



How to Find “The Classic Car I Always Wanted” - - SIX STEPS - -

Is “The Classic Car I Always Wanted” still out there somewhere?
YES!

Are there resources available that can help me find “The Classic Car I Always Wanted”?
YES!

Can I successfully use those resources to find and buy “The Classic Car I Always Wanted”?
YES!

Step 1 – Which car is “The Classic Car I Always Wanted?”

How many choices of Make, Model, and Year are on your list?

Do you want that one particular car?

On the other hand, do you have several different cars on your list?

Is this the car you used to have, date back to the time of your youth?

Is this the car you always wanted, but you never owned?

Is this the car that makes “just the right statement” about your life and who you are right now?

No matter what the reasons may be, there is in most of us, a longing to find, “The Classic Car I Always Wanted.”

What are the highest priorities on your list?

Make (what car manufacturer built the car)

Model (body style and subcategory name)

Year (when the car was manufactured)

Engine size (cubic inch displacement CID / liters and Horsepower)

Transmission

Air conditioning

Color, chrome, upholstery, fuzzy dice, etc

Wheels and tires

Sound system, video, etc.

Step 2 - Restored/ Refurbished/ Modified/ Repaired?

Restored are the most thorough and the most expensive and the best

Full frame off restoration is the highest level available.

On frame restoration with paint stripped and interior redone

What is a “turn-key” classic car?

Refurbished refers to “bringing back to original condition”

Reconditioning is another word for refurbishing.

The car’s body usually requires only a repaint or repair

Interior may or may not need replacement, maybe just repair
Modified or modernized involving aftermarket or new part upgrades, not original to the car
Certain modifications and modernizations are very desirable and fairly invisible and a great benefit for reliability and safety
Repaired usually involves getting a car running that is currently not
How much are you able to do?
Can you and/or do you want to maintain your own car with a little help?

Step 3 - Preparing for the Hunt

Doing the research necessary for success

Whom do I ask and trust?

A friend who is into classic cars?

Contact a local car club that may have your make in their membership?

Local shop family mechanic?

An online classic car broker service?

A new or used car dealer?

Where should I look?

The first place to start looking for a car today is eBay Motors.

How long will it take?

This is best answered by, "How soon do I want it?"

What is my budget?

What scams should I look out for?

Step 4 - The Hunt

Looking, searching, working, and agonizing through the process

Using online resources

www.eBayMotors.com

www.CollectorCarTraderOnline.Com

Hemmings Motor News and www.Hemmings.com

Using paper publications

Hemmings Motor News

Auto Restorer

National Street Machine Club - Classic Thunder

Auto Trader

Local newspapers and flyers

Asking the right questions

When you find a car that interests you, ask good questions.

Buying a car sight unseen

Step 5 - Is It Time to Buy?

You have found your car, or you think it might be your car

Before you go and look at the car, you need to know what the value range is.

I think am ready to make an offer, where do I start?

How to make an offer

Payment options:

Financing your purchase, if you do not have all the money

Step 6 - Bringing it Home after the Sale

When should I drive it home?

When must I pay for transport?

Future Edition - Care After The Purchase

Coming soon in a future edition.