

FREE BUYER'S GUIDE

2022 Mercedes-Benz AMG GLC 43 4MATIC

A simple guide for buyers with no car knowledge.

Your safety comes first

Please read these five rules before you look at any car.



1. Flat ground, handbrake on

Only look at the SUV on level ground.



2. Never open the radiator cap

Hot coolant can spray out and burn you.



3. Never go under the SUV

Look underneath from the side only.



4. Hands away from a running engine

The fan and belts can catch fingers and clothing.



5. Test drive only with permission

Bring your licence and drive gently. Ask the seller: "Does your insurance cover me to drive it?" If it doesn't, you could have to pay for any damage yourself.

How this guide works

Two stages. No rush.



Do most of the work **from home, on the phone**. Only go and see the SUV if you like what you hear.



Stage 1

At home and on the phone



Checkpoint

Is it worth a visit?



Stage 2

At the SUV

Scoring is easy

Tick **Yes** or **No**. Yes is always the good answer. At the end, just **count your No's**. A red  means a stop sign: a "No" there matters most.

STAGE 1**Before you visit**

At home and on the phone.

01**Which 2022 AMG GLC 43 4MATIC is it?**

Here is what it has.

A new GLC went on sale in Australia in 2023. We found no GLC 43 in that newer shape. Check the build date.

Ask the seller:

"What is the build date and the VIN of this car?"

3.0L twin-turbo petrol V6 **M276 3.0 PETROL**

Engine code M276 · 9-speed automatic (SPEEDSHIFT TCT)

- 287 kW and 520 Nm
- Premium petrol, 98 RON
- 9-speed automatic, no manual

Good to know: safety rating

The ANCAP paper for the older GLC covers 2015 to January 2022. We could not confirm the star count for a 2022 car on the ANCAP site. The 2023 five-star rating is for the new GLC, so it does not count here. That paper lists dual front, side chest, curtain and driver knee airbags. Ask for the build date, then look the car up at [ancap.com.au](https://www.ancap.com.au).

02

The big-money items

The parts that cost the most to fix.



You can't see inside these parts, but you can ask about them.

\$ under \$500 · \$\$ \$500 to \$2,000 · \$\$\$ over \$2,000 (rough guide)



Gearbox valve body and electronics

9-SPEED AUTOMATIC. GUIDES COVER THE 9G-TRONIC IN OTHER MERCEDES MODELS.

WHAT IT IS

The valve body steers oil pressure inside the gearbox. Guides say it can wear and be costly to fix.

ASK

"Has the gearbox fluid ever been changed, and can I see the invoice?"



Timing chain and tensioner

M276 ENGINE. GUIDES COVER THE M276 IN GENERAL.

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WHAT IT IS

A chain runs the engine's valve gear. A tensioner keeps it tight. Guides link wear to late oil changes.

ASK

"Can I see the logbook, and was the engine oil changed on time?"



Turbochargers

M276 ENGINE. GUIDES COVER THE M276 IN GENERAL.

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WHAT IT IS

A turbo is a small fan that pushes extra air into the engine. Guides say it needs clean oil.

ASK

"Has the engine always had its oil changed on time?"



High-pressure fuel pump

M276 ENGINE. GUIDES COVER THE M276 IN GENERAL.

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WHAT IT IS

This pump feeds fuel to the injectors at high pressure. A worn one can cause stuttering and hesitation.

ASK

"Has the engine ever stuttered or hesitated when you press the pedal?"

03

Regular maintenance

Cheap jobs that protect the expensive parts.



Look for these on the service invoices.



Engine oil

Fresh oil and a new oil filter.

As shown in the logbook



Spark plugs (petrol)

Small parts that light the fuel in each cylinder.

As shown in the logbook



Brake fluid

Fluid that carries the force from your foot to the brakes.

Every 2 years (our guide)



Coolant

Liquid that keeps the engine from getting too hot.

As shown in the logbook



Gearbox oil

Oil inside the gearbox. Some makers call it lifetime fluid, so ask if it was ever changed.

As shown in the logbook



Air filter

Cleans the air going into the engine.

As shown in the logbook



Tyres

Check the age date on the side of each tyre.

Replace at 6 years old, even with good tread (our guide).
Alignment every 10,000 to 15,000 km (our guide)



Battery

Starts the engine and runs the electrics.

Most last about 3 to 5 years

04

Questions to ask on the phone



Tick Yes if you get the good answer.

Ask the seller	Good answer	Yes	No
"Is it registered in your name?" Why: Only the owner can legally sell it to you.	"Yes."		
"Why are you selling it?" Why: A clear reason helps you trust the rest of the story.	A clear reason.		
! "Can you send me the VIN?" Why ask? The VIN is the SUV's 17-character ID number, like a fingerprint. With it you can check online if there's money owing , if it was written off after a big accident, if it's been reported stolen , and if it has any recalls (Section 06). An honest seller will send it.	They send it.		
"Has it been in an accident?" Why: Repairs can hide damage. An invoice shows it was fixed properly.	"No", or they have the repair invoice.		
"Does it have service invoices?" Why: They show the SUV was looked after.	"Yes."		
Has the gearbox fluid ever been changed, and when? Why: Gearbox guides link many faults to fluid that was never changed.	Yes, with the date and kilometres on an invoice.		
Is the logbook stamped for every service, with oil changed on time? Why: Engine guides link chain and turbo wear to late oil changes.	Yes, every stamp is there and the dates match the kilometres.		
Has any recall work been done on this car? Why: One official recall lists this model for a door-lock switch. Each VIN decides if it applies.	Yes, with paperwork, or a VIN check shows none open.		
"Are any warning lights on?" Why: A light means the SUV has found a fault.	"No."		
"Can you leave it cold before I arrive?" Why: Some problems only show when the engine is cold.	"Sure."		

Tip

Write down what they say. See if the answers stay the same when you visit.

05

Check the invoices

Ask the seller to send you photos.



Ask the seller:

"Could you send me photos of the service book and invoices?"

Looking at the invoices

Yes

No

Did they send them?

Does each one show the workshop name, date and kilometres?

Do the kilometres go up each time?

Do the services follow the logbook, with no gaps of more than a year?

Words you might see on an invoice

Invoice says

It means

Mechatronic

The gearbox's electronic and oil-pressure control unit.

Valve body

The part inside the gearbox that steers oil pressure. It can wear, and its small electric switches can stick.

Timing chain tensioner

The part that keeps the engine's timing chain tight. If it wears, the chain can go slack.

Camshaft adjuster

The part that changes when the engine valves open. A fault can cause a rattle on start-up.

Carbon build-up (intake valve clean)

Petrol engines with direct injection can build up carbon on the valves that let air in. This job cleans it off.

HPFP

The high-pressure fuel pump. It feeds fuel to the injectors.

06

Quick checks at home

All you need is the VIN. Five minutes.



1. Recalls

Type the VIN into this site:

[vehiclerecalls.gov.au](https://www.vehicle recalls.gov.au)

Safety recalls are fixed for free by the maker.

2. Money owing

Search the VIN at:

[_ppsr.gov.au](https://www.ppsr.gov.au)

It shows money owing, write-offs and theft. Small fee. Check again on the day you pay.

Your result	Yes	No
 PPSR is clear		
No open recalls, or proof they were fixed		

Checkpoint: is it worth a visit?

Count your No's from Sections 04, 05 and 06.



My No's

Stop signs with No



Any stop sign with a No?

Don't go yet. Sort it out with the seller first.

0 to 2

Go and look

Take Stage 2 with you.

3 to 5

Ask more first

Ask the seller about each No. Go if you're happy.

6 or more

Is it worth the trip?

A lot couldn't be confirmed.

The decision is always yours.

Want to check it like a mechanic?

The 2022 Mercedes-Benz AMG GLC 43 4MATIC Buyer's Inspection Guide shows you every check, step by step, with drawings of where to look.

Get the full guide · \$29

General information only, not an inspection of any vehicle. "Our guide" means our recommendation, not a legal rule. Costs are a rough guide. Information current at October 2026: always check the VIN yourself. Perth Cars Pre-Purchase Inspection Service · ACN 612 731 996 · Licence Nos. LVS/WSS MR20570 · MS30917 · 0451 237 048 · info@autolab360.com · perthprepurchaseinspection.com

STAGE 2**At the SUV**

Take this guide with you.

07**Dashboard warning lights**

The colour tells you how serious it is.

**Red = Stop**

Serious

**Yellow = Check**

Needs a look

**Green = OK**

Just information

The one-minute light test**1****Key on**

Lights come on. Good!

2**Start the engine**

Lights go out.

3**Watch**

Any light left on? Ask about it.

**Check engine**

Engine fault found.

**Battery**

Not charging.

**Oil pressure**

Low oil. Stop the engine.

**Engine too hot**

Overheating. Stop.

**Brake**

Handbrake on, or a brake fault.

**ABS**

Anti-skid brake fault.

**Airbag**

Airbags may not work.

**Power steering**

Steering may feel heavy.

**1. Paint and panels****GOOD**

Same colour everywhere, even gaps.

ASK ABOUT IT

One panel a different colour.

**2. Cold start sound****GOOD**

The engine starts smoothly with no rattle or rough sound.

ASK ABOUT IT

"Has the engine ever rattled when started cold?"

**3. Gear changes on the test drive****GOOD**

The gearbox changes gear smoothly, with no jerks or long pauses.

ASK ABOUT IT

"Has the gearbox fluid ever been changed?"

**4. Tyres****GOOD**

Even wear. The 4 numbers on the side (like **2319** = 2019) show under 6 years old.

ASK ABOUT IT

Worn on one edge, cracked, or 6+ years old.

**5. Cold start****GOOD**

Starts quickly. Any smoke clears in a minute.

ASK ABOUT IT

Hard to start, rattles, or keeps smoking.

**6. Test drive****BEFORE YOU DRIVE**

Seller says yes, their insurance covers you.

GOOD

Goes straight. Smooth gears. Firm brakes.

ASK ABOUT IT

Pulls to one side, clunks, or a warning light.

09

Your scorecard

Tick Yes or No, then count your No's.



At the SUV

Yes No

Engine was cold when I arrived

! VIN on the SUV matches the rego papers

Seller's answers were the same as on the phone

Paint even, no bubbly rust

Sits level

Tyres look good and are under 6 years old

! Light test passed

! Started easily, smoke cleared

Windows, locks and air-con work, two keys

Drives straight, smooth gears, firm brakes

! No warning light on the drive

Is there an invoice showing the gearbox fluid was changed?

Is the logbook stamped for every service?

My No's

____ / 13

Stop signs with No

What your count means



Any stop sign with a No?

Stop. Don't pay a deposit until it's sorted.

0 to 1

Looks well cared for

Many buyers still get a mechanic to check inside the engine.

2 to 3

A few questions

Ask the seller, and ask a mechanic what each No might cost.

4 to 6

Lots of unknowns

Get a mechanic to look before you pay anything.

7 or more

Many warning signs

Take your time and get advice first.

The decision is always yours.