

# Car show etiquette

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It's that time of year again -- car show season has officially begun. With spring just around the corner, you can find car shows at restaurants, pubs, and parking lots across North Texas who have started their monthly or weekly schedule of car shows. Whether you are a participant in a car show or a spectator, there are some general etiquette guidelines that you should follow in order to ensure that everyone has a great time.

The important thing to keep in mind when at a car show is that the participants with cars in the show have put hundreds and thousands of dollars and hours into their vehicles. Whether you have a car in the show or just there to look at beautiful cars and trucks, treat everyone and their cars with respect.

There are a few items that should be avoided when at car shows.

- **Do not** touch any cars or trucks in the show. You may not realize it, but even just touching a car with your finger may cause swirl marks or scratches in the paint and greasy fingers may cause damage to some paint jobs.

- Keep your keys tucked away in your pocket or purse to avoid accidentally scratching cars.
- Make every effort to keep your rings, jewelry, and clothing with zippers away from cars.
- Keep your children under control and avoid letting them run between cars or climb in cars.
- Watch your language. Car shows are generally family events and vulgar language may be offensive to children or families.
- Most car shows will ask you to refrain from drinking alcohol in the parking lot or location of the show. Many cities have codes against drinking outside of establishments and the establishment or yourself could be fined if caught drinking alcohol at some car shows. If the car show staff ask that you refrain from drinking, please do so.
- **Do not** drive erratically or do burn outs. There are many people walking around these shows and driving dangerously may harm innocent bystanders.
- Turn your radio down when arriving at the car show and avoid turning on loud radios during the show. Most car shows have a P.A. system that will be playing music and making announcements.
- When parking your car or truck at a car show you have entered, remember to take up only one parking spot unless given permission to do otherwise by car show staff. Many locations are limited on space and need all spots possible in order to accommodate as many cars as possible.

This may seem like a lot of nit-picky rules, but by following these simple guidelines, the chances of everyone having a great time at a car show increase dramatically.

Remember to have fun at car shows this season. These shows are put on for automobile lovers to display their cars and admire other enthusiasts cars. If you see a car you really like and want to know more about it, feel free to ask the owner. Most auto enthusiasts love to talk about their cars and go into detail about how they have built or customized their cars and trucks. Just follow some simple car show etiquette and enjoy the automobile fun with friends, family, and fellow enthusiasts.

The next major car show in Fort Worth is Grandy's Classic Car Show March 27 at 7201 Camp Bowie West.

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