

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU BUY

Read the text and choose the word that best fits the gap.

When choosing hi-fi equipment, it is important to choose a retailer carefully. Independent hi-fi shops have (0) _____ staff who can demonstrate equipment before a purchase is made. However, retailers that lack demonstration rooms should not be ignored, as they often have another (1) _____ that has them. Chain stores are worth considering as they offer good prices and some also have reasonable demonstration (2) _____. Then, there are "ex-demo models", which can save money if the hi-fi is merely scratched, but purchasers should beware of retailers using the term to try and sell returned or (3) _____ equipment. The best advice is to look for shops advertising membership of an Audio Dealers' Association, because they have to (4) _____ to certain standards of conduct.

In general, unauthorized dealers are best (5) _____ because they may be getting the products from a third party, which can cause problems later with warranties. Extended warranties can make (6) _____ in some cases but may not always be good value for money. When a product is offered at an extremely low price, purchasers should check carefully that the (7) _____ and conditions, as well as the price, are realistic and that there is a manufacturer's full warranty. Another source to be wary of is "grey imports" (imported through unofficial channels). These can appear good value, but also have (8) _____ when it comes to warranties and servicing.

