

Car Maintenance Checklist for New Owners

Printable inspection and maintenance log • Use your vehicle manufacturer's schedule for exact service intervals.

Vehicle	_____
Year / Make / Model	_____
Current mileage	_____
Date purchased	_____

New Owner Baseline Inspection

- Locate the owner's manual and service history
- Record current mileage
- Check engine oil according to the manufacturer's procedure
- Check coolant level when the engine is cold
- Check applicable brake and transmission fluids
- Inspect tires, tread, sidewalls and pressure
- Inspect spare tire if equipped
- Check brake condition
- Check battery condition and terminals
- Check exterior lights
- Look for visible fluid leaks
- Check dashboard warning lights
- Inspect wipers and windshield
- Identify overdue or unknown maintenance

Regular Checks

- Tire pressure
- Tire tread and visible damage
- Oil level where applicable
- Coolant level
- Visible leaks
- Exterior lights
- Wipers
- Unusual noises
- Unusual vibrations
- Dashboard warning lights

Scheduled Maintenance Log

Record the interval specified for your actual vehicle rather than relying on a universal mileage rule.

Date	Mileage	Maintenance / Repair	Parts / Fluid	Next Due	Notes

Maintenance Items to Track

- Engine oil and filter
- Engine air filter
- Cabin air filter
- Brake inspection
- Tire rotation if specified
- Battery inspection/testing
- Coolant service when specified
- Transmission service when specified
- Spark plugs when specified
- Belts and hoses inspection
- Alignment/balance when required
- Other manufacturer-specific services

Technician note: A maintenance checklist is a record-keeping tool, not a substitute for diagnosis. If the vehicle develops overheating, braking changes, a flashing warning light, significant fluid loss, severe vibration, smoke, fuel smell or another major change in behavior, have it inspected.