PORSCHE 911

PRE-PURCHASE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Professional Buyer Edition by drivin911.com

INTRO

Buying a Porsche 911 is not about avoiding flaws.
It is about identifying neglect.

This checklist is designed to structure your inspection and reduce emotional bias during evaluation.

Always combine this checklist with a professional inspection when possible.

VEHICLE DETAILS

Model:

Generation (e.g. 997.2 / 991.1 / 992):

Year:

VIN:

Mileage (km):

Transmission (Manual / PDK):

Engine Variant:

Exterior Color:

Interior Spec:

Seller Name:

Asking Price:

Inspection Date:

SECTION 1 — DOCUMENTATION & HISTORY

□ Full service history (chronological, no unexplained gaps)
□ Major service intervals respected
□ Oil change frequency (not only factory interval)
□ Clutch replacement history (manual cars)
□ PDK service history (fluid + filter)
□ Brake replacement records
□ Suspension refresh history
□ Cooling system maintenance
□ Recalls completed
□ VIN matching across body panels
□ Original manuals & keys present

⚠ Red Flag:
Missing 3+ years of service documentation without explanation.

SECTION 2 — ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN

Cold start inspection required.

□ Cold start observed (no excessive smoke)
□ Stable idle once warm
□ No metallic ticking under load
□ Oil pressure normal
□ Oil consumption discussed with owner
□ Bore scoring inspection (996 / 997.1)
□ Oil filter inspected for metal particles
□ Coolant pressure test
□ Radiators checked for corrosion
□ Exhaust inspected for cracks
□ No drivetrain vibration under acceleration

⚠ Red Flag:
Seller refuses cold start inspection.

SECTION 3 — CHASSIS & SUSPENSION

□ Control arm bushings inspected
□ Top mounts inspected
□ Shock absorbers dry (no leaks)
□ Even tire wear pattern
□ Brake discs measured
□ Brake lines corrosion-free
□ Underbody inspected for damage
□ Corrosion check (battery tray, chassis rails, mounts)

⚠ Red Flag:
Heavy underbody coating hiding structure.

SECTION 4 — ELECTRONICS & SYSTEMS

□ OBD diagnostic scan completed
□ No historical fault codes recently cleared
□ Battery voltage tested
□ No warning lights
□ PCM fully functional
□ Windows & regulators smooth
□ Sunroof drains clear
□ Climate control operational
□ Active suspension systems tested

⚠ Red Flag:
Multiple electronic faults dismissed as “normal”.

SECTION 5 — TEST DRIVE STRUCTURE

□ Steering straight under acceleration
□ No vibration under braking
□ Clutch bite point normal (manual)
□ Smooth gear engagement
□ PDK shifts clean under load
□ No overheating during drive
□ Suspension quiet over uneven surfaces
□ No drivetrain clunk during transitions

⚠ Red Flag:
Instability during braking at speed.

SECTION 6 — OWNERSHIP PATTERN ANALYSIS

□ Length of current ownership
□ Number of previous owners
□ Usage type (daily / seasonal / stored)
□ Storage conditions verified
□ Modifications documented
□ Insurance claim history discussed

⚠ Red Flag:
Short-term flipping pattern without long-term ownership history.

SECTION 7 — VALUE & LIQUIDITY CHECK

□ Desirable specification confirmed
□ Transmission type assessed
□ Color and interior demand considered
□ Mileage within market sweet spot
□ Market pricing benchmarked

Important:
Liquidity protects value more than rarity alone.

FINAL BUYER SELF-CHECK

Before proceeding, ask:

□ Am I buying the car — or the story?
□ Am I emotionally rushing?
□ Is documentation stronger than presentation?
□ Does this car align with long-term ownership logic?

If uncertainty remains — pause.

DISCLAIMER

This checklist is a structured guide and does not replace professional mechanical inspection.

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