



# Seasonal Car Maintenance Checklist

## A simple guide for staying ahead year-round.

You don't need to inspect everything yourself. This checklist is designed to help you notice small changes and have informed conversations with your mechanic.

### Early Spring Check-In

Winter takes a toll—especially from salt, moisture and temperature swings.

#### WHAT TO NOTICE

- Brakes sound different (grinding, squeaking, pulsing)
- Steering feels stiffer than usual
- Vehicle pulls slightly to one side
- Musty smell when you turn on the AC
- Visible rust underneath the vehicle
- You hear clunking noises over bumps
- Wipers leave streaks on windshield

#### WHAT TO ASK YOUR MECHANIC

- Can you check my brake and rotor wear after winter?
- Is there undercarriage rust that needs attention?
- Are belts and hoses showing winter wear?
- Are my coolant and brake fluid levels in good shape?
- My steering feels off, could my car need aligned?
- Should I replace my windshield wipers?

### Summer Check-In

Heat can stress fluids, batteries and cooling systems.

#### WHAT TO NOTICE

- Engine temperature runs warmer than usual
- AC isn't blowing as cold
- Vehicle hesitates during acceleration
- Warning lights flicker or appear

#### WHAT TO ASK YOUR MECHANIC

- Is my cooling system working efficiently?
- Should any fluids be flushed based on mileage?
- Is my battery testing strong in high heat?
- Is my engine air filter clean?
- Are there any manufacturer recalls?
- Are there any vehicle software updates?

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## Fall Prep

Fall is about preparing for colder weather ahead.

### WHAT TO NOTICE

- Slower engine starts
- Dimming headlights
- Worn tire tread
- Heater airflow seems weak

### WHAT TO ASK YOUR MECHANIC

- Is my battery ready for winter?
- Should I rotate or replace tires before colder weather?
- Is my cabin air filter due for replacement?
- Are belts and hoses in good condition heading into winter?

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Replace key fob battery as needed
- Keep emergency kit stocked (flashlight, jumper cables, etc.)

## Winter Awareness

Cold temperatures can expose weaknesses quickly.

### WHAT TO NOTICE

- Rough shifting
- Slow power steering response
- Low tire pressure alerts
- Strange vibrations

### WHAT TO ASK YOUR MECHANIC

- Are my tires properly inflated for winter driving?
- Are fluids at appropriate levels for cold weather?
- Is there any rust or wear we should monitor before spring?



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