

## 10-Step Used-Car Mileage Checklist

1. Compare the odometer reading to the U.S. average of **12,000–13,500 miles per year** and the vehicle's age.
2. Request and review the **full service history** and repair receipts.
3. Verify mileage through a **vehicle-history report** (Carfax, AutoCheck, etc.).
4. Scan the car's **OBD-II system** for stored mileage and fault codes.
5. Inspect interior wear points (pedals, steering wheel, seat bolsters) for consistency with the mileage.
6. Confirm major maintenance items (timing belt, fluids, tires) align with the current mileage band.
7. Assess **highway vs. city usage** clues, such as brake wear and stone chips.
8. Check for **climate-related damage**—rust from road salt or sun-cracked dashboards.
9. Run a **cost-of-ownership calculation** to balance purchase price against expected repairs.
10. Schedule an independent **pre-purchase inspection** before finalizing the deal.

*Happy car hunting!*