

Car Road Trip Prep

This procedure outlines the essential maintenance tasks to prepare a car for a road trip. It aims to enhance vehicle reliability for long-distance travel.

Step 1: **Check Tires**

Examine the tires for wear and ensure they are inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure. Don't forget to check your spare tire as well.

Step 2: **Test Lights**

Ensure that all internal and external lights are functioning properly, including headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and emergency flashers.

Step 3: **Fluid Levels**

Check and top off all essential fluids, including engine oil, coolant, brake fluid, windshield washer fluid, and power steering fluid.

Step 4: **Brake Inspection**

Inspect the brake system, including pads, discs, and brake fluid. Replace or repair any components that are excessively worn.

Step 5: **Battery Check**

Test the battery to ensure it holds a charge and that terminals are free from corrosion.

Step 6: **Air Filter**

Inspect and replace the air filter if it is dirty to improve engine performance and efficiency.

Step 7: **Wipers**

Check the condition of your windshield wipers and replace them if they are cracked or brittle.

Step 8: **Belt & Hoses**

Inspect belts and hoses for any signs of wear or damage, and replace them if necessary.

Step 9: **A/C Operation**

Test the air conditioning system for proper cooling and operation, especially if traveling in hot climates.

Step 10: **Emergency Kit**

Prepare or update an emergency kit for your car that includes items like a first aid kit, flashlight, jumper cables, and flares.

General Notes

Service Records

Keep a copy of your car's service records with you during the trip for reference in case of emergency.

Owner's Manual

Ensure the car's owner's manual is in the glove box, as it may be useful for troubleshooting any issues.

Roadside Assistance

Verify that your roadside assistance membership is active and keep their contact information handy.

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