



Driving a Car: **Daily Walkaround Check**

Read our guide about the daily checks that you should carry out inside and outside your car to make sure it's roadworthy.

Disclaimer:

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There is a common perception that winter is the time to take most care on the road, but summer can bring its own set of driving dangers too, and right now the road is calling for travellers to get out and enjoy the sunshine!

Inside the car

1.1 Brakes

Check that the:

- The foot or service brake works correctly and doesn't have any excessive travel
- Hand or parking brake works correctly and doesn't have any excessive travel
- Check the car mat around the brake area to ensure they aren't over the brake.
- Ensure that carpets or mats do not have any tears or rips in them

1.2 Horn and steering

Check that the:

- Horn works when its control is operated
- Steering has no excessive play

1.3 Lights

Check that:

- All lights and indicators work correctly
- All lenses are present, clean and are the right colour
brake lamps come on when the brake is applied and go out when released
- All dashboard warning lamps work correctly, including:
 - Automatic braking system (ABS)
 - Airbags - supplemental restraint system (SRS)

- Electronic positioning system (EPS)
- Full beam headlamp warning lamp
- Parking brake warning lamp

1.4 Mirrors and glass

Check that:

- All mirrors that should be there are properly aligned and secure
- Your view of the road in all directions isn't obscured by damaged or discoloured glass, or obstructions such as stickers
- Ensure that automatic wing mirrors deploy without jamming

1.6 Seats and seatbelts

Check that:

- Your seat is secure and positioned properly for comfort
- You can reach and operate all controls properly
- Ensure any loose items in the rear seats are secured
- Ensure there is no fraying to the seatbelt strap and the seatbelt buckle



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Outside the car

2.1 Fluids, fuel and oil

Check that:

- The brake fluid, engine coolant, engine oil, power steering fluid, windscreen washer fluid and water levels are correct
- The fuel filler cap is securely fitted, or the electric charging port cap is securely fitted.
- There are no brake fluid, power steering fluid or water leaks by looking for puddles on the ground – if leaks are detected, trace the cause

2.2 Doors & Bodyworks

Check that:

- No body panels are loose or in danger of falling off
- Also for any pool cars or shared cars in particular that the bodywork is checked for damage and reported. Check that there are no sharp edges evident

2.3 Tyres and Wheels

Check as much of your tyres and wheels as you can see. There must be:

- A minimum tread depth of 1.6mm
- Sufficient inflation of each tyre
- No cuts in the sidewall
- No cord is visible anywhere on the tyre
- No missing or insecure wheel nuts
- Ensure that you turn your wheels at an angle to check for wear/ damage throughout the full inside of the tyre
- Check that there are no foreign objects embedded into the tyre, such as nails or screws etc

Fact: Illegal tyres below 1.6 mm thread depth are punishable by a £2,500 fine and 3 points on your license per tyre.

Source: Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency

2.4 Tow bars and Pet Guards (If applicable)

Check that:

- The tow bar is secure, and any trailer is correctly and securely attached, with all electrical connections working correctly
- Pet guard is correctly fitted

2.5 Glass and Windscreen

Check that:

- There are no cracks on the windscreen or mirrors



How To Check Tyre Tread Depth: The 20p Test



The 20p test is a simple, quick and easy way of checking the tyre tread of your car's wheels:

- Just take a 20p coin and insert it into the tread grooves on the tyre
- If you can't see the outer band on the coin, your tyres are above the legal limit
- However, if you can see the band and that section of the coin is still visible, your tyres could be unsafe and require professional inspection by a mechanic
- Drivers should conduct the 20p test every month to check tyre tread depth

Tyre Booking Portal

We have a **Tyre Booking Portal** which enables you to book your tyre replacement at a centre or via mobile appointment at your convenience!

Scan the QR code to access the portal:



If you have never used our portal before, scan the QR code to check out our step-by-step tutorial video

