



ENGINE CARE

OVERVIEW

This pack includes information on how to care for your engine and tips to further increase its longevity.

YOUR SERVICE/MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

It is very important to keep on top of the maintenance schedule set out by your vehicles manufacturer, there are a number of reasons why not sticking to the service guide will cause problems with your engine:

- **Oil & oil filter change** - *we recommend this at a maximum of every 10,000 miles or 1 year*. The job of oil and the oil filter is extremely vital to the operation of an engine, various internal parts rely on clean & properly distributed lubrication in order to function and avoid premature wear.
- **Air filter change** - The air filter provides the engine intake with a shield against debris and particles harmful to the engine. A clogged filter means a restricted air supply and incorrect fuel/air mixture, this can cause engine misfires and starting issues which in turn can be a detriment to various working parts.

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- **Fuel filter change** - The fuel filter prevents debris from entering the fuel system, a blocked fuel filter can severely impact the running operation of an engine. If not replaced this can cause low fuel pressure, starting issues, incorrect air/fuel mixture, rough idling and misfires. Multiple parts can be affected and this may also bring up an engine management light.
 - **Coolant change/top up** - Keeping coolant topped up and changing it when required is very important. It is normal for the coolant level to lower after a significant period of time but if this drops rapidly it could be caused by leak and needs immediate investigation. A low coolant level can cause overheating which will severely affect engine operation and possibly cause permanent damage. Coolant can deteriorate if left over a long time and lose its rust-inhibiting properties, it may also be less effective as “antifreeze” in cold weather.
 - **Timing kit** - It is important to remember that timing belts/chains & associated components are perishable items and must be changed to avoid engine damage in cases of failure. It is good practice to change this kit around every 50,000 miles, keep an eye on your manufacturer's maintenance schedule.

DRIVING STYLE

It is important to remember that an engine is a complex assembly of many moving and non moving parts, these parts are under constant load when in operation so the way you drive also has an impact. The internal parts of an engine have been engineered to operate exactly in a certain way within tolerances, if these components are over stressed in every journey made you can expect a shorter engine life span. There are lots of online guides to caring for your vehicle but a general rule of good practice is to drive with “mechanical sympathy”, in this case it means that having a better understanding of how your engine works gives you the knowledge to know how it may be affected in certain situations i.e. Long & repeated use of 100% throttle means high stress etc.