

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

There are the maintenance and inspection items which are considered to be the owner's responsibility. They can be performed by the owner or be can have them done at a service shop. These items include those which should be checked on a daily basis, those which, in most cases, do not require (special) tools and those which are considered to be reasonable for the owner to perform. Items and procedures for general maintenance are as follows:

OUTSIDE VEHICLE

1. TIRES

- (a) Check the pressure with a gauge. Adjust if necessary.
- (b) Check for cuts, damage or excessive wear.

2. WHEEL NUTS

Wheel checking the tires, check the nuts for looseness or for missing nuts. If necessary, tighten them.

3. TIRE ROTATION

It is recommended that tires be rotated every 7,500 miles (12,000 km).

4. WINDSHIELD WIPER BLADES

Check for wear or cracks whenever they do not wipe clean. Replace if necessary.

5. FLUID LEAKS

- (a) Check underneath for leaking fuel, oil, water or other fluid.
- (b) If you smell gasoline fumes or notice any leak, have the cause found and corrected.

6. DOORS AND ENGINE HOOD

- (a) Check that all doors including the trunk lid operate smoothly, and that all latches lock securely.
- (b) Check that the engine hood secondary latch secures the hood from opening when the primary latch is released.

INSIDE VEHICLE

7. LIGHTS

- (a) Check that the headlights, stop lights, taillights, turn signal lights, and other lights are all working.
- (b) Check the headlight aiming.

8. WARNING LIGHTS AND BUZZERS

Check that all warning lights and buzzers function properly.

9. HORN

Check that it is working.

10. WINDSHIELD GLASS

Check for scratches, pits or abrasions.

11. WINDSHIELD WIPER AND WASHER

- (a) Check operation of the wipers and washer.
- (b) Check that the wipers do not streak.

12. WINDSHIELD DEFROSTER

Check that the air comes out from the defroster outlet when operating the heater air conditioner at defroster mode.

13. REAR VIEW MIRROR

Check that it is mounted securely.

14. SUN VISORS

Check that they move freely and are mounted securely.

15. STEERING WHEEL

Check that it has the specified freeplay. Be alert for changes in steering condition, such as hard steering, excessive freeplay or strange noise.

16. SEATS

- (a) Check that all front seat controls such as seat adjusters, seatback recliner, etc. operate smoothly.
- (b) Check that all latches lock securely in any position.
- (c) Check that the locks hold securely in any latched position.
- (d) Check that the head restraints move up and down smoothly and that the locks hold securely in any latched position.
- (e) For folding-down rear seat backs, check that the latches lock securely.

17. SEAT BELTS

- (a) Check that the seat belt system such as buckles, retractors and anchors operate properly and smoothly.
- (b) Check that the belt webbing is not cut, frayed, worn or damaged.

18. ACCELERATOR PEDAL

Check the pedal for smooth operation and un-even pedal effort or catching.

19. BRAKE PEDAL (See page BR-4)

- (a) Check that pedal for smooth operation.
- (b) Check that the pedal has the proper reserve distance and freeplay.
- (c) Check the brake booster function.

20. BRAKES

At a safe place, check that the brakes do not pull to one side when applied.

21. PARKING BRAKE (See page BR-7)

- (a) Check that the pedal has the proper travel.
- (b) On a safe incline, check that the vehicle is held securely with only the parking brake applied.

22. AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION “PARK” MECHANISM

- (a) Check the lock release button of the selector lever for proper and smooth operation.
- (b) On a safe incline, check that the vehicle is held securely with the selector lever in the “P” position and all brakes released.

UNDER HOOD**23. WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID**

Check that there is sufficient fluid in the tank.

24. ENGINE COOLANT LEVEL

Check that the coolant level is between the LEVEL lines on the see-through reservoir at normal temperature (20° C (68° F)).

25. RADIATOR AND HOSES

- (a) Check that the front of the radiator is clean and not blocked with leaves, dirt or bugs.
- (b) Check the hoses for cracks, kinks, rot or loose connections.

26. BATTERY ELECTROLYTE LEVEL

Check the indicator.

When the indicator color is blue, the condition is satisfactory. A red color indicates that dis-

tilled water must be added, and white indicates that charging is necessary.

27. BRAKE FLUID LEVELS

Check that the brake fluid level is near the upper level line on the see-through reservoir.

28. ENGINE DRIVE BELT

Check drive belt for fraying, cracks, wear or oiliness.

29. ENGINE OIL LEVEL

Check the level on the dipstick with the engine turned off.

30. POWER STEERING FLUID LEVEL

Check the level on the dipstick.

The level should be in the “HOT” or “COLD” range depending on the fluid temperature.

31. AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION FLUID LEVEL

- (a) Park the vehicle on a level surface.
- (b) With the engine idling and the parking and foot brake applied, shift the selector into all positions from “P” to “L” and then shift into “P”.
- (c) Turn and pull out the dipstick and wipe off the fluid with a clean rag. Reinsert the dipstick fully and check that the fluid is in the HOT range.
- (d) Perform this check with the fluid at normal driving temperature (70 – 80° C (158 – 176° F)).

If the level is at the low side, add fluid.

Fluid type: Type T-II

NOTICE: Do not overfill.

HINT: Wait about 30 minutes before checking the fluid level after extended driving at high speeds in hot weather, driving in heavy traffic or with a trailer.

32. EXHAUST SYSTEM

Visually inspect for cracks, holes or loose supports.

If any change in the sound of the exhaust or smell of the exhaust fumes is noticed, have the cause located and corrected.