

Naija Used vs Tokunbo Cars in Nigeria which one should you buy?

There are lot of factors you will need to consider.

The bottom line is you should buy a car that will give you peace of mind.

1. The maintenance culture of people in Nigeria is bad, people don't spend more to repair their cars and if a car keeps bringing to much fault, they sell it off. is that the kind of car you want to buy?

2. There is a lot of bad roads in Nigeria. Most Nigerian used cars had suffered and if it has not troubled the owner before, then it might start after few months you acquire the car because of accumulated stress the car has been made to under go.

The only thing that makes naija used cars attractive when you are comparing naija used Vs tokunbo cars in Nigeria might be the price.

Maybe you feel the naija used is initially cheaper, but have you checked the cost of maintaining the Car.

The money you will spend on maintaining a bad naija used car might be 2-3 time the cost of getting a tokunbo car.

There is a way you can save like 500k above on a tokunbo car by importing the car yourself without a dealer's license.

[Click here to learn more](#)

How do you know if a Tokunbo car is good?

The only way to know if a tokunbo car is good is to inspect it.

If you are not an expert, you can pay a competent mechanic to check the car for you.

If you are bothered whether the engine is good, the mechanic should start the car, rev it and listen whether he will hear any funny noise.

Most qualified mechanics will be able to detect if there are issues with the engine when they start and drive the car.

If it's gear, you will need to drive the car and see how smooth the gear is changing and selecting.

If there are some drags or taking too long to select or taking too long to change from one gear to the other, the mechanic will be able to advice you on your best option.

If it's body of the car, there are dents, you need to be sure it has not affected the engine if the impact was from the front.

If the car was hit from the back, you will to be sure it has not affected the chassis.

Even if they have painted or worked on the body of the car, some body inspection will reveal that.

These are some hard truth and 10 things you need to be aware of if you want to start buying cars on online auction websites by yourself so that you don't end up wasting your time and money.

1. Incurring Additional Charges

You should make sure you pay for the cars you won through online live bidding immediately. Because, Failure to pay for cars won 2 days after the bidding day will attract a payment of \$400 to \$1000.

Also, Failure to remove your car from the auction yard after 5 days of payment will attracts a payment of \$50 per day till the day you finally remove the car because most auction yard have limited parking space.

2. Membership payment required

You won't be able to bid for cars online with a free membership account. You will be required to pay like \$200 membership fee yearly on auto auction website to be able to bid attend online live bid and bid for cars in your watch list.

If you are buying cars through online auction website for the first time, you might want to factor this into cost of the car you are buying.

Also, you will need some form of identification for registration. So you should get this ready before you proceed with registering your bidding account.

3. Patience

You have to exercise a lot of patience while searching for cars to buy on online auto auction websites. This is because you might not find the kind of car you want to buy immediately.

So, you have to keep checking the website because they add more than 10,000 cars every day till you will get the kind of car you need.

Don't rush into buying any car that doesn't meet your desired specification.

You will always get another or if not better one.

4. Inspect the car

If you are buying a big car or cars that have sensitive electronic parts, inspect the car very well or pay expert to inspect and send you report before you bid for the car.

Based on expert inspection report, you will be able to know what is wrong with car and whether it's what can be fixed or whether the part or component will be available in Nigeria and how much you can get the replacement part.

5. Don't buy wrecked cars because they are cheap.

Instead go for salvage cars that have been involved in minor accidents and can easily be repaired or refurbished. Wreck cars are beyond repair cars and you should only buy them through online auto auction websites when you need specific parts or you want to pieces them and sell as spare parts

6. Check the body of the car

Always check the body of the salvage car you are buying. If the car has rear or front impact during accident. If the impact of the accident is in the front, be sure it's only fender and it has not affected the engine. If it affects the engine, then you will need to replace the engine if you buy such car.

As for rear damage, make sure it has not affected the chassis So that the car doesn't go out of shape.

7. Location

There are specific locations you are advised not to buy your salvage cars even when the cars look so good and cheap.

This is because you might need to present additional documents, you might need to spend more on delivery of the car because they are very far from the ports or the cars might have been affected by flood.

8. Have a budget

It's highly recommended you have a budget for the car you want to buy.

This will prevent you from over bidding on a car. Let say your budget for a car is \$1000, if the bid exceeds this you might end up losing on the car.

9. Get your payment method right

You have to get your payment method right before you start bidding for cars.

Do you want to pay through ATM card, wire transfer or cashiers' cheque.

Beware of the limitations on the amount you can send with your ATM cards. For example, you can't send more than \$1000 with a dollar ATM card and you can't drop more than \$250 per day with a naira ATM card.

So, if you are buying a Car that is like \$5000 or above, you need to make sure you have the money in your bidding account to avoid incurring unnecessary charges.

10. Confirm payment before sending towing truck to pickup your car

If you are paying through bank wire, the payment might not reflect immediately, so make sure the money reflects in your bidding account before instructing your shipping company to send towing truck to pick up your car in order not to incur 2 times expenses.

Once the towing truck is out, whether it bring back your car or not, you have to pay.

And if the auction company doesn't release your car, they will go back until you settle with them, that is additional expenses on your side.

To learn more about how to import vehicles from USA and how to bid on salvage car save between 500,000 to 1.5 Million on each car your purchase, [Click here](#)