

Silver S600 General Info

Vehicle Specifications

Make: Mercedes Benz
Model Year: 1998
Model Type: S600 (Silver)
Body Style: 4 Door Sedan
Engine: 6.0 Litre V-12
Transmission: 5-Speed Automatic
Body Style Code: W-140

Purchasing Information

Purchase Date: July, 2007
Mileage at Purchase: 55,000

Features

Fully loaded 1998 S600 4 Door Sedan with 4-Seating option (Executive Seats) Special Features include:

- 4 Orthopedic / Heated seats / with 4 pneumatic adjustments each (3 rear + side bolsters)
- Rear Sunshade with front and rear controls
- Rear air conditioner controls
- Rear seat center and side storage areas. (Available only with the 4-seating option)

Modifications

Rims. This body style, known as W140, was made from model year 1992 thru 1999. Model years 1992-1995 had 8-hole rims. Model years 1996-1999 had 6-hole rims. The car came standard with the 6-hole aluminum alloy rims. When I purchased the car, it had 18" chromed Lorinzer Rims. They were in very bad shape and the car had a rough ride. Therefore, I temporarily replaced them with an original set of 6-hole alloy rims and standard tires.

Maintenance Records

I am the 4th owner. I have all of the maintenance records from the 3rd owner available for review. I have some of the prior owner's maintenance records. I also have a printout from the Mercedes dealer showing any maintenance done by a Mercedes dealership. (VMI printout)

Vehicle's History

This is a California car. The third owner lived in Atherton California, owned it for 6 years and only put on the car approximately 20,000 miles. This car was used as their weekend and evening car. Per Car Fax, the prior owners were also in California, but I do not have any other information about them.

How I found / got this vehicle

This car was advertised in Edmunds.com. The car was in Atherton, California. (San Francisco bay Area). On a Friday morning, My 13 year old son and I flew up to San Jose. At the airport, we rented a car. My son noticed a Chrysler 300C on the lot. It's a hot car among the 13 – 14 year old crowd. So after a short negotiation I was able to get the Chrysler 300C for only \$10.00 extra per day. (I rent cars there often and use a "Fast Pass"). So regardless whether we end up buying the Mercedes or not, At least we will have some fun trying.

The plan was simple. We flew up with Southwest and had two return tickets for the last flight of the day. If we don't buy the car, we'll fly home that night. If we do, then we'll cancel the return flights and sleep over. Then drive home the next day. More about that later. So after getting our fun rental car, we were off to meet the owner. We had an 11:00 am appointment with his mechanic, and were hoping to meet the owner a little earlier, so I could drive it before the inspection. We got lucky and had little traffic. So both we and the owner got there early, leaving plenty of time for a quick test drive. Around 11:00 we showed up at the independent Mercedes shop, but the doors were locked. No one was there. (It turns out it's a one-man shop). So we headed for a quick lunch to kill some time. We had a very nice lunch and the seller even paid. (Very nice of him). Back to the shop we went.

At the shop, we met this nice European mechanic who immediately put our car on the lift. My son and I got to do a good inspection of the underneath. I took my time and showed my son many parts and explained how they worked. I also showed him what I'm looking for, good and bad, to evaluate the car. At that time, we were expecting the mechanic to do our inspection. He informed us that he has to finish the other car in his shop first and to come back no earlier than 3:00 pm. But its only 11:30 am now.... So much for making appointments with a one man shop. So we decided to walk back to the rental which was less than a mile away. During this walk, we got a little lost, but still had a wonderful conversation with the seller about many things and managed to close the deal. (Before we got to the rental car and before getting the results from the mechanic). We agreed to a price and agreed that if the mechanic finds major issues, we will reconsider or renegotiate.

Once back at the rental, we drove the seller home and agreed to meet again around 5:30 pm. (The shop closes at 6:00 pm). This way he could do some work and so could I. (I had a little business to do there too). Later that day, we met again and were informed by the mechanic that no major issues were found. The seller agreed to pay for an oil change, the inspection and half of a minor repair that the mechanic recommended and we agreed to. After exchanging money and paperwork, we became the proud owners of a beautiful Silver S600. We had the owner agree to follow us to the airport to return the rental car and then drove him back to his car. Only 15-20 miles in each direction, but not fun in Friday rush-hour traffic. From there, we met with some friends, had a great dinner and off to a local motel for a short night sleep.

The following morning (5:45 am), we got up and got going. Not home. Nope! We went north to San Francisco. (We slept in Mountain View). My son wanted to visit two places. The twistiest road in the world (Lombard Street), which we drove down twice and the Golden State Bridge.

We spent a wonderful morning visiting these places and Sending pictures home to my wife and other son via the phone's camera as we went along.

From there, we headed south to Southern California. We drove down the 101 freeway to Gilroy. From there we crossed over to the 5 freeway and then took country roads via Taft, highway 33, Ojai, and on to our home in Agoura hills. 440 miles in all! The car ran flawlessly and was an absolute pleasure to drive.

That evening, I took my wife and both sons out to ice cream in our new car. My wife and I were both skeptical about a Silver car. We prefer the more traditional black on black versions. But we both now agree that it's a gorgeous car. (And the 4 Seating configuration is very special indeed). I'm glad she likes it. We can now look forward to many years of joyous drives.

Written by: Amir Rudyan
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