

Date _____ Mileage _____ Price _____ Seller _____

What matters most: Manual or S tronic? Manual cars avoid the costly DQ200 gearbox issues. Also check if the water pump has been replaced.

BEFORE THE VIEWING

- Service records and gearbox type**
Ask for full service history and confirm whether the car is manual or S tronic automatic. For S tronic cars, ask if the gearbox fluid has ever been changed.
- Recall status**
Contact Audi with the VIN to check open recalls. A parking brake software recall affects manual cars from 2017-2018. Rear axle and brake pedal recalls also exist.
- Water pump replacement history**
Ask if the water pump and thermostat housing have been replaced. The plastic housing cracks between 60,000-100,000 km. An upgraded aluminium housing is the better fix.

AT THE CAR

- Tyres and exterior condition**
Standard sizes are 215/55 R17 or 215/50 R18. Check tread depth and sidewall date codes. Look for uneven inner-edge wear, which can point to alignment or suspension issues.
- Coolant level and leak signs**
With the engine cold, check the coolant reservoir on the right side of the engine bay. Look underneath for dried coolant residue. A sweet smell near the engine points to a leaking water pump.
- Cold engine startup**
Start the engine completely cold. Listen for rough idle or rattling in the first 30 seconds. A rough idle that smooths out after warming up can point to carbon buildup on intake valves.
- Fuel filler flap**
Press the fuel filler flap to check it opens with one push. If it sticks or needs multiple lock/unlock cycles to open, the electric actuator is failing. A common and annoying issue on Q2s.

DURING THE DRIVE

- S tronic low-speed behaviour**
If automatic: drive in stop-and-go traffic for at least 10 minutes. Feel for jerky shifts, shuddering from standstill, or hesitation at roundabouts. These point to DQ200 mechatronics wear.
- Turbo response and EPC light**
Accelerate firmly a few times and hold steady speed at 1,600-2,200 rpm. Watch for the EPC warning light or sudden power loss. A metallic rattle at those revs points to a sticking wastegate.
- Air conditioning output**
Run the AC on full cold for at least 10 minutes. It should blow consistently cold. Listen for clicking or grinding from behind the dashboard. The AC compressor fails early on some Q2s.

NOTES

THIS CAR AT A GLANCE

Compact Audi crossover, built 2016-2019. The EA211 engine is proven, but gearbox choice matters. Manual cars are more reliable than S tronic models.

KNOWN WEAK POINTS

Water pump / thermostat

Plastic housing cracks, 60-100k km
€500-1,200

DQ200 S tronic gearbox

Mechatronics and clutch wear
€1,200-3,500

Turbo wastegate actuator

Sticks from carbon, causes limp mode
€500-2,200

AC compressor

Premature failure, 40-80k km
€900-1,500

Carbon buildup on valves

Direct injection + COD, from 80k km
€400-700

