

## RESEARCH



Taking the time to do your research is a **critical** first step in the car-buying process, as it helps to narrow down what is most important to you i.e. your priorities.

Visit retailers, talk to others, and read reviews to get an idea of what a car is like, so you can ultimately make an informed choice.



*"Spending time doing research will allow you to narrow down what you need to look for in a car that meets your budget"*



### SPEND TIME DOING YOUR HOMEWORK



**Determine your needs, budget, and top criteria as the starting point**



Read road-tests and owner reviews to gauge what a car is like



Use free online vehicle check tools (e.g. MOT history and recalls)



Check the insurance and running / maintenance costs are affordable



Get an idea of monthly finance repayments if not buying outright



Search for retailers that are accredited to The Motor Ombudsman



Bear in mind that the car that fits your needs may not be local



Take someone with you to a retailer if you're unsure what to look out for



**Above all, don't rush into buying a car that's not right for you, and trust your instincts!**