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What to Look for when Buying a Used MINI by Robert Vadra

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With roots that date back to 1959 when British Motor Corporation first introduced the Morris Mini-Minor, today's modern MINI Cooper remains iconic. However, it's a completely different car produced by a different manufacturer. BMW ushered in a new MINI Cooper era in 1994. With nearly two decades of used MINIs on the market, finding MINI cars for sale isn't a problem. However, there are a few minor issues to be aware of as you fine-tune your search for a pre-owned MINI.

Car manufacturers often recall cars to repair problems, and the MINI is no exception. When considering any used car or pre-owned MINI, it's smart to find out if that particular year, make, and model has been subject to any recalls. If it has, that doesn't mean you should rule out the car as a contender; rather, you'll want to check its MINI service history to ensure that it received the prescribed repair. If it hasn't, make sure the dealer takes care of it.

A-pillar water leaks affected some MINI models in 2001-2002, with many of these cars promptly repaired under the factory warranty. Again, a quick check of the MINI service record can tell you if such an issue was discovered and repaired. If the MINI service record doesn't reveal such a repair, look for signs of water leakage or dampness in the front wheel wells and pay close attention to the electrical system if water leaks are present.

You can't control how the previous owners of a used MINI Cooper cared for or drove the car, but you can be on the lookout for signs of neglect or hard driving. The stainless steel exhaust is designed for durability. However, if it's heavily dented or damaged, it could indicate excessive 'grounding'. A whining sound from the transmission (in all gears) could indicate a lack of oil, oil leaks, or worn bearings.

While most body damage is easy to detect, vulnerable areas such as the low front bumper should be checked for damage. Because of its low profile and blunt shape, the MINI Cooper can sustain rock chips in the windshield and nose.

Fortunately, if you're in the market for a used MINI in Barrie, MINI Georgian has already inspected its MINI cars for sale. The MINI NEXT Pre-owned Cars certification program ensures the quality, safety, security, and value of certified MINI cars for sale. MINI NEXT involves MINI service histories, inspections and repairs using genuine MINI parts, a two-year/80,000 kilometre warranty, extended roadside assistance, and low interest rates.

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When looking for a used a MINI Roadster, MINI Cooper S, or any other pre-owned MINI, the most important thing to look for is MINI NEXT certification. Start your search at MINI Georgian for the best pre-owned MINIs.

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