

# CHECKS TO KEEP YOU SAFE ON THE ROAD

## OUTSIDE THE CAR

Is the Warrant of Fitness and Registration current?

Are your tyres at the recommended pressures? Pressures are usually displayed somewhere inside the vehicle. Don't forget to check the spare.

Check there is at least 2.5mm tread depth over the whole tyre. At least 5mm is recommended for adverse driving conditions, like a wet road, extra load on a long trip, or towing a trailer. If tread wear is uneven you may need a wheel alignment.

Are your headlights (high & low beams), brake lights, indicators and reversing lights working? Keep your headlight covers clean.

Are your windscreen wiper rubber blades in good condition? They should be replaced every 12 months.

## INSIDE THE CAR

Is the brake pedal movement about the same as usual?

Are the windows clean, inside and out.

Check seat belts and child restraints for damage or wear and keep them clean.

Are any warning lights showing?

Remove rubbish and put loose items in the boot.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Wearing a seat belt reduces the chance of death and serious injury in a crash by 40%.**

## UNDER THE BONNET

Check radiator coolant, engine oil and windscreen washer water, and top up if necessary.

Check belts and hoses for cracks or wear.

Check for grinding or squeaking noises when driving. These could indicate a problem with brakes or suspension.

**If you don't feel comfortable doing this, get a reputable garage to give your car a complete health check.**

## WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU

Check the jack, its handle and the wheel nut spanner are in the boot.

If you have a roadside assistance card, take it with you.

A torch, fire extinguisher, hi-vis vest, pen and paper and 'wet wipes' are useful things to carry in your car boot, along with a basic first aid kit.

Accidents, breakdowns or road works can cause delays. If you are making a long trip, take water, food and something for your children to do.

## REMEMBER

**Turn your lights on early morning or evening or in bad weather to ensure other drivers can see you.**

## WINTER REMINDERS

Make sure your radiator has the right amount of antifreeze if you are going to cold regions.

Use a scraper or warm water to remove ice from your windscreen. Hot water may crack the windscreen.

## SUMMER REMINDERS

*Share the road* – sunny days mean more cyclists and motorcyclists on the road. Watch out for them.

Watch out for slow and wide farm contractors vehicles on rural roads.



Phone 0800 111 323