ THE SMALL PRINT.**

Each auction house has its own terms and conditions explaining what the fees are and how to complete your purchase if successful. Make sure you read this information in advance so you know what to do later on.
- 6. SET A BUDGET.**

Set a budget and stick to it! Don't get caught up in the action. The buyer's fees are in addition to whatever you bid.
- 7. FACTOR IN INSURANCE COSTS.**

It's a good idea to find out how much the car insurance on a vehicle will be and you will need insurance to drive the car away.
- 8. REMEMBER TO BRING ID & PROOF OF YOUR ADDRESS.**

Some auction houses require a deposit with the full balance within a set time period unless you are able to pay the whole amount in cash. You need to check beforehand.
- 9. LISTEN TO THE AUCTIONEER.**

It is important to listen closely to the auctioneer as their description is a legally binding description. They may say if the mileage is warranted or is it being sold with no major defects. They may also include details of the vehicle such as if it has a V5c or if there is a service history.
- 10. BE CLEAR WHEN BIDDING.**

When bidding be as clear as possible by raising your arm or catalogue and check that the auctioneer has seen your bid.

Remember when the hammer falls it's yours and you don't have a right to return the vehicle if you change your mind.