Buying a Used Car

When buying a used car there are many important things to find out. How well you study the car, the types of questions you ask, and the price you get will determine if you have bought wisely.

When buying a used car there are some things you should look for **BEFORE YOU TEST DRIVE** it. Aside from dents and scratches, check the paint. See if it matches. For example, is the right or left fender a different shade from the hood? Check the engine, radiator or top of the fender for spray paint. Open the doors and check the hinges. Look at the emblems and dealer name plate. Do they have spray paint on them? If they do, it means the car has been repainted. This probably means the car has been in an accident or it is rusting.

Next, make sure the tires are good. Check to make sure the tires are worn evenly. If the front tires are worn on one side and not on the other, it probably means the wheels are out of line. Look at the windshield. Is it cracked or chipped? If you find these things, ask for a new windshield and wheel alignment.

Open the trunk and feel the trunk mat to see if it is wet. Look for water stains. This will tell you if the trunk leaks. Another place to check for leaks is the back panel inside the window. Stains on this shelf mean a water leak.