

5 WAYS TO PREPARE FOR BUYING A CAR

Simple steps to help you shop for a car with confidence

Why Preparation Matters

Buying a vehicle is one of the largest purchases many people make. Preparing ahead of time may help you understand your budget and compare financing options with confidence.

Signs You May Need to Prep Before Shopping

- ☐ You're unsure how much car you can afford
- ☐ You haven't reviewed your credit recently
- ☐ You don't know your current monthly budget
- ☐ You're planning to finance a vehicle
- ☐ You haven't researched loan options or interest rates
- ☐ You're feeling pressured to buy quickly

Ways to Prep for Buying a Car

- ☐ Review your monthly budget
- ☐ Check your credit score and credit report
- ☐ Estimate your monthly payment range
- ☐ Research vehicle prices, sales tax, and maintenance costs
- ☐ Compare loan rates and financing options
- ☐ Consider insurance, fuel, and maintenance expenses

Questions to Ask Yourself

- ☐ What monthly payment fits comfortably in my budget?
- ☐ Am I prepared for maintenance and insurance costs?
- ☐ How much do I want to put down upfront?
- ☐ Will this purchase support my long-term financial goals?

Things to Consider

- ☐ Vehicle costs include more than just the monthly payment
- ☐ Interest rates may vary based on credit history
- ☐ A larger down payment may lower monthly payments
- ☐ Longer loan terms may increase total interest paid

Before You Apply

Gather this Information.

- ☐ Monthly income
- ☐ Monthly expenses
- ☐ Estimated down payment amount
- ☐ Credit score or credit report
- ☐ Current debt payments
- ☐ Insurance cost estimates

Financial Tools That May Help

- ☐ Auto loan calculators
- ☐ Credit monitoring tools
- ☐ Budget planning worksheets
- ☐ Pre-approval financing options

Ready to Explore Your Options?

Scan to apply
or learn more.

Questions?
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