

## VIN Headquarters

### **Troop A**

Kansas City Metro  
913-780-6058

### **Troop B**

Northeast Kansas  
785-296-3102

### **Troop C**

North Central Kansas  
785-827-3065

### **Troop D**

Northwest Kansas  
785-625-3518

### **Troop E**

Southwest Kansas  
620-276-3201

### **Troop F**

South Central Kansas  
316-744-0451

### **Troop H**

Southeast Kansas  
620-431-2100

VIN Inspection Stations by county  
can be found at:  
[www.KansasHighwayPatrol.org](http://www.KansasHighwayPatrol.org)



Public and Governmental Affairs Unit  
122 SW 7th Street  
Topeka, KS 66603  
[www.KansasHighwayPatrol.org](http://www.KansasHighwayPatrol.org)



# Before You Buy



**Things to consider before  
purchasing a vehicle  
from a private party**

## There are a number of scams on Craigslist or Ebay. Here are few things you should consider before purchasing a vehicle or trailer from a private party.

### Protect Yourself

Always bring a peer and a cell phone when meeting with vehicle owners about purchasing, and always meet in daylight in a highly populated area. It is one thing to be scammed, that is preventable, but it's another thing to be robbed or physically injured.

### Ask

- Ask to see the title for the vehicle or trailer and check to make sure the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the title matches the VIN on the vehicle or trailer.

### Check Ownership

Make sure the person who is selling the vehicle or trailer is the owner, and check to see if the title is in their name.

- Get full names, and ask to see identification such as a driver's license, to verify the owner's identity matches that on the vehicle's title. It would be a hassle to buy a used car that is stolen.
- If the seller is not on the title, it is illegal to sell the vehicle or trailer without first having it in their name. This is called jumping title.

### Avoid

- Avoid purchasing a vehicle that has the public VIN (visible through the windshield) missing, or incorrect, until that particular issue is resolved by the current owner.
- The VIN should also be on the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard label, which is required on all motor vehicles distributed in the United States, manufactured on or after 1970. This label is typically located on the back edge of the driver's door, or on the driver's door latch post.

### Antique

If the vehicle being sold is listed as antique, do some research on the particular make and model.

- Check to see what the VIN should be, or what the vehicle identification plate should look like and how it should be attached.
- Ask if it has the original engine, body, and frame. If the vehicle is built with different components, then the vehicle could be considered an assembled vehicle, and not an actual antique.

ALWAYS CHECK THE VIN.

### Suspicious?

- Be suspicious if the owner only has aftermarket keys to the vehicle, or does not have a keyless entry fob to a newer vehicle.
- If you see something that makes you suspicious, do not hesitate to ask questions on the history of the vehicle.
- Run multiple history reports through multiple sources, such as Carfax, National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), or possibly your own local insurance company.

