Inspection for imported vehicle registration

Once you buy a car from abroad or you ship your own car from abroad, it will arrive in customs. In order to register your car in the UAE you will need a vehicle inspection test.

Please note that you are NOT allowed to drive any car that has not been registered in the UAE. To register an imported car you have two options. Either the customs give you a designated sticker which authorises you to drive the car ONLY from customs to a Salama centre, or you have to arrange for a pick-up car to transport it to the nearest Salama.

Inspect your car
- Bring the car to our Salama centre and go in the queue for fee payment then vehicle inspection (at Abu Dhabi Murror only park your car first and go to cashier counter inside Salama building to pay inspection fees and collect the ticket)
- Cost of inspection is AED 120 if the car is brought from GCC.
- If the car is not GCC standard (ie bought from Europe, America, Asia, etc) you will need to pay AED 450 instead of AED 120.
- Wait inside the car, in the queue, until your turn comes
- Once your turn arrives, hand over the car to the technician and give him the ticket – he will give you back a part of it for your reference.
- Go inside Salama and wait in the lounge while keeping an eye on your car's inspection.
- Once the inspection completed go and collect the car and park it.
- Go back inside Salama to the result counter and wait for the inspection certificate.

If your car passes the test, proceed to the Police counter to complete your registration [click here]. Please click here to check which Salama centres have a Police Registration Office on-site.

If your car does not pass the inspection test, you will have to fix it first and then bring it back. You will have 30 days to fix the car as per the inspector's feedback and bring it back for a re-test. Please note:
- within these 30 days you can re-test the car three times (if needed); the first re-test will cost you AED 50, which needs to be paid at the counter as soon as you bring your car back at Salama for re-inspection
- If needed, within the same 30 days, the 3rd and 4th re-tests will be free
- If your car fails the test more than 4 times (main test + three re-tests), or if the period of 30 days has expired, you will need to repeat the procedure from the beginning and pay again the AED 120 full fee
- Once your car has finally passed the vehicle inspection, please refer to the process described in OPTION 1 in order to complete its registration renewal

Insurance
- You might choose to pay for your car's insurance only after the vehicle inspection is completed. The reason is that in certain cases, and especially if your vehicle does not pass the test, there might be major changes that affect the insurance, and then you'll need to go back to your insurance provider and enter them in the system.
- Please note that while most of our Salama centres are equipped with offices representing major motor insurance companies, we cannot guarantee that your provider will be represented in our locations. Click here for a list of Salama centres that have car insurance offices on site.