VAUXHALL CAVALIER MK1 (SALOON / COUPE / SPORT HATCH)

Engine: **1256cc OHV / 1.6L, 1.9L & 2.0L Opel CIH (Cam-in-Head)**
Suspension: **Double Wishbone Front & 4-Link Coil Rear Axle**

PRE-PURCHASE BUYER'S FIELD INSPECTION SHEET (1975–1981)

VEHICLE REGISTRATION	CHASSIS / VIN NUMBER	RECORDED MILEAGE	ASKING PRICE
.....	.....	.....	£ .....

1. CRITICAL STRUCTURAL ROT TRAPS

ASCONA-B MONOCOQUE INTEGRITY

PASS	INSPECTION POINT	SPECIFIC WEAR INDICATOR & DEFECT SIGN
☐	**Front Inner Wings & Upper Wishbones**	GM U-Car/Ascona platform uses front double wishbones. Inspect upper wishbone mounting plates, inner flitches, and battery tray for rust tears and separation.
☐	**Outer Sills & Jacking Mounts**	Examine full boxed length of outer sills and round center jacking brackets. Internal condensation rots the middle strengthening membrane, causing door shut bind.
☐	**Rear 4-Link Trailing Arm Mounts**	4-link coil-sprung rear axle with torque tube. Inspect trailing arm chassis attachment boxes inside rear floor cavities; rust tears mounting boxes out under load.
☐	**Rear Wheelarch Lips & Boot Floor**	Check outer wheel arch returns and boot floor drop-wells. Water leaking through perished rear screen rubber seals pools in parcel shelf structure and boot corners.

2. MECHANICAL TRIAGE & RUNNING GEAR

COLD START TO OPERATING TEMP

PASS	SYSTEM / COMPONENT	TARGET TOLERANCES & OPERATIONAL CHECKS
☐	**Opel CIH (Cam-in-Head) Health** **Spec: 40–50 Cold | 20+ Hot**	1.6L, 1.9L, or 2.0L CIH engine. Chain-driven overhead camshaft with short pushrods. Listen for timing chain rattle on cold crank; check oil pressure warning light.
☐	**Opel 4-Speed Manual / GM Auto**	Check 2nd and 3rd synchros on downshifts. Short, direct gearshift was a period benchmark; baulking reveals clutch drag or tired synchro rings.
☐	**Torque Tube Rear Axle & Propshaft**	Live rear axle located by torque tube. Check for heavy clunking on pull-away and inspect center rubber doughnut coupling and pinion seal for oil leaks.
☐	**Front Double Wishbones & Rack** **Max Play: <0.5 inch at rim**	Check rack-and-pinion steering for center play and worn tie-rod ends. Jack front suspension to test upper/lower ball joints for vertical play.

Model & Identity Verification: Chassis plate stamped on radiator slam panel or passenger inner wing. Prefix: 9D.... Droop snoot front end was exclusive to UK-assembled Cavaliers (built at Luton / Antwerp); verify matching engine code on V5C.

3. DEFECT LEDGER & NEGOTIATION DEDUCTIONS

UK MARKET BENCHMARKS

OBSERVED DEFECT / REQUIRED WORK	ESTIMATED UK REMEDY	DEDUCTION APPLIED
Perforated Outer Sills & Trailing Arm Floor Mounts	£850 – £1,400 (Structural sill fabrication)	£
Front Upper Wishbone Mount Rot & Ball Joint Overhaul	£650 – £1,100 (Inner wing fabrication & joints)	£
Opel CIH Timing Chain & Hydraulic Tappet Overhaul	£450 – £750 (Timing chain kit, tensioner & lifters)	£
Torque Tube Center Bushing & Axle Pinion Seal Overhaul	£350 – £550 (Torque tube drop, bushes & seals)	£
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS FROM ASKING PRICE	MAX REVISED OFFER:	£