

Example of essay on how to buy a car

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Besides a house, buying a car is one of the most expensive purchases a person will make during his lifetime. At the outset, it is important to decide whether you can afford a new car, or a used car. It is important to know your budget in advance. When you begin your actual shopping, you will then know what you can afford.

First, you must make a number of decisions about your personal needs and expectations from a vehicle. It is a good idea to take into account the size of the vehicle that you will need, as well as how much mileage the vehicle gets for a gallon of gas. Again, staying within your budget is important. Some people may prefer a larger car, but large cars generally consume more gas, and get less mileage to the gallon. If you have a family, you may want either a larger car or a vehicle such as a minivan or a sport utility vehicle (SUV).

However, it is important to keep in mind that larger vehicles such as minivans and SUVs tend to be more expensive. You must ask yourself a few basic questions: what is the main purpose of the vehicle? Will you use it for work or play, or both? Will you be driving short or long distances? Will you be using your vehicle to commute to work, or go on vacations?

Secondly, once you figure out the type of vehicle that suits your needs, now you can begin looking for a bargain. Some dealerships have annual clearance sales once a year, as well as other types of sales throughout the year. Being patient is important. Try not to be impulsive, and buy the first deal that comes along. So, before you even visit the dealership, you must make these basic decisions, and then look for possible bargains.

Lastly, once you find a vehicle that meets all your needs and fits within your budget guidelines, the next step is to take your vehicle of choice for a test

drive. Before you get into the vehicle, check the body for signs of rust or corrosion, the tires, the bumpers, and the paint (for scratches and blemishes). You will also want to check out all of the lights, and blinkers to see if they are functional. After you get into the vehicle, turn it on and listen to the engine for knocks or pings. Remember to adjust all of the mirrors before you take off. When you drive the car, make sure that it shifts easily, whether it be a manual or automatic transmission. You will want to pay special attention to the brakes. For example, if you hear grinding or squeaking sounds, you may have a problem. If the brake pedal is too spongy or hard to push, or if it needs to go all the way down to the floor, the brakes need to be inspected. Notice how the steering operates when you make turns, and observe how the car speeds up and slows down. It is always wise to take someone with mechanical expertise with you. If you are buying a used car, you must ask the previous owner why they are selling the vehicle. Lastly, if the car passes your inspection and fits within your previously-defined budget and purpose, you are ready to buy the car. Make sure the previous owner provides you with all of the necessary paperwork, such as the signed title, bill of sale, registration, and license plates. After you have all of the necessary paperwork, including your insurance, you will need to find your nearest local Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) office. Once all of the paperwork is completed, you are now ready to enjoy your vehicle. Assuming that your vehicle meets your requirements and fits your budgetary criteria, you are now ready to enjoy one of the most important purchases of your lifetime.