

Simple car maintenance tips

Source: <http://www.samarins.com/maintenance/simple.html>

Note, the information contained in this guide is for educational purposes only and cannot substitute for the advice of professional mechanic or authorized dealer. Different cars have different requirements; for information specific to your car consult your owner's manual or call your local dealer. Don't attempt to service your car if you don't have proper knowledge and tools, you can be injured and your vehicle could be damaged. Take your car to a dealer or a repair shop.

Few basic car maintenance tips

- Regular oil changes are very important to keep your engine in a good shape.
- Wash your car regularly, wax it once in a while to keep the car body shiny and free from corrosion.
- Take care of any minor concerns as soon as you can, so it won't cause serious problems and an expensive repair later
- Use only original parts

How to check the engine oil

STEP 1 – Removing the dip stick:



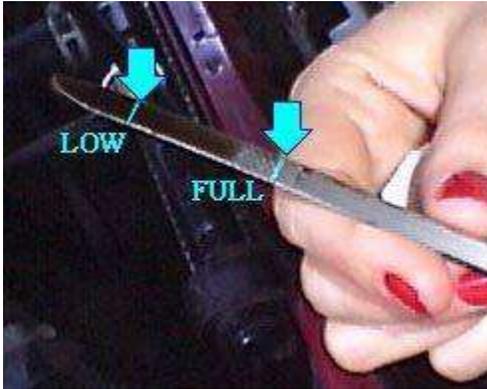
Place your car at the level spot. Stop the engine. Wait for a while to let the engine oil to pour down to the oil pan. Pull the engine oil dipstick. If you don't know where your engine oil dip-stick is, check your owner's manual, usually it has a bright handle saying "engine oil".

STEP 2 – Preparing to check the oil:



Wipe it off with a clean rag or tissue. Then insert it back all the way down into its place.

STEP 3 – Check the oil level:



Now, pull the dipstick again and check the oil level. Normally it should be at "FULL" mark. For example, here you can see that it's a bit lower. It's not a big problem yet, but it's better to top it up. Check the oil condition: If it's way too black, it's definitely time to change it. If it's slightly-brown, it's O.K. If it's dark-brown, but still transparent, it's admissible but it's better to change it soon.

If it's white (coffee with milk color) it means the engine coolant mixes with the engine oil because of some internal engine problem, for example, blown head gasket - have your

car inspected.

STEP 4 - How to top up the engine oil:



How to top up the engine oil:

It would be better to add the same type and brand of the engine oil as you already have in the engine. Add a little amount of the oil as it's shown in the image. 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. But don't overfill it. Don't forget to install the dipstick back and close the oil filler cap when you finished.