



# **CHECK IT**

**QUICK, REGULAR CHECKS HELP IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF YOUR VEHICLE**

## **GLOVE BOX CHECK IT GUIDE**

*When it comes to road safety, one thing you can control is proper maintenance of your vehicle. Keep this simple guide in your glove box & use it to complete quick, regular checks to help you improve the safety of your vehicle.*

**NEED A HAND?**

*We're here to help!*



**TO LEARN HOW TO CHECK IT - WATCH OUR SHORT VIDEOS AT  
[WWW.SUPERCHEAPAUTO.COM.AU/CHECKIT](http://WWW.SUPERCHEAPAUTO.COM.AU/CHECKIT)**






# CHECK YOUR TYRE TREAD, PRESSURE & SPARE



## TYRE TREAD

Using the Check It tyre tread depth gauge or similar style, insert the gauge into the tread groove at the outer, inner and middle points of the tyre:

-  (4-13mm): The tread is good for road use
-  (2-4mm): Visit your local tyre specialist for advice
-  (Less than 2mm): Seek replacement from your local tyre dealer.

**Check out prices online: [tyres.supercheapauto.com.au](https://www.tyres.supercheapauto.com.au)**

In addition to the tread, also check each tyre for damage. If you notice any irregularities, be sure to get it replaced by a tyre specialist.

Tread Depth Gauge



## TYRE PRESSURE

Check your tyre pressures to make sure they're inflated correctly. The right pressure for your car tyres can be found on the tyre plaque, usually located on the inside of the driver's side door. Check the vehicle manual if you can't find it. This will offer the recommended inflation levels for both normal and maximum loads. Incorrect tyre pressure can result in car handling issues, increased braking distance, and uneven wear. If the tyre is under-inflated there is going to be more flex in the side wall resulting in wear along the shoulders of the tyre. If it's over-inflated you will find increased wear through the centre of the tyre. When you have finished checking your tyre pressure always make sure you replace the valve caps as they act as a secondary seal if the valve is leaking.



Pressure Gauge



Valve Caps



## SPARE TYRE & JACK

It's always good practise to check the spare tyre pressure and tread at the same time. A working jack is a must for every spare tyre, so ensure you check it isn't missing and is fully operational.



Jack

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## CHECK YOUR INDICATORS, BRAKE & HEAD LIGHTS



### INDICATOR LIGHTS

Chances are you'll be on the road when you first notice an indicator light isn't working and often the first clue is a change in indicator sound speed. The affected side will click faster than normal. To check which light is out, turn your hazard lights on and check each light, front and rear. Indicator bulbs are easily replaced either behind the lens under the bonnet or by taking out the lens from the front. If you're unsure or need a hand to replace an indicator light, head into your local Supercheap Auto store.



### BRAKE LIGHTS & HEAD LIGHTS

Unlike indicator lights, head and tail lights often don't have a sound cue to alert you a light could be out. If you don't have someone to check your lights for you, a quick tip is to test your lights in a dark garage. You'll be able to see the reflections on the walls or garage door. You'll soon be able to tell if there are any lights not working by the absence or dimming of the light reflecting. When a bulb is blown it's always good practice to replace the corresponding light on the other side at the same time. If one side has blown the other side may not be far behind it, so change them both at once for peace of mind.

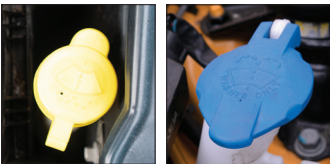


## CHECK YOUR WINDSCREEN WIPERS



### WIPERS

Typically you only realise your wipers need replacing when it's raining and you need them working. To ensure you don't get into this unsafe situation get into a habit of testing them when it isn't raining so you have an opportunity to get them replaced before the next downfall. As a guide it is a good idea to replace your wipers every six months, but you can also tell if your wipers are due to be replaced by taking notice of the way they are cleaning your windscreen. Uneven streaking or splitting and scratching or skipping across the windscreen may all indicate that your wipers are due for replacing. To replace wiper refills (normally held in by a clip at one end) squeeze the clip and slip off the old refills. New refills simply slide into place with the clip on the inside of the wiper arch and excess trimmed off. If you are unsure at any stage of a wiper refill just ask your local Supercheap Auto Team Member to fit them for you. A new set of wipers is one of those little things that can make a big difference.



### WASHER FLUID



Blaring sun combined with a dirty windscreen can make it very hard to see the road. Wiper washer fluid means the difference between pulling over to clean or simply letting the car do the work for you. Washer fluid and working jets are very important to ensure you can clean your windscreen as you go. To keep it topped up, just pop off the cap and pour in water or ready to use washer fluid when necessary. You can also add some glass cleaning concentrate to give more grime fighting power and help keep your screen clean.

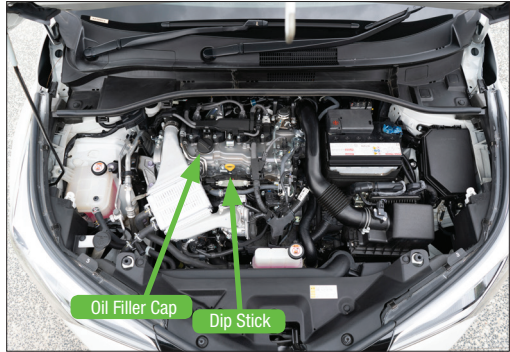
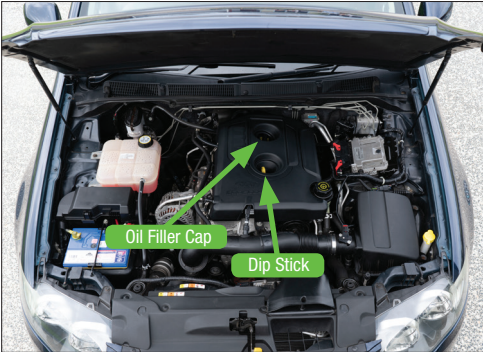
**NOTE:** Images shown are a general guide as to what to look for, all vehicles will vary.

**NEED A HAND?** We're here to help!

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# CHECK YOUR OIL

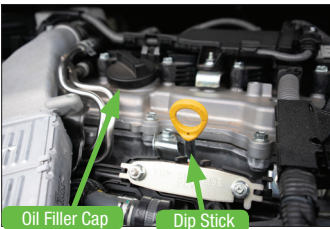


## SETUP

Make sure the car is on level ground and the engine is off and cooled down. Once you've popped the bonnet, there's only a couple of things you need to look for.

## THE DIP STICK

The dip stick allows you to check the level of the engine oil. To check your engine oil level, position the car on a level surface and ensure the engine is turned off. Pull out the dip stick and wipe off any oil with a clean cloth. Replace the dip stick back into its original position and then remove it again. Check the oil level on the markings on the end of the dip stick. Top up oil if necessary.



## OIL FILLER CAP

If you need to top up your oil look for the oil filler cap which is generally located on the top of the engine. Simply remove the cap and add the correct engine oil slowly to top up. Just be sure to do this gradually and keep checking not to over fill. Once full, simply replace the cap and wipe up any small drips or spills. There are many different types of oil, so make sure you get the right oil for your car or simply ask one of the team at your local Supercheap Auto.

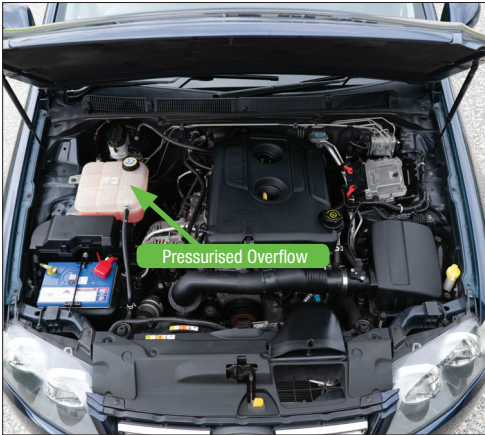


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# CHECK YOUR COOLANT



Pressurised Overflow

## SETUP

Coolant isn't just water. It's a mixture of water and antifreeze. To check the coolant level you'll need to make sure that the engine and radiator are completely cool. It's VERY important to never open the cap on the radiator or overflow if the engine is hot as there is a chance that any boiling liquid in the system will spray out. Pop open your bonnet and ensure your bonnet stay is in place.

## OVERFLOW

**Never open the cap on the radiator or overflow if the engine is hot.**

The overflow bottle is a clear plastic container connected to the radiator. It shows maximum and minimum levels that are clearly marked on its side. If your coolant is low or empty top it up with the recommended coolant as per your Owner's Manual or with a universal coolant.



Pressurised Overflow

## RADIATOR

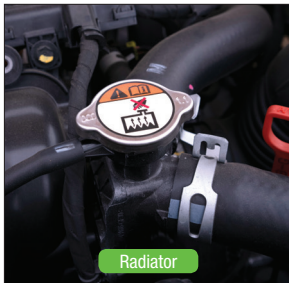
**Never open the cap on the radiator or overflow if the engine is hot.**

Check the radiator by removing the cap slowly. If you can't see coolant in the radiator it's time to top it up. Using a funnel top up the radiator slowly as the coolant will need to travel all the way to the bottom before it fills. Once the radiator and overflow is full go for a quick drive around the block to check for any leaks. If you believe you may have a leak or any other issues head into your local Supercheap Auto store for more advice or check out Supercheap Auto services to book and compare a service.

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Overflow



Radiator



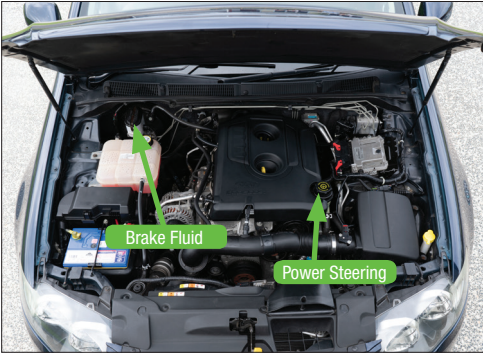
Pressurised Overflow

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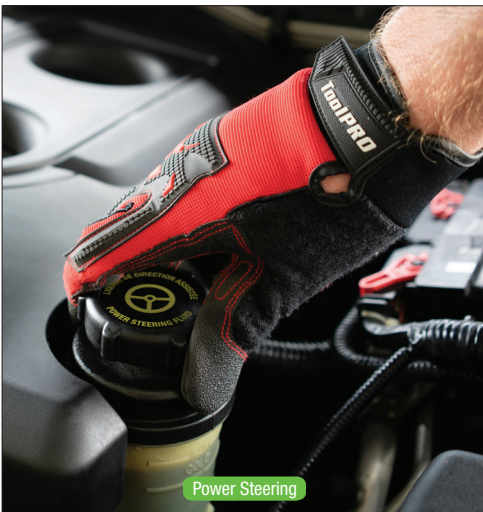
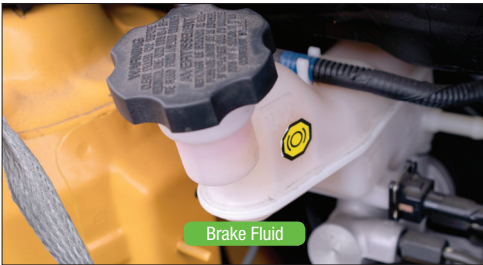


# CHECK YOUR POWER STEERING & BRAKE FLUID



## SETUP

Your car requires brake and power steering fluid in the same way the human body requires blood. Without blood, the heart has nothing to pump. Without brake and power steering fluid, brakes fail and steering becomes extremely hard so it's important to know how to check the levels of these fluids to make sure things are working as they should. To begin both checks position your car on level ground, pop open the bonnet and ensure your bonnet stay is in place.



## BRAKE FLUID (O)

Brake fluid reservoirs are located on the driver's side of the engine bay and are normally clear sided and have a high and low indicator viewable. Once located, it is just a case of visually checking the level and topping up with the recommended fluid if the level has dropped or is below the low level marker.

## POWER STEERING (S)

A power steering check is as simple as opening the cap and checking the level. Some power steering reservoirs may have a dip stick built into the reservoir cap to make it easier. Power steering levels will fluctuate dependent on the temperature of the car, so often the indicator will also show a HOT or COLD level to show you where the fluid level should be in both instances. If this is low, it's time to top up with the recommended fluid. Check the owner's manual if you're in any doubt or call into your local Supercheap Auto.

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## CHECK FOR CLUES



Leak from under the car

### LEAKS

Your car shouldn't leak. The only puddle it should be leaving is a bit of water from the air conditioner. So, a puddle of oil or coloured liquid is a sure sign that something isn't right. Unfortunately a leak will not fix itself and if ignored it can be dangerous and might become more costly. Getting a leak checked as early as possible is always your best bet.

In addition to an oil or liquid leak, also pay attention to the look of your coolant. If you notice your coolant looking sludgy or oily get your engine checked by a professional. Oily coolant may indicate an internal gasket issue and can pose real trouble if it's not sorted out.



Temperature Gauge

### CLUES

Often a good indication of early issues is the sounds your car makes. Listen out for any changes in the way your car sounds. For example, a great indicator that your battery needs replacing is when your car is slow to start after you turn the key. Or if your steering starts making noises as you turn a corner maybe you have a power steering issue. Also keep an eye out for warning lights on your car dash and on your car's temperature gauge for any signs that things could be heating up. It's really just about taking a bit of notice and watching out for anything out of the ordinary. If you think something isn't right... Check it.



## CHECK ALL ITEMS ARE PACKED SECURELY

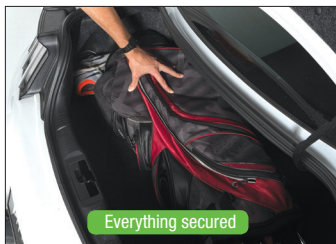


Seat Belt check

### SEAT BELT & HARNESSSES

As a driver, your first and most important responsibility is to ensure the safety of yourself and the people travelling in your car. Arguably, seat belts are the greatest single safety innovation the motoring world has seen. Seatbelts have saved countless lives since becoming compulsory in the 1970s.

Love your pet? Then they deserve to ride safely as well. Always make sure that your pet is in a correctly fitted harness or restraint. Animals should not be able to move freely around the vehicle whilst driving.



Everything secured

### LOOSE OBJECTS

In addition to passengers, objects also need to be safely secured whilst the car is in motion. If you need to brake suddenly, or if you're unfortunately involved in a crash, then you want everything secured so you don't have things flying around in the cabin. Plastic roller boxes or organisers are a great way to store loose items and using luggage straps to hold down heavy items is recommended. If possible, it's best to put any loose items in your boot so they don't roll around under your seat and potentially under your brake pedal.

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- CHECK YOUR INDICATORS, BRAKE & HEAD LIGHTS**
- CHECK YOUR WINDSCREEN WIPERS**
- CHECK YOUR OIL**
- CHECK YOUR COOLANT**
- CHECK YOUR POWER STEERING & BRAKE FLUID**
- CHECK FOR CLUES**
- CHECK ALL ITEMS ARE PACKED SECURELY**

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