

KR68

BEFORE YOU BUY A 1968 SHELBY GT500KR

A buyer's research guide
and inspection planner

AMERICAN ENGLISH / SEPTEMBER 2026

Independent publication - no official affiliation

Start with a file, not a feeling

A good photograph can make a car memorable. A good research file makes the next conversation useful. This handbook helps you organize the public record of a 1968 Shelby GT500KR before you visit, bid or commission an inspection. Its purpose is to turn a promising listing into specific questions, not to tell you which car to buy.

Work in three columns: what a source states, what supports that statement, and what remains unknown. A dated auction description belongs in the first column. A legible document may support part of it. Whether the installed components match that description may still require a physical inspection.

This is an independent, AI-assisted research handbook. It is not an appraisal, authenticity certificate, legal opinion or substitute for an experienced inspector. KR68 is unaffiliated with Shelby American, Ford and SAAC. The examples are fictional; they are not findings about any car in the registry.

Use the two worksheets near the end to prepare a compact brief. You should finish with a clearer file and a better list of questions, not a false sense that a few internet searches have authenticated a valuable automobile.

01 / Define the car you want

Write down how you intend to use the car before comparing listings. A weekend driver, a concours-oriented restoration and a historically significant survivor create different priorities. Fastback or convertible, automatic or four-speed, and factory equipment or later upgrades are preferences to make explicit.

Separate your nonnegotiable requirements from attractive extras. If originality matters to you, ask what the seller means by original and which evidence supports each component claim. If usability matters more, documented modifications may be a feature rather than a defect. Neither preference eliminates the need for a careful inspection.

Describe your decision in one sentence: I am looking for a car with these characteristics, supported by these records, with these unknowns resolved before a commitment. Keep the sentence in your file. It helps prevent the appeal of a paint color or a deadline from quietly changing the project.

Set aside room in your planning for research, inspection, transport and work identified during the inspection. Do not treat every dollar available as a purchase-price budget. This guide gives you categories to investigate, not estimates of your individual costs.

02 / Record the published VIN

Copy the entire identifier exactly as the source publishes it, including any separate Shelby sequence. Store a second, normalized version for searching. Keep the original text so that punctuation, omitted characters or a transcription error do not disappear from your evidence.

Period 1968 Ford identifiers are not modern 17-character VINs. The NVSAAC reference explains the model-year, plant, body and engine codes used for these Shelby records. Its table distinguishes the R engine code associated with the GT500KR. Use a reference to interpret the identifier; do not treat a plausible string as proof that the physical car is genuine. [1]

Compare the number across the listing, document photographs and later records. If a character is unclear, label it unclear. If two sources disagree, keep both readings and ask for clarification. Do not silently correct a number merely because one version produces more search results.

At the inspection stage, ask a qualified specialist to explain which identifiers and supporting records should agree. Do not attempt to authenticate a stamp, tag or body shell from this handbook. A copied advertisement or a convincing photograph cannot establish that a number belongs to the car being offered.

Reference [1]: www.nvsaac.com/Details/68_shelby_info.htm. End of the free preview. The complete guide includes the research method, a fictional case, two worksheets and references. Check the KR68 website for availability.