

# Car Maintenance Checklist

By Taylor Peterson

- Checking Engine Oil
  - Place your car at the level spot and stop the engine.
  - Wait for a while to let the engine oil to pour down to the oil pan.
  - Pull the engine oil dipstick.
  - Wipe the oil dipstick off with a clean rag or tissue.
  - Insert it back all the way down into its place.
  - Pull the dipstick again and check the oil level.
  - If it's lower than at "FULL" mark, top it up.
  - Add a little amount of the oil.
  - Wait for a minute to let the oil to pour down.
  - Check the oil level again with the dipstick.
  - If it's still low, add some more.
  - Install the dipstick back and close the oil filler cap when you finished.
- Checking Transmission Fluid
  - Place your car at a level surface.
  - Engage the parking brake.
  - Start the engine.
  - Set transmission shifter in "P" (Park) position.
  - Let the engine idle.
  - Pull the transmission dipstick.
  - Wipe it off with a clean lint free rag.
  - Insert it back carefully all the way down into its place.
  - Pull again and check the fluid level.
  - If the fluid level is low, top it up.
  - Use only specified transmission fluid.
  - Add a small amount of the fluid through the dipstick pipe.
  - Wait for a few minutes - let the fluid to flow down.
  - Recheck the level again.
  - Do not overfill.
- Checking Engine Coolant
  - The coolant level should be between "LOW" and "FULL" marks.

- If the fluid level is lower, top it up.
- When engine temperature is reduced, add a coolant into the overflow tank to "FULL" mark.
- If there is no coolant in overflow tank or you have to top it up quite often, have your car inspected in the garage.
- Checking Tires
  - Check the tire pressure at least once a month.
  - Find out the recommended tire pressure for your car.
  - The maximum pressure listed on tires is NOT the proper pressure.
  - Rotate tires at every second oil change.
  - Have your tires balanced if you feel vibration at cruising speed.
  - Uneven tire wear indicates alignment problem.