

Mercedes-AMG A45 S W177

2019-2025 · 2.0L M139 turbo petrol (421 hp) 4-cylinder AWD · 8G-DCT

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Est. annual maintenance cost: €1,300-2,350

Date _____ Mileage _____ Price _____ Seller _____

What matters most: The M139 engine is solid, but the 8G-DCT gearbox is the weak link. Test reverse gear cold before anything else.

BEFORE THE VIEWING

- Service history and oil intervals**
Ask for full Mercedes or AMG specialist records. Confirm oil changes at 10,000 km max, and check that gearbox and rear differential oil were changed regularly.
- Recall and TSB status**
Call a Mercedes dealer with the VIN. Ask about the power steering software recall, fuel rail recall (2019-2020 cars), and the valve spring TSB for all M139 engines.
- Modifications check**
Ask the seller directly if the car has been remapped, tuned, or modified. Aftermarket intakes, downpipes, or ECU flashes put extreme stress on already highly-loaded parts.

AT THE CAR

- Tyres and exterior condition**
Staggered setup: 245/35R19 front, 265/35R19 rear. Check tread depth on all four corners. Rears wear faster. A full set costs around 800-1,200 euros.
- Red paint inspection**
If Jupiter Red or Mars Red, look closely at doors, A-pillars, roof, and spoiler for lacquer bubbling or peeling. This is a known factory defect on red paint codes.
- Coolant level and engine bay**
With the engine cold, check the coolant expansion tank level and colour. Look for stains or residue near the turbo and exhaust manifold area, which can point to a water pump leak.
- Cold start and reverse test**
Start the engine completely cold. After 10-20 seconds, shift into reverse. Any metallic crunching sound (not a normal clunk) can point to serious gearbox wear inside the 8G-DCT.

DURING THE DRIVE

- Rear differential whining**
Drive at 50-80 km/h and again at 90-120 km/h, then lift off the throttle. Any whining from the rear axle can point to differential oil degradation or clutch pack wear.
- Interior rattles and trim noise**
Drive over rough surfaces and listen for buzzing from the dashboard, air vent rings, and door cards. Rattles are very common on the W177 platform, especially in cold weather.
- MBUX screen and electronics**
Cycle the ignition off and on during the drive. Watch for MBUX screen blackouts, freezing, or slow reboots. Test the touchscreen, reversing camera, and voice commands while stopped.

NOTES

THIS CAR AT A GLANCE

AMG hot hatch, built 2019-2025. M139 engine is robust, but the dual-clutch gearbox and tight packaging make repairs expensive.

KNOWN WEAK POINTS

8G-DCT gearbox issues

Cold crunching, output shaft wear
€2,500-8,000

Water pump failure

Buried under turbo, 8-12hr labor
€1,500-3,000

Rear differential wear

Oil degradation, clutch pack whine
€300-3,000

Valve spring breakage

Rare but causes misfires
€2,000-4,500

Red paint defects

Jupiter/Mars Red lacquer peeling
€1,000-5,000

