



Provide Cars' Online Bidding System Users' Manual

Introduction

Like previous Provide Cars' online systems, this online system allows you to:

- Search for vehicles at up-coming auctions in Japan.
- Communicate with Provide Cars' staff about these vehicles.
- Get translations of the auction inspectors' reports.
- Research historical market prices for similar vehicles in order to decide how much to bid.
- Place bids on vehicles.
- Manage those bids.
- See the results of those bids as they come in.
- Save search parameters and email up-coming car details.

The goal in all of this is to help you find the best cars for your requirements and to help you get them at the best prices.

Overview

This manual is to help you discover the features that are available, to show how they will help you get the vehicles you are looking for, and to explain how to use them.

Meet Mr. Demo Guy

We will be following the adventures of Mr. Demo Guy, looking over his shoulder as he searches for cars and bids on them for his customers. Although you may not be after the same kinds of cars or be buying in the same kind of way as Mr. Demo Guy, you will find that a lot of what we see him doing are things that you will be able to directly apply yourself.

With this in mind, it is a good idea to have your user name and password handy while you are reading this so that you can look at the screens for yourself and try out the different features we will be looking at. There is nothing like having a go for yourself to learn something new.

Main "Auctions > New Search" Screen

This is the first screen you will see when you log in:

The screenshot shows the 'providecars' website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'English', '日本語', and 'Home'. Below that, there are links for 'New Search', 'Recent Searches', 'Saved Searches', 'Auto Notices', 'Browse Models', and 'Favourites'. The main content area is split into three columns:

- Search Options:** Includes dropdowns for 'make: (all)', 'model:', 'year: MIN to MAX', 'condition: MIN to MAX', and 'mileage (kms): ,000 to ,000'. There are also radio buttons for 'list', 'photo-list', and 'large photos', and a checkbox for 'exclude cars I have already seen'. A 'Results per page: 30' dropdown and a 'search' button are present. Below this is an 'Advanced Options' section for experts, including fields for 'chassis:', 'grade:', 'sub-model', 'variant', 'lot number:', 'engine (cc):', 'fuel type:', 'aircon:', 'colour:', and 'start bid, yen: ,000 to ,000'. An 'Equipment' section follows with checkboxes for power windows, rear spoiler, power steering, sunroof, anti-lock brakes, CD player, air-bag, MD player, leather seats, CS, television, alloy wheels, and navigation.
- Auction Days:** Shows a calendar view with dates and unit counts: Monday November, 30 (20 hours from now, 180 units); Saturday November, 28 (2 hours from now, 28681 units); Friday November, 27 (completed, 23114 units). A note states 'Start times are rough estimates only.'
- Auction Items:** Lists items with checkboxes and unit counts: Monday (GAC 81, Honda Fukuoka 35, Honda Hokkaido 31, Honda Sendai 43); Saturday (Arai VT 2460, HAA Kobe 8935, JU Gifu 4231, JU Nara 484, NAA Nagoya Nyuusatsu 269, NAA Osaka Nyuusatsu 109, NAA Tokyo Nyuusatsu 239, TAA Yokohama 2250, USS Gunma 1710, USS Kyushu 3653, USS Okayama 1490, USS Ryuutsu 2007, USS Shizuoka 1644); Friday (Arai Bay-side 1672, Isuzu Kobe 937, JAA Tsukuba 964, JU Chiba 587, JU Fukuoka 1369, JU Miyagi 1530, JU Niigata 848, JU Okayama LAA 970, JU Okinawa 432, JU Tochigi 528, KCAA Yamaguchi 724, NAA Tokyo 663, USS Hokuriku 554, USS Nagoya 8160, USS Osaka 2143, USS Saitama 1013).

At the bottom, there's a footer with 'Contact', 'Report problem', and 'Help' links, and the 'providecars' logo.

At first glance, it can look a bit like the cockpit of a Jumbo jet: Lots of buttons, switches and flashing lights. But if we break it down into sections it will become a bit clearer:

make: (all)

model: [add / clear](#)

year: Min to Max

condition: Min to Max

mileage (kms): ,000 to ,000

transmission: all

list
 photo-list
 large photos

exclude cars I have already seen

Results per page: 38

[Clear Form](#) [Search by ID](#)

Advanced Options
For experts only. Use with caution.

added less than hours ago

chassis:

grade:

sub-model variant:

lot number: to

engine (cc): to

fuel type: all

aircon:

colour:

start bid, yen: ,000 to ,000

Equipment
Warning: Not always included in records.

power windows rear spoiler
 power steering sunroof
 anti-lock brakes CD player
 air-bag MD player
 leather seats OS
 television alloy wheels
 navigation

Auction Days

Monday November, 30
 30 hours from now
 - [browse 190 units](#)
 - [favourites](#)

Saturday November, 28
 2 hours from now
 - [browse 28691 units](#)
 - [favourites](#)

Friday November, 27
 completed
 - [browse 23114 units](#)
 - [favourites](#)

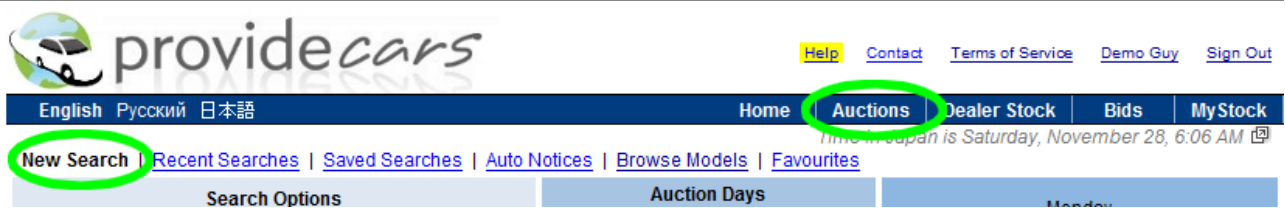
Start times are rough estimates only.

Monday	
<input type="checkbox"/>	GAO (81)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Honda Fukuoka (35)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Honda Hokkaido (31)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Honda Sendai (43)
Saturday	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Arai VT (2460)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HAA Kobe (8935)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JU Gifu (4281)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JU Nara (454)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAA Nagoya Nyuusatsu (269)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAA Osaka Nyuusatsu (109)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAA Tokyo Nyuusatsu (289)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TAA Yokohama (2250)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USS Gunma (1710)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USS Kyushu (3683)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USS Okayama (1490)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USS Ryusutsu (2007)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USS Shizuoka (1644)
Friday	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arai Bayside (1672)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Isuzu Kobe (937)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JAA Tsukuba (964)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Chiba (587)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Fukuoka (1389)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Miyagi (1530)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Niigata (848)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Okayama LAA (970)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Okinawa (432)
<input type="checkbox"/>	JU Tochigi (528)
<input type="checkbox"/>	KCAA Yamaguchi (724)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAA Tokyo (883)
<input type="checkbox"/>	USS Hokuriku (554)
<input type="checkbox"/>	USS Nagoya (8160)
<input type="checkbox"/>	USS Osaka (2143)
<input type="checkbox"/>	USS Sakuma (1013)

- 1 Basic functions:** For example, there is a link to your profile and where to log out.
- 2 Global navigation:** Here you can switch between looking at auctions and looking at your stock, for example. You can get back to the page above by clicking on “Auctions” in this section.
- 3 Car hunting navigation:** These are different ways to find vehicles or set up notifications when cars you are interested in show up in the auctions. As you can see, we are on the “New Search” screen.
- 4 Search parameters:** With often tens of thousands of vehicles to choose from on a particular day, you will need to use this to cut through these numbers down to the cars you are actually interested in.
- 5 Auction day settings:** See what happened in yesterday's auction, or look to the days ahead to see whether cars you are interested in are coming up.
- 6 Auction location settings:** Select particular auctions on particular days to just look for vehicles in those selected auctions.

So, to give you an idea of where you are when you first log in, in case you want to get back here, you can find this screen again by clicking on “Auctions” in section 2 (Global Navigation), and then

clicking on on “New Search” in section 3 (Car Hunting Navigation).



Changing Your Password

Before we get into how to use the system, let's quickly have a look at how to change your password, as you probably have a password you would prefer to use.

In the “Basic Functions” at the top right, you can see your account name. In this case, the name of the account is “Demo Guy” - for your account it will be your own name, or the name of the person at the company who is in charge of bidding.

Click on this name and here you are at your profile page.

First Name: Demo	Old Password <input type="text"/>
Last Name: Guy	New Password <input type="text"/>
Email: demo@demoguy.com	Confirm New Password <input type="text"/>
Phone: 99999999	<input type="button" value="update"/>
Address: Demo Street, Demo Town	
Country: AFGHANISTAN	

Take a quick look over the information on the left on your profile. See anything wrong? An old phone number or an email address that needs updating? If this is the case, please tell us about it, as we don't want important communications going missing! [Email your agent](#) and we will update it.

Now, you can go ahead and change your password. Just be careful when you do this:

1. Your password needs to be 6 or more characters long.
2. You want to make sure it is not easy to guess! After all, you don't want someone entering bids under your name and find you are on the line to pay for a fleet of Ferraris.

Searching for and Bidding on Cars

Now you have your password set up how you like it, let's go back to the Auction > New Search screen and start to see how we can find cars.

If you are having trouble getting back, just take a look at the top of this page to remind yourself about that.

(Which reminds me, it is always a good idea to use the new things you are reading about as you are learning them, so as we go along there will be some little exercises you can do to check you understand what you are doing. There are no points or little stars next to your name if you do them, but you can be sure what you pick up now is going to help you get your bidding done quicker and more effectively when you do it for real later.)

We will start of by doing the kind of search you will probably use the most – a basic search, leaving the “Advanced Options” to one side.

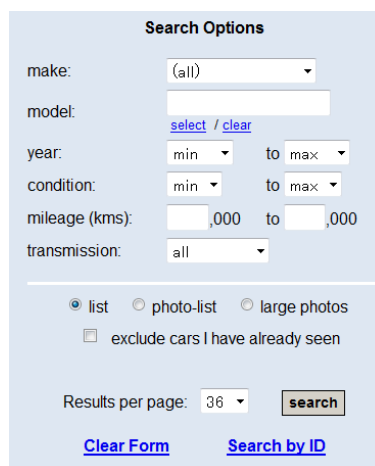
The Basic Search

Mr. Demo Guy has customers who love Hondas. In fact their favorite Honda is the Odyssey. So Mr. Demo Guy is on the look out for these to bid on. In fact his customers prefer the following kind of Odysseys:

- 2001 or 2002
- Must be 2.3 liter
- Must be grade 4 or 4.5
- Must have less than 60K KM

These are the cars he is looking for, so let's see how he would use the search function to find them:

First of all, he goes to the “Search Options” section at the top left side of the main screen:



The screenshot shows a 'Search Options' form with the following fields and controls:

- make:** A dropdown menu currently set to '(all)'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the dropdown arrow.
- model:** A text input field with the text 'select / clear' below it.
- year:** Two dropdown menus labeled 'min' and 'to max'.
- condition:** Two dropdown menus labeled 'min' and 'to max'.
- mileage (kms):** Two text input fields with commas and the text ',000' to indicate thousands, labeled 'to' and 'to'.
- transmission:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'all'.
- Below the form, there are three radio buttons: 'list' (selected), 'photo-list', and 'large photos'.
- A checkbox labeled 'exclude cars I have already seen' is unchecked.
- 'Results per page:' is set to '36' with a dropdown arrow.
- A 'search' button is located to the right of the results per page dropdown.
- At the bottom, there are two links: 'Clear Form' and 'Search by ID'.

The make he is looking for is Honda, so he goes to the drop down list to select this manufacturer:



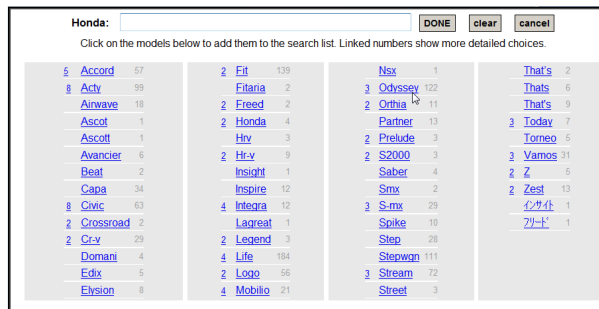
This image shows a close-up of the 'make:' dropdown menu. The word 'Honda' is selected and displayed in the dropdown box. A mouse cursor is pointing at the dropdown arrow on the right side of the box.

Next he needs to select the model, so he clicks in the text box “model”...

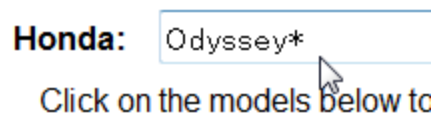


This image shows a close-up of the 'model:' text input field. A mouse cursor is pointing at the text input box. Below the input field, the text 'select / clear' is visible.

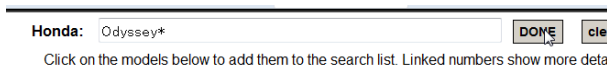
... which immediately pops up a list of the Honda models to choose from:



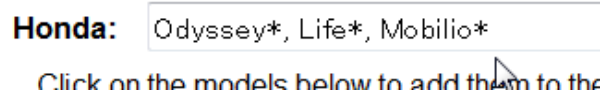
By clicking on “Odyssey”, the system adds a search parameter which will catch all the Odysseys in the data:



Right now Demo Guy is only interested in finding Odysseys, so he clicks on “Done” to close that window:



Of course, he could have always added extra models by selecting other models from this list like this:

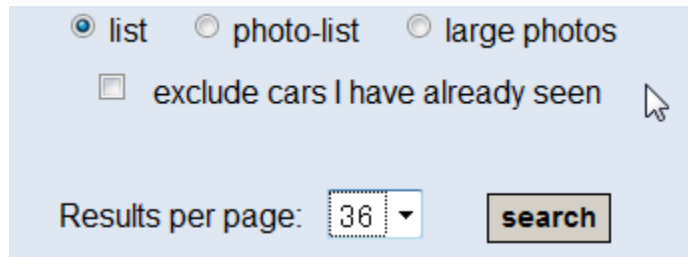


Anyway, as I said, Demo Guy is really only after Odysseys, so he just selects “Odyssey*” and leaves it at that, clicking on “done” to close that window.

Entering his other requirements (year, grade and mileage) is done easily by entering them in the boxes below:

year:	<input type="text" value="2001"/>	to	<input type="text" value="2002"/>
condition:	<input type="text" value="4.0"/>	to	<input type="text" value="4.5"/>
mileage (kms):	<input type="text" value="0,000"/>	to	<input type="text" value="60,000"/>
transmission:	<input type="text" value="all"/>		

Now there are some settings which allow him to change how he sees the results:



First of all, let's see how the “list”, “photo-list” and “large photos” differ. Well, a picture is worth a thousand words, so here they are in all their glory:

First up, the “list view” looks like this:

Auction Search Results 1 - 9 of 9 results << previous | next >>

Day	Auc / Lot	ID	Make	Model / Grade	Chassis Yr	Kms	Colour	CC	Trans	Fl	Cond	Equip	Start	Result
12/01	J-88 2358	35402333	Honda	Cd/55e/ Absolute	RAS	02 42	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, sw, ps, pw, abs, srs	€ 280 k	11:47
12/01	J-88 1830	35418222	Honda	Cd/55e/ Absolute Teaser	RAS	02 62	silver	3000	IA	-	4	AC, tv, sw, ps, sr, pw, abs, nav, srs	€ 50 k	11:31
12/01	18-78 50	35392370	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	black	2300	IAT	P	4	WAC, srs, ps, pw, abs	€ 30 k	10:44
12/01	ca-10k 2087	35411872	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1141281	grey ip31m	2300	AT	P	4.5	AC, srs, ps, pw	€ 30 k	
12/01	ca-10k 2117	35411822	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	pearl nh624p	2300	AT	P	4	AC, srs, ps, pw	€ 120 k	
12/01	ca-10k 2120	35411822	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	pearl nh624p	2300	AT	P	4	AAC, srs, ps, pw	€ 10 k	
12/01	J-88 17	35402402	Honda	Cd/55e/ M Teaser	RAS	01 74	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, ps, pw, abs, srs	€ 0 k	09:02
12/01	J-88 2318	35402330	Honda	Cd/55e/ M/ Teaser	RAS	02 67	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, ps, pw, srs	€ 90 k	12:55
12/01	18-10b 1077	35418710	Honda	Cd/55e/ Sd M	RAS	02 63	beige	2300	AT	-	4.5	ps, pw	€ 50 k	11:02

[\[hide auction site\]](#)
 [\[hide lot number\]](#)
 [\[hide results\]](#)
 << previous | next >>
 [spreadsheet file \(csv\)](#)

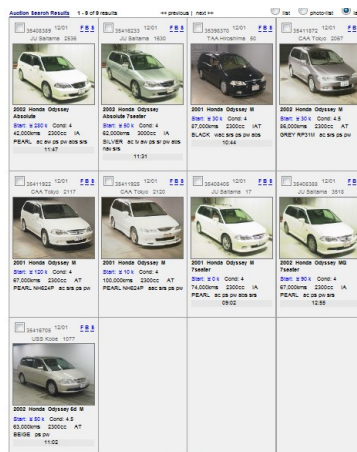
Next, the “photo-list” view:

Auction Search Results 1 - 9 of 9 results << previous | next >>

Day	Auc / Lot	ID	Make	Model / Grade	Chassis Yr	Kms	Colour	CC	Trans	Fl	Cond	Equip	Start	Result
12/01	J-88 2358	35402333	Honda	Cd/55e/ Absolute	RAS	02 42	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, sw, ps, pw, abs, srs	€ 280 k	11:47
12/01	J-88 1830	35418222	Honda	Cd/55e/ Absolute Teaser	RAS	02 62	silver	3000	IA	-	4	AC, tv, sw, ps, sr, pw, abs, nav, srs	€ 50 k	11:31
12/01	18-78 50	35392370	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	black	2300	IAT	P	4	WAC, srs, ps, pw, abs	€ 30 k	10:44
12/01	ca-10k 2087	35411872	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1141281	grey ip31m	2300	AT	P	4.5	AC, srs, ps, pw	€ 30 k	
12/01	ca-10k 2117	35411822	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	pearl nh624p	2300	AT	P	4	AC, srs, ps, pw	€ 120 k	
12/01	ca-10k 2120	35411822	Honda	Cd/55e/ M	RAS	-1122155	pearl nh624p	2300	AT	P	4	AAC, srs, ps, pw	€ 10 k	
12/01	J-88 17	35402402	Honda	Cd/55e/ M Teaser	RAS	01 74	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, ps, pw, abs, srs	€ 0 k	09:02
12/01	J-88 2318	35402330	Honda	Cd/55e/ M/ Teaser	RAS	02 67	pearl	2300	IA	-	4	AC, ps, pw, srs	€ 90 k	12:55
12/01	18-10b 1077	35418710	Honda	Cd/55e/ Sd M	RAS	02 63	beige	2300	AT	-	4.5	ps, pw	€ 50 k	11:02

<< previous | next >>

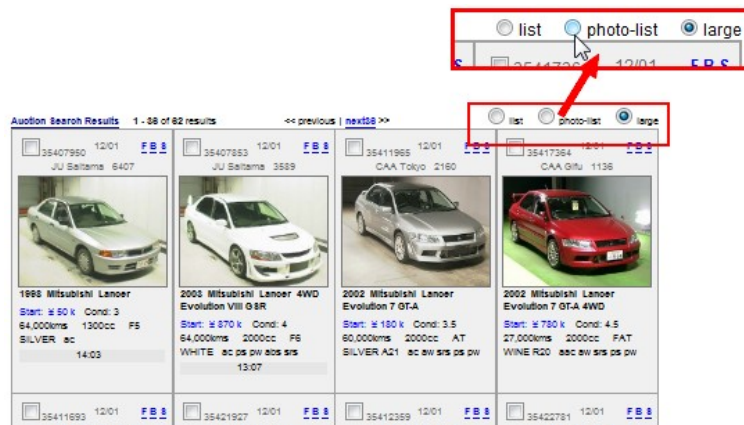
Finally, the “large photos” view:



The “photo-list” and “large photos” views are useful if you are looking for particular things. For example:

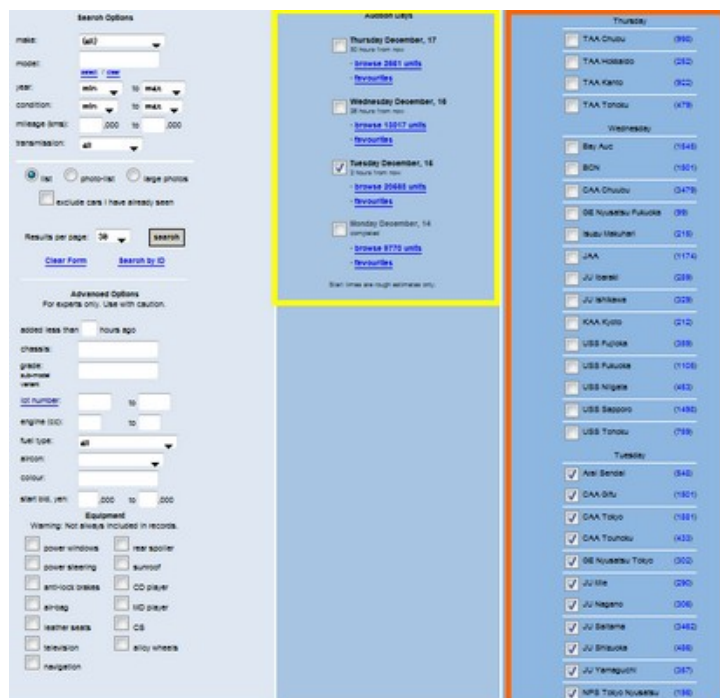
- If you are looking at trucks and you want to see the kinds of attachments they have on the bed: Dumps, cranes, tanks etc. It is very easy to spot these right away from the photos.
- If your customers like particular colors. The colors are noted in the text information, but if you see the images, you can pick out the right colors at a glance.
- If you want cars with either lots of aftermarket parts – or on the flip side, no aftermarket parts – it is easy to get an idea of which is which from the images.

The disadvantage of these ways of viewing the auction data is that the more images there are, the slower the system could get. Anyway, you can pick and choose which would be best for you – and you can always switch between views when you are looking at the search results simply by selecting the view you would prefer using the controls at the top right of each results page:



Selecting Auction Day and Auction Location

Before we go on to see the results of Demo Guy's search, let's not forget the other settings you can use to narrow your search:



Auction Day

The check boxes in the center panel allow you to select the day. It automatically is set to show the current auction day, but you can also use this to see what a car went for the previous day, or to look ahead to see what cars are coming up in the future.

Of course, as you look further ahead, you need to remember that not all the data has been uploaded for that day yet, so you need to make sure you come back to check later when the data is more complete. Mr. Demo Guy finds this to be a useful feature as he is often buying cars for particular customers, so being able to show them cars a little further in advance means that his customers have a bit more time to make up their minds about whether they want to have a go for that vehicle or not.


Auction Location

If you prefer a particular auction house, or perhaps you want to avoid buying from areas of Japan where there is a lot of snow (for example) that might result in older vehicles having worse than average rust, then this is a useful feature for you. Just go down the check list and click the box to uncheck any auctions that you do not want to see the cars from.





Search Results

If you remember above, Demo Guy has opted to see “large” images. So let's just quickly go through what information he can see about each car on in the results page:

3 FBS!
F = front B = Back I = inside
S = auction sheet

1 12/08
2 35554338
3 FBS!
4 USS Yokohama **5** 50308
6 
7 2001 Honda Odyssey 5d Awd M
8 Start: ¥ 0 k **9** Cond: 4
10 51,000kms **11** 2300cc AT
12 PEARL ac tv ps pw **13**
14 17:11

Auction Search Results 1 - 4 of 4 results << previous | next >> list photo-list large

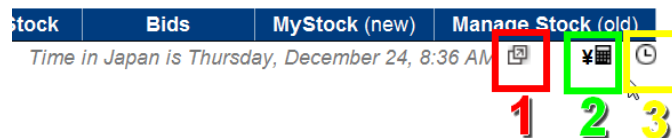
 2001 Honda Odyssey M Start: ¥ 120 k Cond: 4 67,000kms 2300cc AT PEARL NH624P ac srs ps pw	 2001 Honda Odyssey MQ Start: ¥ 30 k Cond: 4 77,000kms 2300cc IAT PEARL-WHITE wac grfe srs ps pw abs 14:04	 2001 Honda Odyssey S Start: ¥ 80 k Cond: 4 72,000kms 2300cc IAT WHITE wac rs srs ps pw abs 11:53	 2001 Honda Odyssey 5d Awd M Start: ¥ 0 k Cond: 4 51,000kms 2300cc AT PEARL ac tv ps pw 17:11
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As you can see, he has picked out the white Honda Odyssey on the far right, and this is the information he can see. (See the red numbers on the image above):

1. The date of the auction.
2. The Provide Cars' item number for this car.
3. These are links from which pictures of the car pop up. So if you hover your mouse (not click) over the F, then you get the front view of the car. Hover over the B, and you get the back. Over the I, then you get the interior picture (if there is one – not all auctions have this). And over the S and the auction sheet image will pop up. This is quite handy if you want to stay on the results screen, but still see details of individual cars.
4. This is the name of the auction where this car is being sold in Japan.
5. This is the number of this car in the auction (4),
6. This is the front photo of the car.
7. This is the year, make and model of the vehicle.
8. This is the start price. Obviously, this tells you the amount bidding begins at, so you will need to at least bid this (and probably quite a bit more) to be able to get a vehicle.
9. This is the grade of the car. This car has an overall grade of 4, and you can read more about grading and [how to read the auction sheets here on our website](#).
10. This is the KM of the car. (Rounded to the nearest thousand.)
11. This is the engine capacity (CC) and the transmission type. This one is AT – automatic.
12. This is the exterior color.
13. This is the list of the main equipment. This will normally be factory-fitted equipment only, whereas other aftermarket equipment may well be mentioned on the auction sheet itself.
14. This is the expected time that this car will be auctioned at, or the result of the auction. The time is only an estimate by the auction, and you should not leave your decision about whether to go ahead with a bid on a particular car to the last minute. It is best to make your final decision at the latest one hour prior to this time.

Extra Features

Here are some useful additional features that you can find at the top right of the search results screen:



1 – Pop-up Japan Time clock

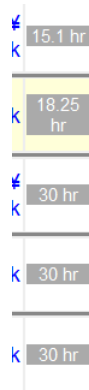
This launches an extra little window with a clock showing the current time in Japan.

2- Pop-up Currency Convertor

Clicking here launches a basic currency convertor. This is useful to give you an idea of what a certain Yen value is in your currency. However, please remember that currency prices fluctuate and all your business with us is denominated in Yen.

3- Most Recent Re-ordering

Clicking here will re-order the search results showing which cars were added to the online data most recently. It will also show how long ago they were added, which is useful if you have had a look a while earlier and you don't really want to spend time plowing through the same cars all over again.



The most recently added is at the top, with how long ago it was added in hours on the gray background.

Have a go

Go back to the search screen:

1. Set up a search for a kind of car that you might be interested in.
2. Practice switching between the different views.
3. Pick out one car and take a look at the details. Make sure you can remember what all the notes about each car mean.

Saving a Favorite

This is similar to bookmarking a website: You see a car you are interested in and you want to keep a record of it so you can come back to it easily.

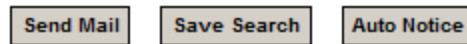
There are two places you can add a car to your favorites list. The first is on this auction results screen. As you can see, there are check boxes down the far left side of the list of results in the list view and photo list views:



Or in the top left corner of each car's section in the large photo view:

Send Mail, Save Search and Auto Notice

Before we leave this results overview page, there are three very useful features that are hidden at the bottom of the page.



We will look at these each in turn:

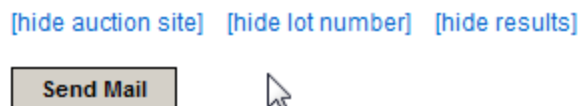
Send Mail

This button is at the far left bottom side of the results screen. As the name suggests, the idea is that you can send people these cars. How could you use this?

- If you are in an importing business and have a partner, you might want to send him details of a particular car to see if he would want to bid on it.
- If you are sourcing cars for an end customer, you may want to send them the results of the search so that they can see the cars available. They can then get back to you and tell you which ones they would like you to bid on.
- If you want to give someone an idea of what a particular kind of car is selling for, you can run your search on the previous day's auction data and send the list of cars with the results showing. (This can be useful to educate a customer about the kind of price the car he is interested in are currently going for.)

Don't click the Send Mail button yet!

If you are going to be sending the email to your end customer, there is a setting you will probably want to change before you click the "Send Mail" button and go to the email page. The options are all just above the "Send Mail" button, which itself is at the bottom left of the page:



These buttons do pretty much what they say they do, and you can click them and see how the results displayed above:

- "Hide Auction Site" will remove the name of the auction location from the results list. (Click it and see how the information in the "Auc / Lot" column changes.)
- "Hide Lot Number" will remove the lot number. So, if you only click this one, then the auction site will still be displayed, but the lot number will not. If you click this button and the "Hide Auction Site" button, then both the auction name and the lot number will be removed.
- "Hide Results" will remove the information from the far right column, so if you don't want the details of which car sold for what, then you should click this button.

Once you have the information set up how you want it shown in the email, you are ready to click the "Send Mail" button and send the email.

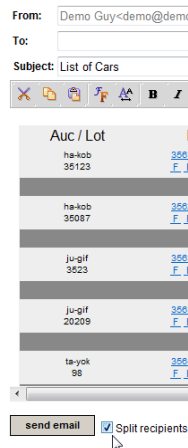
The window that opens up looks very much like you will be used to seeing if you use web-based email, such as Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo email, so we don't need to look at this in much detail. You will see that your search results are already in the email, and you can also write additional text as

you would if you were writing a normal email.

Sending to Multiple Recipients

You may want to send the email to a number of different people. You can easily add a number of email addresses in the “To:” line. But what if you don't want them to be able to see each others' email addresses when they receive the email – like the BCC setting in a normal email program?

All you need to do is to check the “Split recipients” box before clicking the “send email” button and the online system will do it for you.



The screenshot shows an email composition interface. At the top, the 'From' field is filled with 'Demo Guy<demo@demo>'. The 'To:' field is empty. The 'Subject' is 'List of Cars'. Below the subject is a toolbar with icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, and text color. A table of recipients is displayed with columns for 'Auc / Lot', 'Name', and 'Action'. The recipients are: ha-kob 35123, ha-kob 35087, ju-gif 3823, ju-gif 20209, and la-yok 98. Each row has a '356' and 'F, I' link. At the bottom, there is a 'send email' button and a checked checkbox labeled 'Split recipients'.

Auc / Lot	Name	Action
ha-kob 35123	ha-kob 35087	356 F, I
ju-gif 3823	ju-gif 20209	356 F, I
la-yok 98		356 F, I

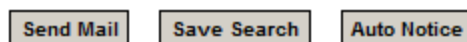
Have a go

Try sending the list of cars you have just searched to yourself and a friend. Make sure you hide the recipients by using the “Split recipients” option.

Save Search

Saving and naming searches

We need to go back to the search page and these three buttons at the bottom of the screen:



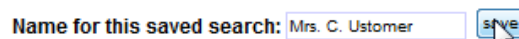
Now we are going to look at the second one which, as the name implies, allows you to save the search. To be really clear, what this means is that the system will save the *parameters* that you are using for this search. It does not save the results of the search.

So if you go to the button and click on it, you will notice it changes:



The form shows the text 'Name for this saved search:' followed by an empty text input field, a 'save' button, and a 'cancel' button.

There are a couple of ways you could use naming. First of all, imagine Mr. Demo Guy is looking for the Odyssey for a particular customer of his called Mrs. C. Ustomer. He has a lot of other customers who are looking for other cars and he wants to keep track of what he is trying to buy for whom, so he uses her name as the name of the search so he can find it easily in the future. He enters her name and clicks “Save”:



The form now shows the text 'Name for this saved search:' followed by the text 'Mrs. C. Ustomer' entered in the input field, a 'save' button, and a 'cancel' button.

Demo Guy also is looking out for cars to buy for his stock. He knows that 2002 Honda S2000s are popular in his country, so he wants to take a look at those everyday to see if there is any he might want. So he does a search for these S2000s and then saves this search. This time he does not have a customer he is getting the car for, so he uses the model name for the search:

Name for this saved search:

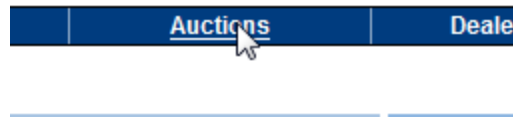
Have a go

Why don't you save a search? Then you can see how you can use this in the next section.

Using saved searches

Of course, there is no point just saving the search parameters – you want to be able to use them. So let's move away from this page for a moment to see how you can use them.

First of all, go back to the auction search screen. Do you remember how to do that? That's right – click on “Auctions” in the dark blue band at the top of the screen:



Now, in the top left corner, click on “Saved Searches”:



Here are the two searches that Demo Guy saved and that I mentioned above:

Name	Filters	Actions	Creation date
Mrs. C. Ustomer	2001 Honda Odyssey* Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80	<input type="button" value="remove"/>	2009/12/12 08:14
S2000s	2001 Honda S2000* Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80	<input type="button" value="remove"/>	2009/12/12 08:13

When Demo Guy wants to do one of these searches, he just clicks on the name of the search, and he is taken back to the search screen with all the parameters for the search already entered. For example, he clicks on “Mrs. C. Ustomer” to see what Odysseys he might want to try buying for her today, and he is taken here:

Search Options

make:

model:
[select](#) / [clear](#)

year: to

condition: to

mileage (kms): ,000 to ,000

transmission:

All he has to do now is to select the view he wants (list, photo-list, or large photos) and click “search” to see the cars.

Of course, once C. Ustomer has bought her car, Demo Guy no longer needs to keep those search parameters saved, so he clicks “remove” to delete it and so he keeps his saved searches screen uncluttered.

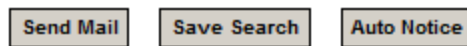
Name	Filters			Actions	Creation date	
Mrs. C. Ustomer	2001	Honda	Odyssey*	Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80	remove	2009/12/12 08:14
S2000e	2001	Honda	S2000*	Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80		2009/12/12 08:13

Have a go

Try using a saved search that you have created to bring up cars in today's auctions. Once you have done that, see if you can remember how to delete a saved search.

Auto Notice

Once more, we are going back to these three buttons that are at the bottom of the search results page. As you recall, we have already looked at how to use the “Send Mail” and “Save Search” buttons, so now we are on to the last one, “Auto Notice”:



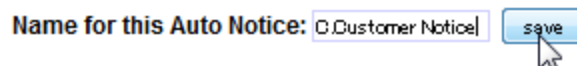
What is an Auto Notice?

Before we go on, you probably want to know what Auto Notices actually are. Well, as the name suggests, they are automatic notifications that the system sends you by email at set points in the day (4 AM, 8AM and 10PM JST).

They are particularly useful if you are looking for a more unusual car that does not come up very often. Obviously you could just set up a saved search, and then log in and run the search every day, but that could get a bit tedious. With an auto notice set up, all you need to do is check your email and the system will give you a heads up when the one you are after is available.

Creating an Auto Notice

Now, just as for the “Save Search” button, when you click on the “Auto Notice” button, it immediately asks you for a name to save these settings under. Once more, Demo Guy is wanting to get that Odyssey for Mrs. C. Ustomer, so he is calling it “C. Ustomer Notice”:



Managing your Auto Notices

Once you save your Auto Notice, you are sent to the Auto Notice management screen. For future reference, you can always find it here:



From this screen you can:

1	2	3	4	
Name	Filters	Settings	Actions	Creation date
C.Customer Notice	2001 Honda Odyssey* Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Active	Remove	2009/12/15 06:51

1. Click the name of the Auto Notice and run a search in the same way you did on the saved search screen.
2. See the details of the parameters you have set for this Auto Notice.
3. Set the Auto Notice to be “active” (sending you emails) or “inactive” (still saved, but not sending you emails).
4. If you decide you do not need this Auto Notice anymore, you can always delete it permanently.

Have a go

Set up an Auto Notice for a search that you regularly do. Check your email and you should be getting the notifications. If you don't get any after a few days, please take a look at these possible causes:

- Click your user name at the top right of any page and you will be able to see your personal details page:



Check your email address here. Is it correct? If it isn't, please [contact us](#) with the correct one.

- If your email address is OK, then perhaps the notifications are getting caught in your spam folder. Take a look in there and make sure you mark them as “Not Spam” if that is where they are.

Recent Searches

This feature is very useful if you have done a number of searches and want to come back and do one of them again, but you didn't remember to save it as a “saved search”. The system keeps track of what searches you are doing and you can find them to reuse them like this:

Go back to the main search screen and the top left corner as before:



This time click on “Recent Searches” and you will see a list of the searches you have done:



These are ordered by recency, so the one you have done most recently is at the top. However, you can also have them reordered by selecting “Number of times used”:

Sort by: [Number of times used](#) | [Most recently used](#)

As usual, to activate a search with those parameters, all you need to do is to click on the blue highlighted link, like this:

(1) [2001-2005 Honda Odyssey* Condition: 3.5 - 4.0 KMS: min - 80 Colour: blue](#)

Car Details Pages and Placing Bids

Getting to the car details page

So let's back track a bit here first. Remember Demo Guy was doing a search. He was looking for Honda Odysseys and he found a few, so now he is ready to bid. Here he is at the search results screen:

Day	Auc / Lot	ID	Make	Model / Grade	Chassis	Yr	Kms	Colour	C.C	Trans	F	Cnd	Equip	Start	Result
12/15	ts-hou 9147	35702919 F B S	Honda	Odyssey	RA9	01	69	silver	3000	IAT	P	3.5	AC, aw, ers, ps, sr, pw, abs	¥ 50 k	
12/15	ca-qif 4033	35684564 F B S	Honda	Odyssey M	RA6	01	76	black b92p	2300	AT	P	3.5	AC, ers, ps, pw	¥ 30 k	
12/15	ca-90k 2119	35683923 F B S	Honda	Odyssey M	RA6	01	67	pearl nh624p	2300	AT	P	4	AC, ers, ps, pw	¥ 120 k	

The second one from the top is black, and this happens to be the color his customer is after, so he opens up this car's page by clicking on the ID number:



Checking the car

Here he can see the details about the car as well as photos of the car itself and the auction sheet (the auction inspector's report).

Clicking on any of the images makes them larger. The photos of the car are interesting and can tell you something about it (like whether it has a body kit, or what kind of alloy wheels it has), but the most useful information can usually be found in the auction sheet.



As you can see, in the bottom right corner, there is a “map” of the car. This tells you a lot about the exterior condition of the car. We are not going to look at how to read these car maps in this user guide, but you can find all the details about how to do this [on this page of our website](#).

You have also probably noticed that the auction sheet is written in Japanese. Well before you worry about how you are going to read it, remember that when you enter a bid, we will translate this for you so that you can see the details of the inspection report in English.

With some auctions, we receive the data in electronic form, which means that the system can perform an automated translation of the inspector's report. Take a look at this one for example:

Day	Auc/Lot	ID	Make	Model / Grade	Chassis	Yr	Kms	Colour	CC	Trans	FI	Cnd	start	Result
12/15	TAA Kyushu 9147	35702919	Honda	Odyssey	RA9 -1056236	2001	69	silver	3000	IAT	P	3.5	¥ 50 k	

Equipment: air conditioning, alloy wheels, supplemental restraint system (air bags), power steering, sun roof, power windows, anti-lock brakes

Vehicle notes: Ext Cond: D. Int Cond: C. 好観車 14780円 ★オークションデビュー★ 下廻りS. シートしみ小. 天張汚れ. ハンドルすれ. タチP跡. 警告灯点灯. ミラーA. 純正ナビ付. SRS警告灯. Emission LA. Shyken 2010/06. [translate](#)

providecars.com

You can see the “Vehicle Notes” above. At the end where the mouse is pointing, there is a link that says, “translate”. Clicking on this activates the auto translation, popping up a new window:

Computer Generated Translation
This automatic translation may be flawed and is provided "as is".
We can not honor any complaints resulting from this translation.

Exterior Condition: D.
Interior Condition: C.
recycle fee deposit: 14780 Yen.
* auction deposit *
under chassis rust.
seat alarms small.
roof dented.
steering wheel wear.
touch paint mark.
warning light lighting.
mirror scratches.
original GPS enclosed with.
SRS warning light.
Emission LA.

If you have ever read machine translation before, you will know that it is not always 100% readable, but you should be able to get a good idea of the facts about the car from it.

If there is no machine translation, and you are seriously interested in a particular car, please ask for a human translation like this. First go to that car details page, and then click on “Request Translation”:



You will next be taken to a screen like this:

Vehicle 36310724

Are you sure you want to request a translation of the inspection sheet for this vehicle?

Current time: Tuesday, January 26, 7:41 AM

Auction start: Tuesday, January 26, 8:00 AM (approximate)



By taking a look at the current time and comparing it with the auction start time, you will have a good idea about whether it is worth asking for a translation, as it will obviously take a little while for the translation to be done. If you want to go ahead, click “Request”.

You will then receive an email when the translation is done. When you return to the car in question, you will then be able to see a link like this where you can access the translation. You will notice that where it used to say “Request translation”, it now says, “See Translation”:



Click on this link to see the details:

Vehicle 36324841

Interior B, Mickey Thompson 16 inch wheels, chrome grill, chrome door panels, Eclipse HDD navigation system with DVD playback, power seats, clear headlights, clear indicators, roof rails, stone chips in front windscreen, interior grime and wear, non-standard tires, seats worn, official dealer RHD import, marks as per map



Market research

As much as you would love to be able to get a Ferrari Enzo for 1 million Yen, I don't think there is anyone who is going to part with their precious supercar for such a small sum of money.

So this is what I am going to do first to fine-tune my market research:

- *Mileage* – Since the Demio I am looking at has 26,000 KM on the clock, I am going to set the Market Research to show me cars with 15,000 to 35,000 KM from the past sold history.
- *Grade* (condition) – I am looking at a 3.5, so I will set the minimum condition as 3.5 and the max as 4.

condition: 3.5 to 4.0
 mileage (kms): 15,000 to 35,000

Everything else I will leave as it is. Now we will see what the market prices for this kind of car are right now. (When I say “right now”, I mean at the time of writing. By the time you are reading this they could well be different.)

When I did this research, 93 cars were found that matched the criteria and were sold in live bidding between September and December 2009:

Showing: 2008 Mazda Demio* Chassis: D19W Condition: 3.5-4.0 Mile: 15-35 Trans: a
 Time in Japan: Thursday, December 24, 8:28 AM '09

Month	Make	Model	Grade	Chassis	Yr	Mile	Colour	CC	Trans	Dir	Equip	Sale
2009/12	Mazda	Demio SD	3.5	D19W	08	21	beige	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio	3.5	D19W	08	20	silver	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv, abs	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio	3.5	D19W	08	21	purple	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv, abs, air	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio SD	3.5	D19W	08	24	silver	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio SD	3.5	D19W	08	20	yellow	1500	JT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio V19	3.5	D19W	08	21	red	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio	3.5	D19W	08	23	brown	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, air, ps, pv, abs	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio	3.5	D19W	08	19	white	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, air, ps, pv, abs	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio SD	3.5	D19W	08	22	gray	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000
2009/12	Mazda	Demio SD	3.5	D19W	08	21	silver	1500	FUT	P	4 AC, ps, pv	¥252,000

The cars are ordered by date sold at auction. (This is the first column on the left, called “Month”).

How to apply Market Research price data

Historical low price

You want to know the lowest price this kind of car has sold for in the last three months as this will give you a good idea of the minimum you will need to bid.

This is quick and easy to find out. Just go to the far right column and click on “Result”:



The system will then re-order the results, putting the lowest price one at the top.

What I found out with my Demio search is that in the last three months, the cheapest car similar to the one I am looking to bid on was sold for 252,000 Yen.

This tells me that there is no point bidding under 252,000 Yen.

Figuring out a reasonable (and cheap) bid

Now, if you look on the top right of the screen you can see how many cars similar to this one you

are looking to bid on sold in the last three months. As you can see, in the case of my Demio here, it was 93.



Now, as I know the cheapest one was sold for 252,000 Yen, then I can also calculate that if I bid 252,000 Yen on this car today, I will have a 1 / 93, or slightly over 1% chance of success. Of course, I could repeat this with a hundred cars and maybe end up with one car, but that is going to be a lot of work and take a long time. A 1% chance of success just is not good enough for me.

So what kind of price would give me, say, a 1 in 3 chance of success?

Well, there are 93 cars in the historical data that are similar to this one I am looking at. So what would I have had to bid during the last three months to end up with 1/3 of these cars?

That's easy to find out: You already have the sold prices re-ordered starting with the lowest one at the top. You know that one third of 93 cars is 31 cars. So just start at the top and count down until you get to the 31st car. Whatever the price this car sold for is the price that would have bought 31 of these similar cars in the last three months.

sold	26
¥ 368 k	
sold	27
¥ 369 k	
sold	28
¥ 373 k	
sold	29
¥ 375 k	
sold	30
¥ 377 k	
sold	31
¥ 381 k	
sold	
¥ 381 k	

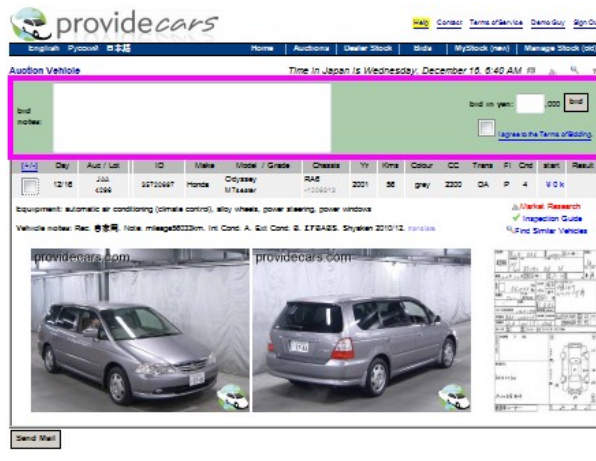
So, as you can see, based on the historical data from the last three months, I deduce that if I bid 381,000 Yen today on this Demio, I will have about a 1 in 3 chance of success at this bid price.

Remember that...

- Market prices can change. They can go down, and sometimes up (if there is a lot of competition).
- Prices are very much affected by mileage and grading. So you can't take a market price from one 2006 Demio and apply it to all the other 2006 Demios.

Entering a bid

If you are happy with the car, you can enter a bid through this screen. This part of the screen is used to enter bids:



There are three sections:

1. *Bid notes* – You can use this comment section to send us a message with your bid. For example, you may want to ask for a translation of the auction sheet. Or perhaps you have a question about the car which you can't figure out from the auction data or auction sheet. This is where you would enter a comment like this.
2. *Bid in Yen* – This is where you enter the *maximum auction price* you want us to bid up to. Remember that this is in thousands. So if you enter “100”, then you are telling us to go up to 100,000 Yen at the auction. Similarly, if you enter “1000”, then the max auction price bid is 1 million Yen.
3. *Agree to Terms* – You cannot finalize your bid unless you click this check box. If you want to double check the Terms, then you can click through the link next to it, or you can always [download your copy here](#).

You will notice that as you type in your maximum bid, the “FOB Cost” changes. Please note that this “FOB cost” shows the following:

1. The cost of the car +
2. Provide Cars' charges.

As such, it does not include the cost of internal transportation, so it is more of an estimated FOB cost and the true final FOB cost will differ depending on the cost of moving the car from the auction to the port.

Have a go

Now try for yourself. Do a search and find a car. Enter a bid note along with a bid. (If you are just practicing to see how this works, make sure your comment says something along the lines of, “This is a practice bid. Please ignore!”)

Advanced Search

Before we leave the subject of searching for cars and bidding, let's go back to the main search screen and take a look at the advanced search options.



How each of these works is fairly self-explanatory now that you have seen how the basic search works, so I will just give a short run down on each of these features.

(Of course, you may well find that the basic search is more than sufficient for your needs most of the time, but it is always useful to know what other tools there are in the tool box.)

Added less than X hours ago

Let's use Mr. Demo Guy as an example again. Now, Demo Guy likes to check the cars when he gets home from his dealership at 6 pm in the evening. He has a good look and places some bids. But he knows that the data for the following day's auctions is uploaded incrementally, so he has another check around 11pm to see if there are any other cars he might want to bid on that have been added. Obviously, he doesn't want to look at the same cars he already checked at 6pm, so he enters "5" here when he does his search so that he will only see the new cars that have been uploaded between 6pm and his current time of 11pm.

Chassis

You can enter the chassis type of the car here to help narrow your search. The chassis type is the "head" of the chassis number of the car. So for example, this is the chassis number of a 2008 Mazda Demio:

DE3FS-128811

The chassis type is the head of this chassis number, which is DE3FS.

Grade – Sub-Model Variant

This does not refer to the auction grade but, as it says, to the sub-model variant of the car. So for example, the model is a 997 Porsche, but the sub-model could be a Targa, a Cabriolet, a Turbo, a GT3 etc.

So, say you are looking for a Tommi Makinen edition of the Lancer Evolution. Just enter "Tommi Makinen" here, and the system will see if there are any available today.

(Now something to be careful of here is that the auctions can make mistakes with the spelling of designations sometimes, and also will sometimes not include all the details, so if this method of searching will sometimes not be as thorough as using a more general search and then manually going through the cars.)

Lot number

This refers to the lot number assigned by the auction house. You can enter a range of lot numbers here, or if you click through the “lot number” blue underlined link text, you can enter individual lot numbers on the next page.

Engine CC

You can limit your search to only certain engine capacities.

Fuel type

This is also pretty self-explanatory. However, be a little careful with this setting as some auctions are better than others at supplying information on fuel type. In other words, say you set up the search for “diesel” only, then you may find there are other cars of that type available that are diesel, but the auction has not supplied that data, so they don't show up in your search.

(For example, my search for a particular kind of Hilux Surf brought up 13 cars which I know are diesel, but only 11 of them had this information in the auction data.)

Aircon

Self-explanatory. In fact almost all modern Japanese cars have air conditioning anyway.

Colour

Again, self-explanatory. Enter the color and cars of that color will be returned. Note that if you enter a color such as “blue” then the system will pick up everything with that word in the color designation. So you might get “blue”, “light blue”, “metallic blue”, “dark blue” etc.

Start bid

This is particularly useful if you are on a tight budget. As you can see if you look down a list of almost identical cars, there is a great variation in where the different owners place the starting price. In some cases the start can be unreasonably high. So you can use the start bid setting to find the cars that have a start price that is at a sensible level. Say your budget for the car auction price is 800,000 Yen. Well you don't want to see any cars that have a start of more than 750,000 Yen as there is no realistic chance of success for your bid on cars like that.)

(Of course, you know that the start price being low does not necessarily mean that the sold price will also be low!)

Equipment

As the name suggests, this is useful in looking for cars that have particular equipment. There are two things to be careful of here: The first is that, once again, the auctions are no always 100% thorough in putting all the equipment in the data. The second is to remember that this is usually referring to the standard equipment, and not aftermarket equipment. In other words, a car that has an aftermarket navigation system will usually not show up in a search with the “navigation” box ticked.

Have a go

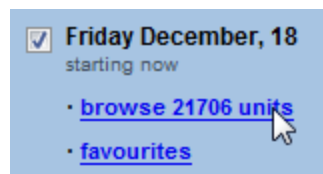
Go to your saved searches and click on a search. Now have a go adding some extra advanced search criteria and see how it affects the results.

Browsing for Cars

Apart from using the search function, the other way you can look for cars is by “browsing”:
You can go into this mode by clicking here:



Alternatively, if you want to browse vehicles for a particular day, you can click on the “browse XXX units” link for that particular day in the central “Auction Days” section on the search screen.



Once you click on one of these links, you are asked to choose a make:



(The image on the far right which has the GM, VW, Mercedes and Ford logos all together simply refers to all other marques.)

After you click on a logo, you can either select a main model (by clicking on the model name). For example, clicking on “Honda” and then on “Odyssey” as below, will bring up all Hondas with Odyssey in their model names:



Honda	(10)	Rafaga	(1)
Horizon	(1)	S2000	(1)
Hr-v	(33)	Saber	(1)
Insight	(12)	S-mx	(6)
Inspire	(33)	Spike	(2)
Integra	(35)	Step	(1)
Lagreat	(6)	Step-van	(1)
Legend	(20)	Stepwagon	(1)
Life	(393)	StepWGN	(2)
Logo	(37)	Stream	(1)
Mobilio	(84)	Street	(8)
Nsx	(3)	That's	(1)
Odyssey	(330)	Thats	(4)
Orthia	(11)	That's	(2)

If you want to be more specific and browse for a particular sub-model classification within that car model, click on the blue linked number next to the name. Here we are clicking on the “4” next to the model name:

Nsx	(3)	2
Odyssey	(330)	4
Orthia	(11)	3
Others	(1)	

This then brings up these different sub-classifications that the auctions have used to describe different Odysseys:

Odyssey	(208)
Odyssey 5d	(108)
Odyssey 5d Awd	(12)
Odyssey Prestige 5d	(2)

These classifications can sometimes be useful, but sometimes not as you can see from the Odyssey selection above.

Clicking through on any of the car names will take you to the results screen in the same way as a search does.

Have a go

Pick a car you would normally look for and this time, instead of using the search function to look for it, try using this browsing method so you can get a feel for how it works.

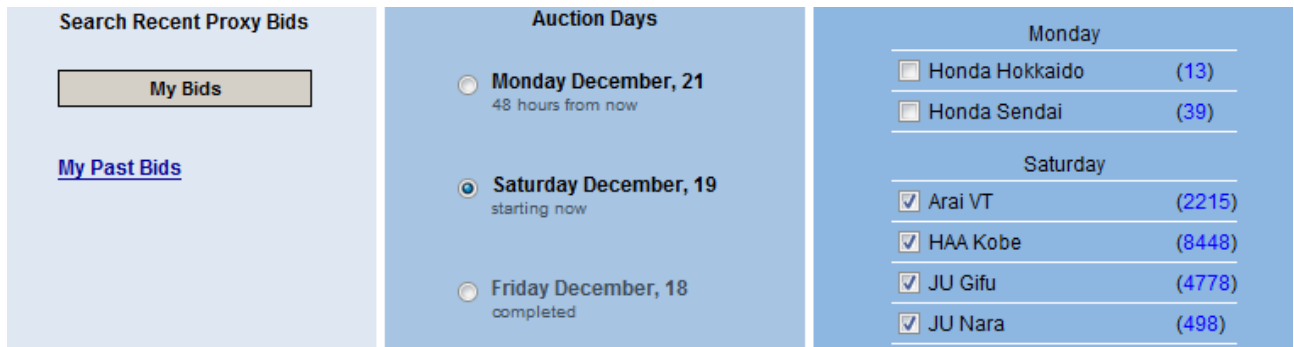
Managing your bids

The bidding settings screen

Once you have entered a bid on a vehicle, you can see the details of this bid in the bidding screen. You can find the bidding screen at any time by clicking on “Bids” on the dark blue border at the top right side of the screen:



The first screen you will come to will look familiar as it is fairly similar in design to the search screen:



Search Recent Proxy Bids

Clicking the “My Bids” button will bring up your bids based on the auction day selected and auctions selected in the other two sections of the screen.

As you can see, the “Auction Days” only goes back as far as yesterday, but you can go back even further by clicking “My Past Bids”.

Auction Days

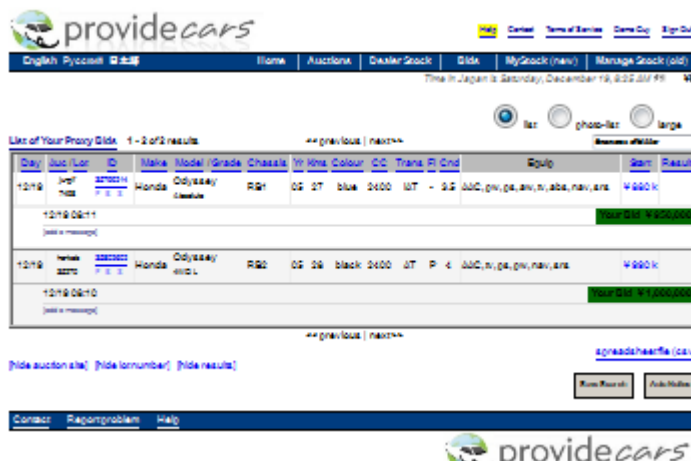
Usually you will want to leave this set on the default which is the upcoming day. But you may want to review your previous day's bids – particularly to see what the market prices the cars were sold for if you did not get them. Just select the auction day and then click the “My Bids” button”.

Auction Locations

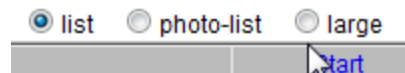
This is more a specialist feature, allowing you to focus down on a particular auction location to see your bids there.

The bid management screen

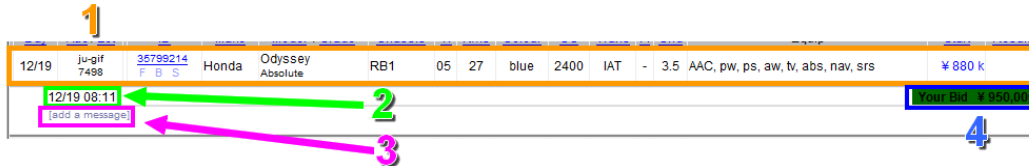
Once again, this screen will also seem familiar as it is very similar to the search results screen:



And, as with the search results screen, you can also change the way you view your bids also:



Let's take a closer look at one of the bids in “list” mode:



As you can see, there are four things to take note of here:

1. These are the details of the car. You can always go back to see it again by clicking on the serial number as usual. In the far right you will see the result appear. For many auctions the time the car is to be auctioned (JST) will be displayed here before the result is in.
2. This is the time you entered your bid.
3. This is where you click to enter a message.
4. This is the *auction price* (not FOB or CIF) price of the proxy bid you have entered.

Entering a message

Just click on “add a message” and you can enter a message to Provide Cars' staff about this car:

The kinds of messages you may well want to enter:

Write a message regarding vehicle 35799214

A text input form with a text area containing the message: 'Hi can I have a translation of the auction sheet please? Thanks!'. Below the text area are three buttons: 'Add Message', 'Clear', and 'Cancel'. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Add Message' button.

- *Asking for a translation* – The auction inspection report is in Japanese, but we can translate it into English for you so that you know the details of the car's condition.
- *Asking questions about a car* – There may well be something specific you want to know about a car you are bidding on. For example, you might want to know the emissions code, or perhaps the interior color etc. You can ask these questions here if you cannot find the answer in the auction sheet or the translation.
- *Confirming or canceling your bid* – Once you have the translation you can tell us whether you definitely want to go ahead with the bid, or whether you have changed your mind and prefer to cancel it. (Of course, you will want to do this in good time before the auction starts.)
- *Changing your max bid price* – Once you have seen the details of the translation, you may decide that your initial bid was either too high or too low. If the car is better than you thought, you may want to give us a higher maximum bidding budget. On the other hand, if it is not as good as you had hoped, then instead of canceling it completely, you might decide to go ahead with a lower max bid. There is no way for you to change the bid once you have entered it, so put a message for us in here so that we can change it on our end. (Once again,

you need to make sure you do this a reasonable time before the auction starts.)

As you enter messages and we enter replies, you can see them entered chronologically under your bids:

Day	Auc / Lot	ID	Make	Model / Grade
12/22	ta-kyu 44	35813381 F B S	Honda	Odyssey
12/22 08:22		I wonder if we can change the bid price on the staff side?		
12/22 08:24	Stephen Munday	[BID CHANGED. Prev bid was 350k] Changed bid to 320k Yen auction price		
12/22 08:25	Stephen Munday	Did you see I changed the bid price for you, Demo Guy.		
12/22 08:31	Demo Guy	Yes I did. Thanks!		
[add a message]				

If you are successful and get the car, you will see a message like this:

12/22 08:40	Stephen Munday	Vehicle was copied to MyStock for Demo Guy
12/22 08:40	Stephen Munday	Your bid was successful! 😊

Have a go

Now it is your turn to enter a bid. Now, before you rush ahead and do this, remember that there is a risk we will buy this car for you if you don't make it clear you are just practicing. So if this is not a real bid for a car you really want us to buy, make sure you enter a comment which says something like, "Do NOT bid on this car!"

This is very important, so let's just reiterate that in red: **If you are just putting in a practice bid and you do not want us to really bid on the car, you *must* write a comment like "Do not bid on this car, please!"**

If you do not enter a comment like this we will assume you are making a real live bid and we will treat it accordingly.

Bought Cars

As you can see, Demo Guy was successful in his bid on the Odyssey (above). So where can you see the cars that you have bought at the auctions?

During the changeover period

Provide Cars will be migrating to this new system over a period of time. As you can see, at first it will be used for searching on and bidding cars.

During the changeover period, you will be able to find cars you have bought both in the *new* stock area, and in the *old* system:

[\[manage site\]](#) [Help](#) [Contact](#) [Terms of Service](#) [Stephen Munday](#) [Sign Out](#)

Bids	MyStock (new)	Manage Stock (old)
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Time in Japan is Wednesday, December 23, 7:24 AM 📅 🖨️ 🕒

- Click on “MyStock (new)” to be taken to the new stock screen
- Click on “Manage Stock (old)” to be take to the old stock screen and money management pages.

During the changeover period, you can see your stock in either then new “MyStock” screen or the old system, which you get to by clicking “Manage Stock”.

However, please note that during this time, all information related to the following will still be in the old “Manage Stock” area:

- Shipping.
- Payments.
- Documents.

Once we have fully switched over, all the things which you currently manage in the old pages will all be covered by this new system.

(We apologize for any confusion as we make these changes.)

The Stock Screen



This will probably have a familiar look to you now as it is very similar in style to the search results screen and the bidding screen. As such, I don't think we need to go too much into the details of how to work everything here.

Just to point out though, as you can see here, just as in the bidding screen, you can write comments about a particular car:

12/23 07:23	Demo Guy	When will you be shipping this car?
12/23 07:24	Stephen Munday	We should have the documents in the next three days and then we will be making the booking for you.
[add a message]		