FORD ESCORT MK3 (L / GL / GHIA / XR3 / XR3i / RS1600i)

Engine: **1.1L Valencia OHV / 1.3L & 1.6L Ford CVH OHC**
Layout: **Transverse Front-Wheel Drive / 4 & 5-Speed Manual**

PRE-PURCHASE BUYER'S FIELD INSPECTION SHEET (1980–1986)

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

FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE MONOCOQUE INTEGRITY

PASS	INSPECTION POINT	SPECIFIC WEAR INDICATOR & DEFECT SIGN
☐	**Battery Tray & Inner Wing Flitches**	CRITICAL: Battery sits high in passenger inner wing. Acid leaks and road moisture rot out the metal beneath the tray, dumping water directly into the fusebox and cabin.
☐	**Front Strut Towers & Crossmember**	MacPherson strut front suspension. Inspect inner wing flitch seams where the strut mounting turrets weld to the bulkhead; rust causes inner wing separation.
☐	**Outer Sills & Rear Chassis Legs**	Inspect full length of outer sills and rear jacking brackets. Examine rear chassis legs where rear trailing arms and coil springs mount; internal rust causes axle detachment.
☐	**Rear Wheelarch Lips & Tailgate Lip**	Check outer rear wheelarch return lips (notorious for bubbling outwards) and tailgate lower drainage flange. Lift boot mat to check spare wheel well.

2. MECHANICAL TRIAGE & RUNNING GEAR

COLD START TO OPERATING TEMP

PASS	SYSTEM / COMPONENT	TARGET TOLERANCES & OPERATIONAL CHECKS
☐	**CVH Engine Camshaft & Lifters** **Critical: Top-End Cam Wear**	1.3L / 1.6L CVH engine. Listen for loud top-end hydraulic tappet clatter (infrequent oil changes wear camshaft lobes flat). Check toothed rubber timing belt condition.
☐	**Bosch K-Jetronic Injection (XR3i)**	If XR3i / RS1600i: Bosch K-Jetronic mechanical fuel injection. Check warm restart behavior, hunting idle, and inspect air metering flap for smooth movement.
☐	**Ford 4/5-Speed Transaxle & CVs**	Check 2nd and 3rd gear synchromesh on rapid downshifts. Full-lock turns under power: clicking/knocking signals worn outer constant velocity joints; check drive gaiters.
☐	**Independent Rear Suspension (IRS)**	Mk3 uses independent trailing arms with transverse tie-bars. Check rear trailing arm rubber pivot bushes for perished compliance causing rear-wheel steering wander.

HIGH XR3 / RS1600i REPLICA RISK: Many standard 1.3L/1.6L shells converted to XR3i or RS1600i clones. Stamped VIN on driver's floorpan beside seat. Genuine RS1600i features twin ignition coils, K-Jetronic, alloy rocker cover, and factory aerodynamic spoilers.

3. DEFECT LEDGER & NEGOTIATION DEDUCTIONS

UK MARKET BENCHMARKS

OBSERVED DEFECT / REQUIRED WORK	ESTIMATED UK REMEDY	DEDUCTION APPLIED
Rotted Battery Tray & Inner Bulkhead Welding	£650 – £1,100 (Battery tray replacement & wiring repair)	£
Perforated Outer Sills & Rear Chassis Leg Welding	£850 – £1,400 (Structural sill & chassis fabrication)	£
Worn CVH Camshaft, Hydraulic Tappets & Timing Kit	£450 – £750 (New camshaft kit, lifters, belt & gaskets)	£
Bosch K-Jetronic Injection Overhaul (XR3i / RS1600i)	£550 – £850 (Metering head, injectors & warm-up valve)	£
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ASKING PRICE	MAX REVISED OFFER:	£