

The classic-car condition ratings

Definitions according to the recognized classic-analytics valuation system

The value of a classic or vintage car depends entirely on its condition. Factors like age, mileage, or the number of previous owners, which are crucial for regular used cars, often become ambiguous for vintage vehicles. In the case of classic cars, the condition rating is the sole determining factor.

The following definitions, developed by us, have been established in the classic car scene for years. They form the basis for the values regularly published by us in the specialist press, for the Home-Check, and for the valuations conducted by our european wide classic-analytics partners for insurance categorization (Professional-Check).

Condition 1

Flawless vehicle without any defects in appearance or mechanics even upon meticulous examination. A vehicle whose restoration represents the absolute highest standard of craftsmanship achievable today, requiring significant financial investment. Extremely rare.

Condition 2

Very good, defect-free vehicle in original or meticulously restored condition with no missing parts and, at most, minor signs of use.

Condition 3

Used vehicle in good condition, displaying normal signs of aging or some minor flaws. Fully operational, without rust issues and without immediate need for repairs.

Condition 4

Worn vehicle with clearly visible defects, only partially operational, or requiring immediate, easy repairs. May have light to moderate rust or missing parts.

Condition 5

Restoration project in non-operational or (partially) disassembled condition with numerous missing parts, requiring significant investments to rebuild.

Note on the subject patina:

Unrestored vehicles with an above-average low mileage in only a slightly patinated original condition elude the usual valuation scheme. Their value can therefore significantly exceed the value resulting from the pure condition grade.