

Car Maintenance Checklist

Checklist · 22 items · 5 sections

Keep your car running safely with this complete seasonal maintenance checklist. For interval-based servicing (every 5,000 miles etc.) see the Car Service Checklist. Before a road trip or used purchase, run through the Vehicle Inspection Checklist. Buying a used car: the Used Car Inspection Checklist covers what mechanics flag.

Open the editable version online:

<https://genechecklist.com/checklist/car-maintenance-checklist>

MONTHLY

- Check tire pressure (including spare)
HIGH
- Check engine oil level
HIGH
- Check coolant level
HIGH
- Check windshield washer fluid
- Inspect all lights (headlights, brake, indicators)
HIGH

QUARTERLY

- Check brake fluid level
HIGH
- Inspect windshield wipers
- Check battery terminals for corrosion
- Inspect tire tread depth
HIGH
- Check power steering fluid

EVERY 6 MONTHS

- Oil and filter change (every 5,000–7,500 miles)
HIGH
- Rotate tires (every 6,000–8,000 miles)
HIGH

- Inspect brakes (pads and rotors)

HIGH

ANNUAL

- Check all belts and hoses for wear

HIGH

- Replace air filter (engine and cabin)

- Inspect suspension and steering components

HIGH

- Check wheel alignment

- Ensure registration and insurance are current

HIGH

- Check emergency kit in trunk (jumper cables, flares, first aid)

EVERY 2 YEARS

- Flush and replace coolant

- Replace spark plugs

- Replace brake fluid

HIGH