

Used Auto Parts: Which Ones Are OK to Use and When?

Three Lists of Used Auto Parts –Sometimes Use – Usually Use - Never Use

This adaptation allows quick direct access to the information, to clarify and share the knowledge - based perspective that we as a company utilize on a daily basis. This balance was derived from our 34 years of fleet & retail automotive service experience.

A good portion of the information in this section was derived from articles **By Matthew Wright, About.com Guide**. Urgent Care has no affiliation with him or the site except for our appreciation of his high quality articles. We suggest that you check his site often for full content and a consistent source of other top notch information and links.

There are a number of used auto parts that are OK to use for a repair, but only sometimes. Sometimes? How are you supposed to know what times are the right times to buy such a used auto part? The parts listed below can be re-used if they're still good, but that's the rub - are they still good? That's where the sometimes comes in. If you can confirm that the used auto part is still good and are buying the used auto part from a reputable dealer who will take the part back if it's a dud, it's ok to use for your repair. If you're thinking of opting for a used auto part in your situation, check out the following three used auto parts lists:

* indicates the suggestion not to ever use for fleet or commercial vehicles.

Sometimes OK to use:

- a/c compressor
- a/c condenser
- ABS CPU
- ABS sensors
- alternator
- alternators
- axle shafts
- brake drums
- camshaft
- clutch master cylinder *
- coil packs
- cooling fan, electric
- CPU
- CV joints *
- cylinder heads
- dashboard gauges
- distributor
- engine block
- engine mounts *
- flywheel
- fuel injection unit
- fuel injector
- fuel pump *
- intercooler
- master cylinder *
- oil cooler
- oil lines
- oil pump *
- pistons
- power locks
- power steering pump *
- power window switch
- pressure plate
- radiator
- spare tire/rim
- steering rack *
- sunroof cables
- suspension springs
- timing chain *
- tires
- transmission
- turbocharger

Usually good to use used parts on following page:

Usually OK :

- air box
- body panels
- body parts
- bumpers
- carburetors (to rebuild)
- cigarette lighter
- coolant reservoir
- cooling fan, belt driven
- door lock actuators
- exhaust heat shield
- exhaust manifold
- exhaust pipes
- fuel tank
- gas cap
- grill
- hub caps
- intake manifold
- interior trim
- jack
- lug nuts
- oil pan
- power window motor
- pulleys
- rear view mirrors
- seats
- steering wheel
- stereo system
- sunroof motor
- tail lights
- throttle body
- tie rods
- turn signal lenses
- vacuum lines
- vacuum reservoir
- valve cover
- wheels
- window glass
- windows
- wiper arm

Before you decide to install a used auto part from this category, check your head. Most of these are parts that wear with mileage and are probably well on their way to uselessness as you're putting them in. Used auto parts can be great, but unless you're in Cuba sometimes they're better left sitting in the stinking yard of the used auto parts junk spot than installed on your car. Any used auto parts outlet with any integrity wouldn't sell you these parts used without at least letting you know that it might suck.

Never OK to use:

- air bags
- air filter
- airbag sensors
- ball joints
- battery
- bearings
- brake discs/rotors
- brake light switch
- brake pads
- brake shoes
- catalytic converter
- clutch disc
- cooling fan switch
- cylinder sleeves
- distributor cap
- distributor cap
- engine bearings
- fuel lines
- fuses
- gaskets
- head studs
- headlights
- ignition coil
- ignition condenser
- ignition points
- MAF
- muffler
- muffler hangers
- oil filter
- oil pressure switches sensors
- piston rings
- radiator hoses
- rotor
- shifter bushings
- shock absorbers
- spark plug wires
- spark plugs
- strut bearings
- strut inserts
- thermostat
- timing belt
- timing chain
- tires
- valves
- voltage regulator
- water pump
- water pump
- wheel bearings
- wheel cylinders