

# Vehicle Safety Checklist

By Taylor Peterson

- Basic Equipment
  - Safety belts are in good working order.
  - There are 2 white headlights, both working.
  - There are 2 red taillights, both working, visible for 500 feet to the rear.
  - White rear license plate light is visible for 50 feet to the rear.
  - There are 2 red reflectors on side rear fenders of vehicle.
  - There are 2 brake lights, both working, visible from 500 ft in normal daylight.
  - Right and left turn signal are on the front and rear of vehicle, visible from 500 feet.
  - Front and rear plates are required except for motorcycles and trailers.
  - Brakes are in good working order.
  - Tires have no body ply or belt material exposed, no tread or sidewall separation.
  - Tire pressure should be accurate.
  - Exhaust system is in good working order and constant operation.
  - Windows and windshield are clean, free from obstruction, cracks or decals.
  - Good working windshield wipers are required.
  - Rearview mirror is required so a driver will be able to see at least 200 feet behind the vehicle.
  - Working horn is required, must be heard from 200 feet away.
  - Fenders must cover entire width of tire tread that touches the pavement.
- Driving
  - Drive in a safe and courteous manner.
  - Keep a valid license in your possession.
  - Perform a vehicle safety check prior to beginning travel.
  - Drivers and all passengers must wear seat belts.
  - Do not drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
  - Do not use cell phones or texting devices while driving.
  - Do not pick up hitchhikers.
  - Do not leave a running vehicle unattended.

- Be mindful of the weather.
- Avoid driving during severe weather conditions.