

EV Buyer's Checklist 2025 (Expert Edition)

By VeCharged | Expert Insights from Rahul

1. Pre-Purchase Readiness

Evaluate your personal EV fit before stepping into a dealership.

- Daily Driving Distance: _____
- Home Charging Access: _____
- 240V Circuit Availability: _____
- Tax Credit Eligibility (\$7,500 max): _____
- Financing or Loan Pre-Approval: _____
- Compared 3+ EV Models: _____

2. At the Dealership / Test Drive

Inspect like a professional.

- Battery Health Report (SOH % $\geq$ 80%)
- Range Test (10 mi -> compare projected vs actual)
- Brake Feel (smooth regeneration + firm pedal)
- Charging Port & Cable (test with demo charger)
- Tire & Alignment (even wear = no suspension issues)
- Software Updates (ensure latest OTA version)
- Warranty Coverage (battery warranty years/miles left)

3. Cost & Incentive Planning

Know your real ownership cost.

- Base Price (\$): _____
- Federal Credit (\$7,500): _____
- State/Utility Incentives: _____
- Charger Installation Cost: _____
- Annual Savings vs Gas: _____
- Final Effective Cost: _____

4. Post-Purchase Setup

Ensure smooth ownership.

- Install Level 2 charger at home
- Register EV for utility time-of-use rate
- Download OEM charging & navigation apps
- Set maintenance reminders (tires, brakes, filters)
- Join EV owner communities/forums
- Keep warranty & battery docs organized

Expert Tips from Rahul

"If you are buying your first EV, spend an extra day with a demo car. Observe range drop during real traffic and AC use - that experience tells you more than any brochure."

"Always negotiate out-the-door price after federal incentives - not MSRP. Many dealers still quote pre-credit prices."

