

Nissan Qashqai 1.3 DIG-T Mild Hybrid J12

2021-present · 1.3 DIG-T HR13DDT (140-158 hp) 4-cylinder turbocharged petrol with 12V mild hybrid

Est. annual maintenance cost: €750-1,400

Date _____ Mileage _____ Price _____ Seller _____

What matters most: Three open recalls affect nearly every J12 built before late 2024. Verify all three with the VIN before visiting. Manual models avoid the CVT risk entirely.

BEFORE THE VIEWING

Verify recall status (3 recalls)

Call a Nissan dealer with the VIN and confirm three recalls are completed: fuel line wear (KBA 15667R, fire risk), battery software (KBA 14969R), and steering sensor (KBA 013556). All are free to fix.

Service records and oil changes

Ask for full service history. The 1.3 DIG-T needs oil changes every 12 months or 15,000 km with fully synthetic 5W-30. Missed intervals accelerate carbon buildup on the intake valves.

Check MOT and ownership history

Review the MOT history for any coolant-related advisories or warning light failures. Multiple short-term owners on a young car can point to unresolved issues like battery drain.

AT THE CAR

Tyres and exterior condition

Tyre sizes range from 215/65R17 to 235/50R19 depending on trim. Check tread depth and sidewall date codes. Uneven front wear can point to alignment issues from pothole damage on the wider 19-inch wheels.

Coolant level and thermostat area

Open the bonnet and check the coolant expansion tank. Look for white residue or dried coolant trails near the thermostat housing on the engine's front. Cracking at this plastic part is a known weak point after 4-5 years.

Cold engine start and listen

Start the engine fully cold. Listen for rattling or knocking in the first 30 seconds. The turbo should spool quietly. A whining noise from the belt area or rough idle can point to carbon buildup on intake valves.

Battery and mild hybrid check

Ask how long the car has been parked. The 12V mild hybrid system is known for draining the battery after 1-2 weeks of sitting. If the car needed a jump start before your visit, that is worth investigating further.

DURING THE DRIVE

CVT behaviour (automatic only)

Drive for at least 15 minutes including slow traffic and a hill. The Xtronic CVT can judder at low speeds or slip under load. A burning smell or sudden loss of power can point to CVT overheating. Manual cars skip this check.

Stop-start and MHEV function

The mild hybrid stop-start should activate smoothly at traffic lights. If it does not engage at all or restarts roughly, the battery management software may not have been updated under the recall (KBA 14969R).

Infotainment and dashboard warnings

Use the touchscreen throughout the drive. Check for freezes, blank screens, or unresponsive areas. Watch the dashboard for any warning lights, especially the engine temperature gauge creeping above normal.

NOTES

THIS CAR AT A GLANCE

Compact crossover, on sale since 2021. The 1.3 DIG-T is a proven engine, but check for open recalls and thermostat housing condition.

KNOWN WEAK POINTS

Thermostat housing crack

Plastic housing can crack after 4-5 years
€500-4,000

CVT judder / failure

Low-speed judder, overheating under load
€500-5,000

Fuel line recall (fire risk)

Friction wear causes fuel leak, free fix
€0

12V battery drain

MHEV system drains battery when parked
€150-500

Carbon buildup on valves

Direct injection deposits after 60,000 km
€300-600

