



CAR CARE CHECKLIST

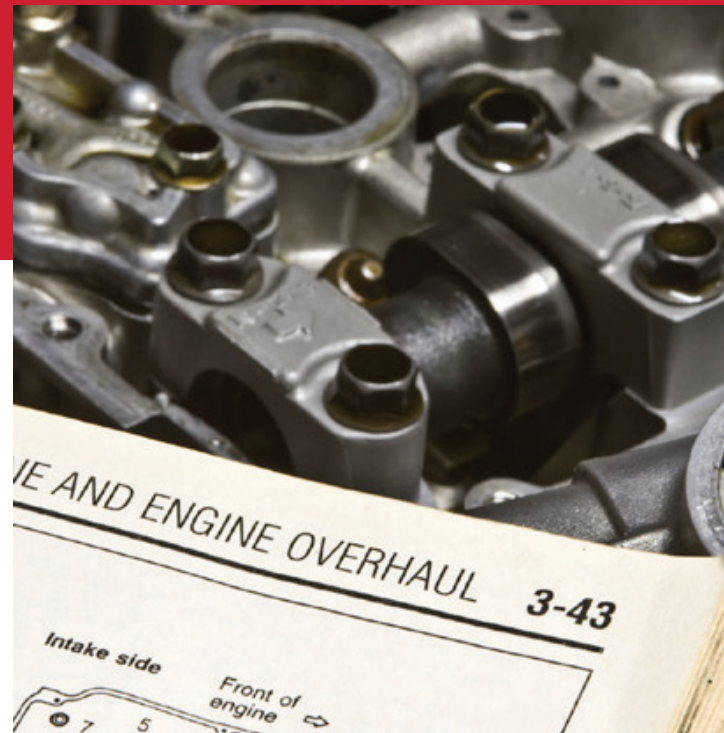
Top 10
Maintenance Tips



**MOUNTAIN
AMERICA**
CREDIT UNION

Top 10 Maintenance Tips

Whether your recently purchased vehicle is new or previously owned, it's important to keep it in top form. Follow these 10 simple steps to maintain your car's condition and value.



1. Read the owner's manual

Your new vehicle may have different requirements than your previous one. Review the manual for information about things like the proper oil grade, service frequency and warning light interpretations.

2. Check oil level and quality

Ensure the engine oil is at the proper level and not dark or gritty. Change the oil as recommended by your vehicle's manual or every 3,000 miles.



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3. Top off fluids

Take a few minutes each week to check the coolant, brake fluid, windshield washer and power steering fluid levels. Other fluids, like that in the transmission, may need to be checked by a service technician.



4. Perform an annual brake checkup

To ensure you can stop safely, inspect the brake-pad and rotor condition yearly. Replace the brakes promptly if they appear worn or broken.



5. Check the tires

Regularly check the tire pressure and tread. Rotate the tires as recommended in the owner's manual. Well-maintained tires help the car stop better and may improve fuel or electrical efficiency.



6. Change filters

Filters are designed to catch unwanted materials, and eventually they fill up. Make sure your air, fuel and oil filters are replaced regularly to keep your vehicle running smoothly.





7. Maintain visibility

If your windshield wipers leave streaks, it's likely time to replace them. You should also make sure the other windows are clean inside and out.

8. Park in the shade

To preserve your vehicle's interior, park in a covered or shady spot. A window deflector screen or UV protectant can help prevent the plastic and vinyl from drying out and cracking.

9. Pay attention to the battery

If you have a gas-powered vehicle, ensure the battery holds a charge and clean any corrosion from the terminals. EV owners should optimize their battery charging habits, keeping the charge level between 20% and 80%.

10. Keep it clean

Washing and waxing your vehicle regularly not only improves the appearance, it also protects the paint and minimizes the chance for rust.

Remember, regular maintenance is key to preventing costly repairs and extending the life of your vehicle. If you're ever unsure about a maintenance task, don't hesitate to consult a professional mechanic. Safe driving!

