H1

### **Our Parents were right.**

H2

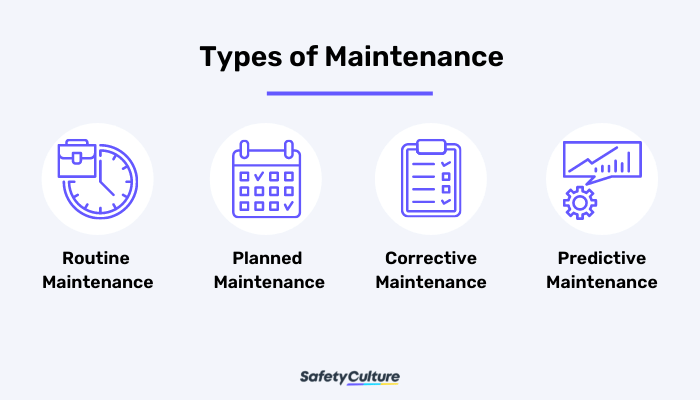
“Oil changes save our cars.”- The Parents

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As young drivers, we all heard early and more often than we wanted to from Dad to maintain our cars. Some of us learned the hard way, and finally started listening to the advice. The smart ones who listened got into the routine of regular maintenance and didn’t suffer the car breakdowns and realized longer lives of our cars. It starts with oil changes and keeping up with a full maintenance schedule The new economy as well as our driving behavior can also lengthen our cars life. Here are some benefits of regular maintenance.

H2

Here are the different types of maintenance for your vehicle

Graphic

Planned Maintenance

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Where routine maintenance may happen on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis, planned maintenance may be scheduled once per year or as needed. This is because planned maintenance is thorough—often requiring the services of a specialist. In the context of maintaining an air-conditioning unit, routine maintenance is taking out and washing the filters once per month, while planned maintenance is hiring an HVAC professional to check refrigerant levels, possible leaks, and measure airflow through the evaporator coil.

Corrective Maintenance

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If during your routine maintenance inspection of a car you discover signs of severe wear-and-tear, you need to perform corrective maintenance. **When computer or gauge readings for a machine show unusual, possibly hazardous anomalies, you need to perform corrective maintenance**. Corrective maintenance pertains to the repairs and replacements necessary to get an asset back up and running at full power and optimal condition.

Predictive Maintenance

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This maintenance type focuses on techniques used to determine the appropriate schedule for planned and corrective maintenance. **Its primary goal is to predict, through a variety of testing methods, when a machine will start experiencing severe wear and tear so corrective maintenance can be scheduled without affecting productivity goals.**

Saves Money

Spending money to save money? Yes. In the long run it will happen, Oil changes are the start. It first starts with oil changes, with the right oil and regular fluids that improves your engine’s performance. We all get busy but if this is put off it shortens the life of the engine and will start to eventually break down. Regular tune ups should be every 10,000 to 20,000 miles. Oil changes are recommended every 3,000 miles.

Minimizes Heavy Vehicle Repair

A lack of repairs or maintenance can potentially cause your vehicle to become unsafe on the road. Preventative vehicle maintenance helps reduce breakdowns, allowing you to make the most of your vehicle. To replace an engine (Used costs approximately are $2,500.00) If you want to replace it with a new OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) Engine with labor could cost approximately $5,000.00. Regular maintenance will be able to extend the life of your engine.

  Improves Performance

Regular maintenance enables your vehicle to operate at its full potential. This is highly effective in hot climates where severe weather and unstable or uneven terrain will challenge even the most experienced driver

Improved Air Quality

In addition to improved performance, regular service and maintenance will keep the air quality of your vehicle clean and toxin-free. A well-maintained air filter will also contribute to increasing fuel efficiency and improving acceleration. A well-performing heating and air conditioning system results in a more comfortable riding experience, particularly during sweltering summer temperatures or below-zero conditions

# Increases Resale Value <H3>

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As mentioned, routine maintenance helps you save money, but regular car servicing does more than just save money. The better shape your car is in, the greater its resale value will be. This will allow you to trade-in or sell your vehicle for a high value when you’re ready to upgrade.

When your car is running as efficiently as possible, you spend more time on the road and less time at the mechanic’s shop. Skipping regular maintenance appointments or waiting until something happens can result in a severe breakdown. Regular car maintenance ensures your vehicle does not break down at an inopportune time, like on the way to an important event or during an emergency.

# Improves Fuel Economy

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A well-maintained car is a fuel-efficient car. When a car is fuel-efficient, it can run at its best. Not only will you save more money at the pump, but your car will also use less oil, emit less pollution, and allow your vehicle to go further on a single tank.

# *<H3>* Extends Lifespan

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For most people, their home is the largest purchase they will ever make in their lifetime. The second largest purchase? A car. Regular car maintenance secures the longevity of your investment. A regimented maintenance schedule adds years to the lifespan of your vehicle.

***<H3>*** Eliminates Guesswork

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When you go in for regular maintenance, your car has a detailed car maintenance log. This log is essential to saving on unnecessary maintenance costs. Knowing when you have to go in for an oil change, for example, allows you to be more productive with your time.

No matter how long you’ve had your vehicle, your car maintenance log will ensure that unexpected performance issues are never a concern, especially when your vehicle has long passed its warranty coverage.

<P> Once a month, perform the following inspection. These tasks should take only a few minutes. These tasks cost little to no money, provided no issues come up:

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* Engine light – Make sure it is turned off. If the check engine light is on, bring it into the shop.
* Washer fluid – Top up if your washer fluid is low.
* Tires – Check the condition of your tires (inflation, tread, etc.).
* Lights – Confirm all of the lights (interior and exterior, hazard) are working.
* Check all mirrors, door locks, interior lights
* Check headlamps and tail lights
* Check horn
* Check windshield wipers
* Make sure your vehicle has all the emergency equipment needed in case of break down. First Aid Kit, Fire Extinguisher,Warning Reflectors and Flares, Flashlight, Lug Wrench, Spare Tire and Communication Device.
* Have your vehicle registration and insurance card is in a readily available place (Glove box/Center console)

After inspecting the interior and exterior of your car, perform a quick clean. Vacuum the interior and wash/wax the exterio

# <H3> Every Three Months or 3,000 miles

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These checks only need to be done once a quarter. However, in the long run, these inspections will have a huge impact on the longevity of your car:

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* Fluids – These can include anything from brake fluids to transmission fluids.
* Oil and filter – If your vehicle has low oil, top up. If it has dirty oil, bring it in for an oil change.
* Belts and hoses – Certain climates can ruin rubber parts like belts faster than others.
* Exhaust system – Inspect for rust or corrosion.
* Battery and cables – Check its performance and inspect for corrosion.
* Check for exterior damages (Door dings, collision damage)
* Check for interior damage (Headliner,

**<H3**> Every six months or 6,000 miles

<P> In addition to the inspections you perform every three months, including the following checks:

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* Chassis – Listen for abnormal noises (squeaks, creaks, etc.) and inspect lubrication.
* Engine air filter – Visually inspect the air filter and replace if dirty.
* Windshield wiper blades – Change if noise occurs when the system is in operation.
* Run electronics diagnosis scan to make sure sensors and computer are in working order

# <H3> Every 12 months or 12,000 miles

<P> Once a year, include the following alongside your six-month inspection:

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* **Steering and suspension –** Check for play in the steering and inspect suspension system for leaks, cracks, and/or other damage.
* **Power steering fluid –** Check dipstick for reservoir level and inspect its condition (does the power steering present groaning noise or increased steering effort?).
* **Check all belts**
* **Check water pump**
* **Air Filter–** Check and Replace.
* Check and Replace
* **Oil Filter-**
* **Air conditioning system check,** evacuate and recharge as well as replace freon
* **Brake fluid:**  Changed every 20,000 to 30,000 miles or two to three years.
* **Antifreeze and coolant:**  Flushed every three years or 40,000 miles, or anytime a coolant system part is replaced.
* **Transmission fluid and filter:**  Serviced on the manufacturer’s recommended time frame since there is a lot of variation between vehicles and manufacturers.
* **Power steering fluid:** Also serviced on the manufacturer’s recommended time frame.
* **If you have a tow package,** check harness to make sure that tow brake lights are operable.
* Test Battery and clean the contacts
* Check and replace spark plugs if needed
* Check for oil leaks
* Check rear end fluids
* Run a test on the transmission system

# <H3> For European Manufactured Vehicles it is recommended to do the following

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* **Protect Against Overheating:** This is done by checking the performance and condition of the cooling system. Making sure the coolant is flowing properly Any overheating engine can result in serious damage to the engine so you should have it checked for leaks and coolant levels whenever you bring your vehicle in for service. Coolant leaks are the top cause for engines overheating.
* **Clean Transmission:** An important step in transmission maintenance is to replace the pan gasket, which can get worn out and cracked over time. This, in turn, leads to transmission fluid leaks. Loss of transmission fluid can cause the car to fail to shift properly, which can lead to mechanical problems. If your car’s current pan gasket can be reused and is of a high quality with no damage, you may be able to clean it off and put it back in.

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While this checklist will keep your vehicle in optimal working condition, it should be noted that everything listed above are simply guidelines. Your car’s service manual will give you a more detailed overview of what preventative maintenance tasks need to be done.