

# Audi tt mk1 buyers guide

Literature Available online – Audi TT The essential buyers guide

## What to take with you

Take a torch with you, some clothes you do not mind laying on the floor in and if possible, a code reader or Vcds, no essential but helps

## **Exterior**

- Rust! Whiles these cars are not too bad check arches / rear number plate lights, side skirts
- Check springs – does the sit level all the way round? Have a look in with torch
- Tie arms for cracks and bad / seized bushes, common failure point
- Front arms both bushes, Rear arm knuckle bush check for obvious cracking, if you cannot see very well use your phone to video the area then watch it back
- Micro switch on doors – does window drop when you open the door, if not when you unlock the car, open the door then shut it, the car may lock itself as it doesn't think you have opened a door. (easy to get locked out)
- Rear lights going cloudy
- Front & rear lights for sun damage,
- If xenon does head light washers work – Mot fail if not
- Lock the car with the windows down and then after a couple mins wave your arm inside and make sure alarm goes off, often the siren fails (when battery internally fails can go off on its own)

## **Interior**

- When you open the door is there damage at the top of the shut, could be the door has dropped slightly
- **Clocks-**
- When turning ignition on, can you see the abs, traction and engine light flash up then go off  
If yes that's ok, if not they may have removed the bulb.
- When running does the idle stay constant doesn't fluctuate 100-200 rpms
- Does the fuel gauge, temp gauge & rev counter work?
- Is the centre screen pixelated?
- Does the radio work? Volume knob common failure
- Do you have working air con – is it cold?
- Does the hazard switch work, common failure on these?
- Rear parcel shelf comes unclipped
- Heated seats work? Push in and button will pop out, turn to come on
- Mirror switch & window switches seated properly
- Check the boot button and fuel cap buttons work under stereo in cubby

## **Engine bay checks – Take a torch with you**

- When you put the air con on does the radiator fans come on?  
Yes – ok, No- the slow speed radiator fans may have failed.
- 2. check around the rocker gasket does it look oily or sweaty?  
Yes- may be leaking common fault, No – good
- Power steering pipes rusty and swelling
- Coolant pipes leaking, signs of leaking (pink residue )
- Do all the coil packs match- common issue they fail
- Top mounts – excessive gap means worn and may need changing
- Check all the Pcv pipes out, make sure they are not split, give them a squeeze, do they collapse in your fingers.
- On top of battery (Fuse box open and check for heat damage)
- Injector seals leaking, using a torch look down at where the injectors go into the inlet manifold, is there a residue?

## **Paperwork**

- Timing belt – 5 years or 60k?
- Check vin number in pass side windscreen – to v5
- Check that it has had regular servicing including transmission, has the Haldex been serviced if quattro?
- Has it been documented the oil pickup pipe has been changed?
- Does the key work? How many keys Ideally more than one as easy to lock one in the car.

## **Going for the test drive**

### **Clutch**

How does the clutch feel, shouldn't be heavy & should not be too high a biting point, does it judder?

Does it slip if you put it underload say when accelerating from say 30 in a high gear 4<sup>th</sup> etc.

### **Power**

Does it boost, it should put you back in your seat a little, if no boost gauge,

When driving is there hesitancy on acceleration/ If it feels flat it may be in soft limp mode, failed sensor, or boost leak. Common issues on these.

If it does have 1 it should be 10-12 ish psi stock, 18-20psi mapped

### **Handling**

Does it feel firm and it goes where you tell it to,

Does it feel a bit woolly or washy, this could be to worn bushes, tired suspension, there is quite a few bushes on the quattro set up

### **Haldex / 4wd system**

If you don't have a computer the easiest way to test this is to go to a grassy or gravel car park, turn off traction control and then turn and accelerate, you should feel the rear wheels spin up

## **Convertible**

Check rear drain plugs as can block and cause electrical issues / damp issues

Does the top once undone with handle fold down and back up on its own?

Check rear window does not have any signs of damage as common to leak around window when seal fails

Check the roof gutters are cleared, check there's no pools of water underneath and behind the seats.

Check the roof motor works fine, both up and down. Check for issues with the roof and the rear window.