ASTON MARTIN V8 VANTAGE

Engine: **5340cc Quad-Cam Marek V8 (V540V / V580X "Oscar India")**
Transmission: **ZF 5-Speed Manual (Dogleg 1st) / Torqueflite Auto**

PRE-PURCHASE BUYER'S FIELD INSPECTION SHEET (1977–1989)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION	CHASSIS / VIN NUMBER	RECORDED MILEAGE	ASKING PRICE
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1. CRITICAL STRUCTURAL & BODYWORK TRAPS

STEEL PLATFORM & ALLOY MUSCLE TUB

PASS	INSPECTION POINT	SPECIFIC WEAR INDICATOR & DEFECT SIGN
☐	**Steel Platform Sills & Trailing Arm Boxes**	Heavy steel chassis platform beneath hand-beaten alloy panels. Inspect boxed outer/inner sills and rear radius arm chassis anchor pockets for severe internal rot.
☐	**Electrolytic Alloy Skin Blisters**	Check flared wheel arches, lower door skin edges, and integrated rear spoiler lip. Contact between alloy panels and underlying steel framework produces bubbling.
☐	**Front Subframe & Radiator Cradle**	Inspect tubular engine support framing, lower front chin spoiler mounts, and oil-cooler support tray. Road grit collects in lower air scoops, rotting steel mounts.
☐	**de Dion Rear Suspension Crossmember**	de Dion rear axle with Watts linkage. Check rear chassis crossmember attachment points and trailing arm pivot bushings for torque stress cracks under 380+ bhp.

2. MECHANICAL TRIAGE & RUNNING GEAR

COLD START TO OPERATING TEMP

PASS	SYSTEM / COMPONENT	TARGET TOLERANCES & OPERATIONAL CHECKS
☐	**5.3L Quad-Cam V8 Oil Pressure** **Spec: 65–85 Cold | 30+ Hot**	Check Smiths oil gauge. Hot idle (800 RPM) must not fall below 30 PSI. Listen for 4-overhead-cam timing chain rattle on cold start; check wet-liner base seals for leaks.
☐	**Weber 48 IDF Carbs & Vapor Lock**	Vantage high-output spec uses 4x Weber 48 IDF down-draught carburettors on a high-rise manifold. Check throttle synchronization and check for hot-start vapor lock.
☐	**ZF 5-Speed Manual Dogleg Box**	Heavy-duty ZF S5-24/3 manual. Check dogleg 1st gear selection; check 2nd and 3rd synchros on rapid downshifts (costly specialist synchro ring rebuild).
☐	**Ventilated Disc Brakes & Dual Servos**	Girling 4-wheel ventilated discs with twin vacuum servos on inner wings. Inspect servos for hydraulic fluid weepage and test pedal firmness on hard emergency stops.

HIGH "COSMETIC VANTAGE" REPLICA RISK: Many standard V8 Saloons have had Vantage blanked-off grilles and chin spoilers fitted. Genuine Vantage engine prefix: V/540/V or V/580/X (X-Pack). Heritage Certificate verification essential.

3. DEFECT LEDGER & NEGOTIATION DEDUCTIONS

UK MARKET BENCHMARKS

OBSERVED DEFECT / REQUIRED WORK	ESTIMATED UK REMEDY	DEDUCTION APPLIED
Steel Platform Sill & Chassis Outrigger Reconstruction	£15,000 – £30,000 (Specialist coachwork fabrication)	£
Marek 5.3L Quad-Cam V8 Engine Teardown & Overhaul	£22,000 – £38,000 (Complete specialist rebuild)	£
ZF 5-Speed Gearbox Teardown & Synchro Rebuild	£3,500 – £5,500 (Unit overhaul & parts)	£
Alloy Body Galvanic Corrosion & Paint Preparation	£9,000 – £18,000 (Aluminium panel repairs & paint)	£
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ASKING PRICE	MAX REVISED OFFER:	£