A Car Buyer's Checklist

vviiat are yo	ou going to use the car or truck for?	
(Check as many	y as apply.)	
☐ Going to and from work		
☐ Transportin	ng kids	
☐ Hauling equ	uipment	
☐ Long-distan	nce travel	
☐ Going to ar	nd from activities (biking, skiing, etc.)	
□ Other:		
Based on th	nat, what type of car makes sense?	
(Check one or r	more to research.)	
☐ Sporty two	-door coupe	
☐ Four-door s	sedan	
☐ Hatchback		
□ Wagon		
☐ Minivan		
☐ Full-sized v	van	
☐ Truck (sma	ıll, medium or full-sized pickup)	
☐ Sport utility	y vehicles (four-wheel drive*)	
☐ Two-wheel	or four-wheel-drive car	
☐ Luxury car		
*Four-wheel-di	rive vehicles get better traction on snow and ice than	
	e cars, but they cost more.	
vvnat standa	ard features and options do you want?	
Engine:		
(Write choices i	in spaces provided.)	
How many cyli	inders and valves?	
	engine will get better fuel economy than a six-cylinder engine. Three valves per cylinder	
	older cars; most new cars have four valves per cylinder to increase acceleration with no fuel	
economy loss.		
	fuel injection.	
ruei injection is	s standard in newer cars and improves fuel economy and acceleration.	
Automatic or m	nanual transmission	
If you buy an a	utomatic, having an overdrive option will save on fuel costs.	

Safety considerations:			
☐ Air bags: Driver and/or passenger.			
☐ Seat belts: Shoulder straps attached to the post next to the door are			
safer than those attached to the door.			
☐ Anti-lock Brake System (ABS): This is helpful only if you use the system properly. Do not pump your			
brakes in an emergency stop.			
Body design:			
☐ Side-door intrusion beams. These protect you in side accidents and			
are mandated for cars manufactured after 1997.			
☐ Full perimeter dual door seals. These help keep doors from popping			
open in a collision.			
☐ Front and rear "crumple zones." These help absorb impact in a collision.			
Interior options:			
(Check as many as you want, but remember, most options are sold in packages.)			
☐ Air conditioning	☐ Folding rear seats (split seats or whole-seat fold		
□ Power windows and locks	down)		
☐ Tilt steering column	☐ Sound system (radio, cassette, CD, MP3 player,		
☐ Interior trunk and hood release	and number of speakers)		
☐ Cruise, or speed, control	☐ Built-in cup holder(s)		
☐ Rear wiper (on wagons)	☐ Arm rests		
☐ Rear defroster	☐ Vanity mirrors		
☐ Front bucket seats			
☐ Front bench seats	Other:		
☐ Reclining seats			
☐ Back-seat roominess			
☐ Good head room			
☐ Extra leg room			
☐ Large trunk size			
☐ Seat coverings			
□ Vinyl			
□ Velour			
□ Leather			