

Test Drive Checklist

Here's a summary of what to do before, during and after your next test drive.

Before you go

- Decide in advance which cars to test-drive.
- Check vehicle availability with the dealership before you visit.
- Know what you can afford.
- Schedule multiple test drive appointments.
- Visit the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (iihs.org) online for safety ratings.
- Gather what you'll need for a test drive: your driver's license, proof of insurance and something to take notes with.

Time for your test drive

- Compare the cars you're testing to one another, not to your current car.
- Understand the technology.
- Drive as much as you're allowed, in a variety of locations.
- Drive the vehicle the way you intend to use it.
- Determine how well you fit in the car.
- Make sure the back seat has adequate room.
- Inspect the vehicle for damage, even if it's new.

After your test drive

- Review your notes on each car.
- Speak with your local insurance agent through AAA about the vehicles you're considering.
- If possible, take the car home for further testing.

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Want an auto-shopping edge? Purchase a vehicle through the AAA Auto Buying Program at AAA.com/AutoBuying.

