

PORSCHE BOXSTER BUYING CHECKLIST

ALL GENERATIONS

CAR: _____ VIN: _____ DATE: _____

THE CHECKLIST		NOTES
Exterior Condition: Inspect for dents, scratches, rust, or signs of repainting.		
Convertible Top: Check for wear, tears, frayed seams, and smooth operation.		
Windshield & Glass: Look for cracks, chips, and proper seal around the glass.		
Headlights & Taillights: Ensure all lights work, including PDLS+ if equipped.		
Tires: Check tread depth, wear patterns, and tire age.		
Wheels: Inspect rims for curb rash and cracks.		
Brakes: Examine pads, rotors, and calipers for wear and uneven braking.		
Suspension: Check for clunks, worn bushings, or leaking struts.		
Steering: Ensure smooth steering with no excessive play or noise.		
Undercarriage: Look for rust, damage, or leaks.		
Coolant System: Check for leaks from hoses, water pump, and expansion tank.		
Oil Leaks: Inspect the engine and undercarriage for oil seepage.		
Transmission: Ensure smooth shifting (manual or PDK), no hesitation or noises.		
Engine Performance: Test for smooth idle, acceleration, and unusual noises.		
Exhaust System: Inspect for leaks, rattles, and excessive smoke.		
Air Conditioning & Heating: Verify both function properly.		

THE CHECKLIST CONT.

NOTES

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Convertible Top Sensors: Check for warning lights and proper function.		
Interior Condition: Inspect seats, carpets, and trim for wear and damage.		
Instrument Cluster: Ensure all gauges and warning lights function correctly.		
Key Fob & Central Locking: Confirm proper operation.		
Battery & Charging System: Check battery health and alternator output.		
Service History: Review records for regular maintenance and major repairs.		
VIN Check: Ensure the VIN matches the title and service records.		
Check Engine Light (CEL): Scan for fault codes		
Engine Temperature: Ensure stable operating temperature during test drive.		
Driving Test: Evaluate overall performance, including acceleration and braking.		
Oil Level & Condition: Check for proper level and cleanliness.		
Power Windows & Mirrors: Ensure smooth operation.		
Infotainment System: Test PCM, Bluetooth, navigation, and sound system.		
Pre-Purchase Inspection (PPI): Always get a professional PPI before buying.		

PORSCHE BOXSTER 986 (1997-2004) SUPPLEMENT

ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN	✓	NOTES
IMS Bearing: Check if the IMS bearing has been replaced or upgraded.		
RMS Seal: Inspect for rear main seal (RMS) oil leaks.		
Convertible Top Cables: Ensure smooth operation and no broken cables.		
Air-Oil Separator: Look for symptoms of failure, like smoke at startup.		
Coolant Expansion Tank: Check for cracks and leaks.		
Timing Chain Tensioners: Listen for chain rattle at startup.		
Ignition Switch: Test for key sticking or electrical issues.		
Water Ingress: Check for wet carpets and clogged drainage channels.		
Front Engine Mount: Inspect for excessive engine movement.		
MAF Sensor: Ensure smooth acceleration without hesitation.		

PORSCHE BOXSTER 987 (2005-2012) SUPPLEMENT

ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN	✓	NOTES
IMS Bearing (987.1): Confirm replacement in early models (2005–2008).		
Bore Scoring: Look for oil consumption and knocking noises.		
PDK Transmission (987.2): Test for smooth gear changes.		
Convertible Top Mechanism: Ensure motors and microswitches function.		
AOS Failure: Check for smoke at startup and rough idle.		
RMS Leak: Inspect for oil leakage at the bell housing.		
Cooling System: Look for leaks around radiators and hoses.		
Ignition Coils & Spark Plugs: Check for misfires and CEL.		
Timing Chain & Variocam: Listen for chain noise and check cam timing.		
PCM System: Ensure infotainment works without glitches.		

PORSCHE BOXSTER 981 (2012-2016) SUPPLEMENT

ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN	✓	NOTES
Timing Chain Tensioner: Listen for startup rattle.		
Bore Scoring (Rare): Watch for oil consumption and exhaust smoke.		
PDK Transmission: Ensure smooth shifting, no hesitation.		
Water Pump & Hoses: Look for coolant leaks.		
Carbon Buildup: Monitor for rough idle and misfires.		
Convertible Top Sensors: Test for smooth operation without errors.		
Brake Wear: Check rotors and pads, especially on hard-driven cars.		
Suspension Wear: Inspect control arms, strut mounts, and bushings.		
PCM Glitches: Verify infotainment and navigation work properly.		
Power Steering Leaks:* Look for rack wear and fluid leaks.		

PORSCHE 718 BOXSTER 982 (2017-PRESENT) SUPPLEMENT

ENGINE & DRIVETRAIN	✓	NOTES
Turbo Wastegate Rattle: Listen for noise at low RPM.		
Excessive Oil Consumption: Check oil level and service history.		
PDK Issues: Ensure smooth engagement and shifting.		
Coolant Leaks: Inspect hoses, radiators, and water pump.		
Carbon Buildup: Look for rough idle and CEL codes.		
LED Headlight Failure: Test all PDLS+ features.		
Infotainment Glitches: Ensure PCM responds without freezing.		
Brake Wear: Check rotors and pads for excessive wear.		
Power Steering Leaks: Inspect rack and tie rod ends.		
Convertible Top: Ensure smooth operation and no sensor errors.		