

Shipping A Classic or Collectible Car



Importance of Preparation

Proper preparation is essential when transporting your cherished classic or collectible car. Not only does preparation protect the vehicle from potential damage, but it also helps ensure smooth communication with your transport provider, ultimately making the entire experience stress-free. By dedicating extra attention to pre-shipment tasks, you're significantly reducing the likelihood of unforeseen issues that could delay or complicate your transport.



Begin the preparation process before the scheduled pickup. Allocate enough time to thoroughly inspect, clean, and organize the vehicle. Address minor maintenance concerns early, like ensuring proper fluid levels, battery charge, and tire inflation. The care taken during preparation sets the stage for safe, reliable shipping.



Thoroughly Cleaning Your Vehicle

A detailed cleaning of your classic or collectible car is more than aesthetic—it's an essential step in accurately documenting its condition. Wash the vehicle meticulously, paying close attention to areas prone to collecting dust or debris, like wheels, wheel wells, bumpers, and door sills. Next, carefully clean the interior, removing all personal items, accessories, and loose objects to prevent movement and damage during transit.

A clean vehicle makes it easier to identify any pre-existing imperfections, such as scratches, dents, or chips. This clarity is valuable when comparing your car's condition before and after transport, providing solid evidence in case of an insurance claim or dispute.



Mechanical Inspection Checklist

Perform a complete mechanical inspection prior to shipping your classic or collectible car. Check the fluid levels, including oil, coolant, transmission, and brake fluid. A properly maintained vehicle reduces potential issues when loading or unloading from transport trailers. Inspect tire pressure, ensuring each tire meets the recommended specifications to prevent unnecessary stress on your vehicle's suspension and frame during transit.

Furthermore, assess your vehicle's battery condition. Ensure it is securely mounted and fully charged. Inform the auto transport company of any known mechanical quirks or special procedures needed for starting or operating your vehicle. Clear communication about the vehicle's condition can significantly improve the overall shipping experience.



The Advantage of Enclosed Transport

Classic and collectible cars often require special protection during transit, making enclosed auto transport a preferred option. Unlike open trailers, enclosed trailers offer a controlled environment that shields your vehicle from harsh weather, road debris, UV rays, and potential vandalism. These trailers typically feature hydraulic lift gates, specialized ramps, and soft tie-downs, providing gentle handling and maximum safety.

Choosing enclosed transport means your car arrives at its destination looking as pristine as it did at pickup. This method is especially recommended for valuable vehicles, show cars, rare classics, or those with sensitive original paintwork, upholstery, or convertible tops.



Understanding Insurance Coverage

Insurance coverage is an essential consideration when shipping valuable vehicles. Verify the details of your carrier's insurance policy carefully. Shelby Auto Transport provides comprehensive insurance coverage, clearly outlining policy limits, deductibles, and conditions. For extra peace of mind, confirm that the coverage amount matches the true value of your classic or collectible.

In addition, check your personal vehicle insurance policy to determine whether supplemental coverage is necessary. Understanding exactly how your vehicle is protected ensures you're prepared and confident in the event of any unexpected circumstances.



Documenting Vehicle Condition with Video Inspection

Creating a detailed video inspection with your cellphone before transport is critical for safeguarding your car's condition. Record a complete walkthrough, capturing all angles of the exterior and interior clearly. Narrate and point out specific details, highlighting existing scratches, dents, blemishes, or custom features. For added detail, film underneath the car, wheels, engine bay, and trunk areas.

Once your vehicle reaches its destination, repeat the same video inspection immediately upon delivery. Comparing these videos ensures any changes or damages during shipment are accurately documented, simplifying potential claims and disputes.



Choosing the Right Auto Transport Company

Choosing the best auto transport company for your classic car is vital. Select a provider with a proven track record, extensive experience handling high-value vehicles, and positive customer testimonials. Companies like Shelby Auto Transport specialize in classic and collectible car shipping, offering personalized service and expertise tailored specifically to enthusiasts and collectors.

Evaluate factors like licensing, insurance, and reputation through online reviews, industry feedback, and personal recommendations. A reputable company will openly share this information, maintain clear communication, and provide a detailed quote outlining all associated costs upfront.



Communication and Coordination

Effective communication with your auto transport company ensures smooth and successful vehicle shipment. Establish clear expectations regarding pickup dates, delivery windows, and any special handling instructions. Shelby Auto Transport provides real-time updates and maintains consistent communication throughout the transport process, keeping you informed at every stage.

Confirm contact information for your primary point of contact, including a direct phone number and email. Sharing your expectations and maintaining open dialogue prevents misunderstandings and allows for swift solutions to any challenges.



Special Handling and Custom Requests

Classic and collectible cars often have unique requirements that need special handling during shipment. Whether your vehicle requires particular loading procedures, extra protective measures, or climate-controlled environments, communicate these needs clearly to your transport company. Experienced transport companies, like Shelby Auto Transport, are skilled in managing custom requests and accommodating special needs.

Clearly document and share all handling specifications, instructions, or preferences in writing prior to transport. Doing so ensures your cherished vehicle is treated with the care and precision it deserves, safeguarding your investment throughout its journey.



Receiving Your Vehicle and Post-Transport Inspection

Upon your vehicle's arrival, carefully inspect your classic car before signing off on delivery documents. Utilize your initial pre-shipment video and notes to verify the car's condition matches exactly. Pay attention to key areas like paintwork, wheels, glass, trim, and the interior, looking for any new marks, scratches, or potential issues.

Immediately document any discrepancies or concerns directly with the transport driver, noting them clearly on the delivery paperwork. Promptly notifying Shelby Auto Transport allows for swift action and resolution. Completing this careful inspection helps ensure your classic or collectible car transport experience concludes positively, preserving your peace of mind and enjoyment.



Trust Shelby Auto Transport for your car shipment.

Shelby Auto Transport

Call Us for a free quote 424-453-1800