

Speed-Luxury

Used Lexus IS Buyer Checklist

Take this with you when shopping — Speed■Luxury | It's a Lifestyle

Pre■Screen (Before You Go See the Car)

- ■ VIN pulled and Carfax / AutoCheck reviewed
- ■ Clean title (no salvage, flood, or rebuilt)
- ■ Service records available (oil changes matter most)
- ■ Correct trim confirmed (IS 250 / IS 300 / IS 350)
- ■ Mileage reasonable (~15k miles per year)

Exterior Walk■Around

- ■ Even panel gaps (no accident tells)
- ■ No paint mismatch or overspray
- ■ Headlights clear (cloudy = negotiation)
- ■ Wheels free of major curb damage
- ■ Tires match and show even wear

Interior & Electronics

- ■ Dash and door panels not sticky or melting
- ■ Seat bolsters consistent with mileage
- ■ Infotainment responsive (no freezing)
- ■ All buttons, switches, and HVAC work
- ■ No warning lights on startup

Mechanical & Test Drive

- ■ Cold start smooth (no ticks or knocks)
- ■ Transmission shifts cleanly
- ■ Brakes stop straight, no vibration
- ■ Suspension quiet over bumps
- ■ Steering tracks straight

Underhood & Undercarriage

- ■ No major oil leaks (timing cover / valve covers)
- ■ Coolant level and color correct
- ■ Belts and hoses in good condition
- ■ No hacked wiring or sloppy mods

Negotiation & Deal Strategy

- ■ Use tire, brake, or suspension wear for leverage
- ■ Interior cosmetics = discount, not deal breaker
- ■ Service gaps justify price reduction
- ■ Independent inspection allowed
- ■ Ready to walk if the deal feels rushed

Walk Away Immediately If...

- ■ Seller refuses inspection
- ■ Multiple warning lights explained away
- ■ Fresh detailing hiding obvious neglect
- ■ Pressure tactics or changing story

Speed■Luxury Rule: Buy the car that lets you afford the fun one. Discipline now, horsepower later.