

DRIVEWISE

The Inspection Standard

166 checks. Three tiers. One verdict.

75

CRITICAL

structural, safety, fraud

71

MATERIAL

value-affecting issues

20

COSMETIC

noted, not disqualifying

This document defines the criteria DriveWise uses to inspect, evaluate, and verdict every vehicle that enters the marketplace. It is published in full so that buyers, dealers, and inspectors are measured against the same instrument.

"Would you tell your brother to buy this car?"

If the answer is yes — BUY. If maybe — NEGOTIATE. If no — AVOID. Every verdict in this document reduces, in the end, to that question.

ON THIS DOCUMENT

How to Read the Standard

The Three Tiers

Every check in this standard is assigned one of three tiers. The tier determines how a finding affects the final verdict.

CRITICAL

Critical. Structural integrity, safety systems, identity documents, and odometer authenticity. Any single FAIL in this tier triggers an automatic AVOID verdict, regardless of the rest of the inspection. These are the failures a buyer cannot live with.

MATERIAL

Material. Findings that affect the car's value, reliability, or expected service life without making it unsafe. Multiple FAILs in this tier escalate the verdict toward AVOID. A small number guide the verdict toward NEGOTIATE.

COSMETIC

Cosmetic. Recorded for completeness but do not affect the verdict. A buyer may still negotiate on these, but DriveWise does not down-rate a car for them.

The Verdict Logic

Every inspection produces one of three verdicts. The verdict is mechanical, not subjective:

BUY

Zero Critical fails. Two or fewer Material fails. The car is what it claims to be.

NEGOTIATE

Zero Critical fails. Three to six Material fails. The car is sound but priced above its real condition. Buyer should negotiate down.

AVOID

Any Critical fail, OR seven or more Material fails. The car is unsafe, structurally compromised, fraudulently described, or so heavily worn that no honest negotiation can fix it.

On Inspector Discretion

The standard is the standard. The inspector does not negotiate verdicts with clients, dealers, or buyers. The inspector reports what they found. DriveWise issues the final verdict within 24 hours of report submission. No verdict is given verbally on site.

If an inspector identifies fraud — stolen vehicle, forged documents, tampered VIN, rolled-back odometer — the inspection is suspended, the inspector leaves the site safely, and DriveWise is contacted before any further action.

SECTION 0

Job Details

Filed at the start of every inspection. Establishes chain of custody for the report.

Job ID	_____
Date of Inspection	_____
Inspector ID	_____
Inspector Name	_____
Client Name	_____
Client Phone	_____
Client Type (buyer / dealer / seller)	_____
Payment Confirmed (yes / no)	_____
Inspection Location	_____
Start Time	_____
End Time	_____

Vehicle Details

Make	_____
Model	_____
Year of Manufacture	_____
Year of Import	_____
Registration / Plate Number	_____
Chassis / VIN Number	_____
Engine Number	_____
Engine Size (cc)	_____
Fuel Type (petrol / diesel / hybrid)	_____
Transmission (auto / manual)	_____
Odometer Reading (km)	_____
Listed Asking Price (KES)	_____
Exterior Colour and Unusual Markings	_____

SECTION 1

Exterior

Walk around the vehicle. Check each panel and component. Photograph any FLAG or FAIL finding. Minimum four exterior photos — one from each corner.

BODY AND PAINT

001	Front bumper — condition, paint consistency, alignment	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
002	Rear bumper — condition, paint consistency, alignment	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
003	Left front door — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
004	Left rear door — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
005	Right front door — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
006	Right rear door — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
007	Bonnet — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
008	Boot / tailgate — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
009	Roof — paint thickness	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ microns		
010	Left front fender / quarter panel	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
011	Right front fender / quarter panel	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
012	Left rear fender / quarter panel	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
013	Right rear fender / quarter panel	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
014	Panel gaps — consistent and even all around	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
015	Paint colour — consistent across all panels	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
016	Signs of respray — overspray on trim, rubber seals, window frames	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

GLASS AND LIGHTS

017	Windscreen — cracks, chips, wiper scratches	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
018	Rear window — cracks, defroster lines functional	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
019	Side windows (all four) — crack-free and operational	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
020	Headlights — functional, no condensation, consistent lens colour	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
021	Tail lights — functional, no cracks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
022	Indicator lights — all functional, front and rear, both sides	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
023	Brake lights — functional, including third brake light	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
024	Fog lights (if equipped) — functional	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

025 Side mirrors — condition, electric adjustment, heating if equipped **COSMETIC** PASS FLAG FAIL

TYRES AND WHEELS

026 Tyre tread depth — front left **CRITICAL** Reading: _____ mm

027 Tyre tread depth — front right **CRITICAL** Reading: _____ mm

028 Tyre tread depth — rear left **CRITICAL** Reading: _____ mm

029 Tyre tread depth — rear right **CRITICAL** Reading: _____ mm

030 Tyre wear pattern — even across all four **MATERIAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

031 Tyre brand — all four matching or mismatched **COSMETIC** PASS FLAG FAIL

032 Tyre age — DOT code within last 5 years **MATERIAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

033 Spare tyre — present, inflated, usable **MATERIAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

034 Jack and wheel spanner — present **COSMETIC** PASS FLAG FAIL

035 Wheels / rims — no curb damage, cracks, bent rims **MATERIAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

VIN AND IDENTIFICATION

036 VIN plate — present and unaltered on dashboard **CRITICAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

037 VIN on chassis / door jamb — matches logbook **CRITICAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

038 Engine number — matches logbook **CRITICAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

039 Manufacturer's plate — present and legible **MATERIAL** PASS FLAG FAIL

SECTION 2

Under Bonnet

Engine OFF for initial inspection. Note condition before anything is started.

FLUIDS

040	Engine oil level — within min/max marks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
041	Engine oil colour — clean amber pass / dark flag / black or milky fail	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
042	Coolant level — within min/max marks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
043	Coolant colour — correct, no rust, no oil film	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
044	Brake fluid level — within min/max marks	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
045	Brake fluid colour — clear or light amber pass / dark flag	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
046	Power steering fluid — level and colour	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
047	Transmission fluid (if dipstick accessible) — level and colour	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
048	Windscreen washer fluid — present	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

ENGINE COMPONENTS

049	Battery — terminals clean, no corrosion, mounted securely	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
050	Battery voltage	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ volts		
051	Drive belts — no cracks, fraying, excessive tension or slack	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
052	Timing belt / chain — visible condition or service record available	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
053	Hoses — no swelling, cracking, or leaks at connections	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
054	Air filter — accessible and checked, condition good	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
055	Radiator — no external damage or leaks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
056	Engine mounts — no excessive cracking visible	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

LEAKS AND ENGINE BAY CONDITION

057	Oil leaks — visible on engine, head gasket, oil pan	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
058	Coolant leaks — visible around water pump, hoses, radiator	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
059	Other fluid leaks — power steering, brake, transmission	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
060	Engine bay cleanliness — abnormally clean (possible pressure wash to hide leaks)	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
061	Wiring — no exposed, taped, or amateur repairs visible	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

062 Engine bay metalwork — no signs of collision repair (welds, uneven paint on inner fenders)

CRITICAL

PASS

FLAG

FAIL

SECTION 3

Interior

Check every electrical and physical component. Start engine for dashboard warning light checks.

DASHBOARD AND ELECTRONICS (ENGINE ON)

063	All warning lights illuminate at ignition then clear (no persistent lights)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
064	ABS warning light — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
065	Airbag / SRS warning light — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
066	Check engine light — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
067	Battery / charging warning — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
068	Oil pressure warning — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
069	Brake system warning — clears after start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
070	TPMS (tyre pressure) warning — clears after start	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
071	Displayed odometer matches the reading recorded in Section 0	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
072	Photo taken of odometer reading — attached to report	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

INTERIOR WEAR ASSESSMENT (MILEAGE AUTHENTICITY)

073	Driver's seat — wear consistent with odometer reading	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
074	Steering wheel — wear (shiny spots, worn leather) matches mileage	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
075	Gear selector / shift knob — wear consistent with mileage	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
076	Pedals — wear consistent with mileage (brake, accelerator, clutch if manual)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
077	Floor mats — present, wear consistent	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
078	Carpet beneath mats — dry, no water stains, no damp smell	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
079	Headliner — no sagging, stains, or water marks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
080	Seat belts — all retract and latch correctly	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

081	Radio / infotainment — powers on, all buttons responsive	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
082	Bluetooth / USB connectivity (if equipped)	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
083	Reverse camera (if equipped) — image clear	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
084	Air conditioning — cold air within 3 minutes	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

085	Heater — produces heat	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
086	Fan — all speeds functional	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
087	Power windows — up and down on all four	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
088	Central locking — operates from key fob and door switch	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
089	Electric mirrors — adjust left, right, up, down	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
090	Sunroof / moonroof (if equipped) — opens and closes fully	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
091	Interior lights — dome, reading, boot, door entry	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
092	Horn — functional	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

CABIN WATER AND SMELL CHECK (FLOOD DAMAGE)

093	No musty or damp smell inside cabin	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
094	No water pooling under carpets (check spare wheel well in boot)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
095	No rust visible on interior metal (seat rails, door sills)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
096	Seat belt webbing dry and flexible at base (not stiff from water damage)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SECTION 4

Under Vehicle

Use torch. Photograph any rust, damage, or repair evidence. Minimum three under-vehicle photos.

FRAME AND STRUCTURE

097	Chassis rails — no welding, cutting, or straightening evidence	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
098	Frame rust — none, surface only, or structural	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
099	Floor pan — no holes, patches, or welded repairs	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
100	Front crossmember — original, no damage	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
101	Rear crossmember — original, no damage	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
102	Jack points — intact, not bent or crushed	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
103	Subframe mounts — no elongated bolt holes (sign of collision)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SUSPENSION

104	Front shocks — no oil leakage visible	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
105	Rear shocks — no oil leakage visible	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
106	Front control arm bushings — no cracking, no play	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
107	Rear control arm bushings — no cracking, no play	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
108	CV boots — intact, no tears or grease leaks	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
109	Ball joints — no play when levered	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
110	Sway bar links — no play or disconnection	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
111	Springs — no cracks, sagging even on both sides	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

EXHAUST AND DRIVETRAIN

112	Exhaust pipe — no visible holes, excessive rust, or patches	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
113	Catalytic converter — present (not removed or cut out)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
114	Muffler — secure mounting, no rattling	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
115	Differential (if applicable) — no leaks at housing or axle seals	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
116	Driveshaft (if applicable) — no excessive play at universal joints	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
117	Transmission — no leaks at pan or output shaft seals	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

BRAKES (VISUAL FROM UNDERNEATH)

118	Brake lines — no corrosion, bulging, or damp spots	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
119	Front brake rotors — no deep grooves, uneven wear, or lip on outer edge	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
120	Front brake pads — minimum 3mm material remaining	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
121	Rear brake rotors or drums — condition	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
122	Parking brake cable — intact, not frayed or seized	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SECTION 5

Documents

Request to see and photograph the documents. Do not take originals with you under any circumstances.

LOGBOOK

123	Logbook present	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
124	Logbook is original (not photocopy)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
125	Owner name on logbook matches seller's ID	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
126	Chassis number on logbook matches vehicle	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
127	Engine number on logbook matches vehicle	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
128	No alterations, overwrites, or erasure marks on logbook	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
129	Number of previous owners	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ owners		
130	Year of registration matches year of manufacture expectation	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

NTSA AND INSURANCE

131	NTSA online search — clean, flagged, or record mismatch	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
132	Insurance cover — valid, expiry date checked	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
133	Insurance policy owner — matches logbook owner	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
134	Inspection certificate (PSV / commercial) — valid	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

IMPORT DOCUMENTS (IMPORTED VEHICLES ONLY)

135	Import declaration form (IDF) — available and checked	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
136	Bill of lading — mileage at import cross-referenced	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
137	Japanese auction sheet (JAAI or similar) — matches inspected condition	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
138	Odometer at export vs current reading — consistent with time elapsed	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS

139	Service book present	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
140	Service history appears continuous (no large gaps)	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SECTION 6

OBD Scan and Test Drive

OBD scan before the test drive. Test drive minimum 15 minutes, varied speeds and road conditions.

OBD SCAN RESULTS

141	Scanner connected successfully	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
142	Readiness monitors — all complete (flag if 4+ incomplete, suggests recent code clearing)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
143	Number of incomplete readiness monitors	CRITICAL	Reading: _____ monitors		
144	Stored trouble codes — present or absent	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
145	Pending codes — present or absent	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
146	Freeze frame data — mileage at last fault matches expected pattern	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
147	ABS module — communication successful	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
148	Airbag / SRS module — communication successful, no stored faults	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
149	Transmission module — no codes	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

COLD START (ONLY IF ENGINE HAS BEEN OFF SEVERAL HOURS)

150	Engine started on first attempt	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
151	No smoke from exhaust at cold start (white, blue, or black)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
152	No unusual knocking, tapping, or grinding at start	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
153	Idle steady within 10 seconds	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
154	Idle RPM (normal range 650 to 900 for most petrol engines)	MATERIAL	Reading: _____ RPM		

TEST DRIVE

155	Test drive conducted — minimum 15 minutes	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
156	Acceleration — smooth, no hesitation	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
157	Transmission — shifts smoothly through all gears (auto)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
158	Transmission — clutch engagement smooth, no slipping (manual)	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
159	Steering — no pulling to one side, no play, no vibration	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
160	Brakes — firm pedal, no pulling, no vibration, stops evenly	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
161	Suspension — no clunking or knocking over bumps	MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
162	No unusual noises from drivetrain at varied speeds	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

163	Cruise control (if equipped) — engages and holds speed	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
164	Engine temperature — correct, no overheating	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
165	No warning lights illuminate during drive	CRITICAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL
166	Fuel gauge — reads correctly	COSMETIC	<input type="checkbox"/> PASS	<input type="checkbox"/> FLAG	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL

SECTION 7

Final Verdict

Completed by the inspector after all sections are filed. DriveWise reviews and confirms within 24 hours.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

CRITICAL FAILS	MATERIAL FAILS	COSMETIC FAILS	TOTAL FLAGS
_____	_____	_____	_____

THREE MOST SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

Finding 1	_____
Finding 2	_____
Finding 3	_____

INSPECTOR RECOMMENDATION

<input type="checkbox"/> BUY	Zero Critical, ≤2 Material. Clean documents, sound test drive.
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGOTIATE	Zero Critical, 3–6 Material. Issues affecting value but not safety.
<input type="checkbox"/> AVOID	Any Critical fail OR 7+ Material fails. Hidden damage, document fraud, tampered odometer, structural concern.

"Would I tell my own brother to buy this car?" YES = BUY. MAYBE = NEGOTIATE. NO = AVOID.

Inspector's one-line reason	_____
Inspector signature	_____
Date and time submitted	_____
Photos submitted (count)	_____

APPENDIX A

Public Verdict Card

After every inspection, DriveWise issues a one-page Public Verdict Card. This is the artifact published on drivewise.ke and used in all DriveWise content. Dealers in the Founding Cohort agree at the time of joining that any inspection of their inventory will produce a Public Verdict Card, and that DriveWise retains the right to publish it without alteration.

DRIVEWISE / PUBLIC VERDICT

CASE FILE 0000 / 30 APRIL 2026

SUBJECT
2019 Toyota PremioLISTED PRICE
KES 1,450,000CRITICAL FAILS
2MATERIAL FAILS
4

THREE MOST SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

- 01** Weld seams present in factory-sealed area on rear quarter panel. Indicates structural repair following collision.
- 02** Interior wear (steering wheel, driver seat, pedals) inconsistent with displayed odometer of 78,000 km.
- 03** Front brake pads measured below 3mm. Replacement required before safe use.

DRIVEWISE VERDICT

AVOID

Triggered by 2 Critical fails. Vehicle will not be listed on the DriveWise platform.

Inspected against DriveWise Inspection Standard v3.0. The standard is the standard. drivewise.ke

APPENDIX B

Inspector Field Procedure

Before Arrival

Confirm Job ID, vehicle details, and client contact via WhatsApp the day before. Pack the kit: this form printed, OBD scanner, paint thickness gauge, torch, tyre tread gauge, pen, and phone. Wear a clean DriveWise polo or collared shirt. The inspector represents the brand to the client.

On Arrival

Introduce yourself as the DriveWise inspector. Ask to see the vehicle from all sides before anyone starts the engine. Cold-start observation is only possible if the engine has been off for several hours. Work through the sections in order. Do not skip ahead.

Photographs

Minimum 20 photographs per inspection. More is always better. Required: all four exterior corners, engine bay wide, dashboard with odometer visible, three or more under-vehicle angles, VIN plate, logbook open to owner page, and a close-up of every FLAG or FAIL finding.

After the Inspection

Complete the form on the spot. Do not leave the site without finishing it. Submit the completed form and all photographs via WhatsApp within two hours of leaving. Payment is sent via M-PESA the same day, after form and photos have been received and reviewed by DriveWise.

Critical Rules — Non-Negotiable

- Never accept money, gifts, or favours from a client. Report any such offer to DriveWise immediately.
- Never give a verdict verbally to the client at the inspection site. Say: "DriveWise will issue the verdict within 24 hours. We will be in touch."
- Never identify which client was inspected when speaking publicly or to other clients about findings.
- If you discover evidence of fraud or criminal activity (stolen vehicle, forged documents, tampered VIN), leave the site safely, contact DriveWise, and do not confront the client.

"The standard is the standard. The inspector reports what they found. The verdict follows the standard, not the client."

DRIVEWISE

The standard is the standard.

This document is DriveWise Inspection Standard v3.0, effective 30 April 2026. Every car inspected on or after this date is measured against this version. When the standard is revised, the version number advances and the previous version is archived. Every inspection report references the version of the standard it was conducted under.

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