

Before You Drive Across LA for a Marketplace Deal

Asking prices are wishes. Sold prices are evidence. Run this page before any Marketplace pickup.

BEFORE YOU MESSAGE THE SELLER

- ☐ Exact model and variant confirmed — get a photo of the maker's label, not just the listing title.
- ☐ What's included is spelled out: power cord, hardware, remote, accessories.
- ☐ Condition claims written down — you will test every one of them in person.
- ☐ Seller answers basic questions straight. Dodging is data.

CHECK THE PRICE — FIVE MINUTES

- ☐ eBay search for the exact item, filter **Sold items**, last ~90 days. Ignore active listings.
- ☐ Keep only genuine comps: same model, variant, condition, completeness.
- ☐ Write down the **typical** sold price and the range — never just the best sale.
- ☐ Fewer than ~5 solid comps? It's a **maybe**, not a deal. Decide that way.
- ☐ The ask sits meaningfully below the typical sold price.

DO THE FULL MATH

- ☐ Reselling? Subtract ~13% eBay fees, plus shipping and packing if you'll ship.
- ☐ Add your drive: miles, gas, and time in LA traffic.
- ☐ A real margin still survives after all of it. If not, it's not a deal.

AT THE PICKUP

- ☐ Public, daytime meeting spot; bring a friend for big-ticket items.
- ☐ Test it powered on before any money moves.
- ☐ Cash or instant payment in person — never send deposits to strangers.
- ☐ Not as described? Walk away. The next deal is already coming.

RED FLAGS — HARD PASS

"\$1 — message for price" listings · designer gear at too-good prices (replicas — reselling them risks your account)
· any ask at or above the item's own eBay sold price · a seller who won't send a label photo.



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LA/OC Deals Digest — run by Miguel Randle, a working LA/OC reseller, Norwalk, CA. First full issue Tuesday, Oct 27, 2026. Method guide: dealsdigestla.com/guide · contact@loudlistla.com