

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULES

There are two maintenance schedules that show the **required** service for your vehicle.

Schedule “A” typically rotates with Schedule “B.” Follow Schedule “A” after the first service interval, Schedule “B” after the second service interval, and so on. In some cases where the service interval has been extended due to very light duty driving, a Schedule “B” service may be indicated following a previous Schedule “B” service. There are additional service tasks required under Schedule “B.”

Your Flexible Service System (FSS) — see Understanding Your Instrument Panel section — should give you an exact indication of when your vehicle should be scheduled for service and which schedule to follow.

Additional Periodic Maintenance items should also be performed beyond the items listed in the following charts to assure the optimum performance of your vehicle.

SCOPE OF WORK FOR “A” SCHEDULE MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Oil Change

- Change oil and replace filter

Maintenance

- Lubricate hood hinges, latch, and secondary latch
- Reset FSS Display

Function Check

- Horn, hazard warning flashers, turn signals, and indicator lamps
- Headlamps and exterior lighting
- Windshield wipers and washer system

Inspection

- Check front and rear brake pads for lining thickness

- Check tires for damage and general condition
- Check tire inflation pressures and correct if necessary

Fluid Levels

Check fluid levels for the following systems and correct if necessary. Should there be a loss of fluid that cannot be explained by regular use, trace and eliminate the cause.

- Engine cooling system (check corrosion inhibitor/antifreeze)
- Hydraulic brake system
- Power steering system
- Windshield washer system

SCOPE OF WORK FOR “B” SCHEDULE MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Oil Change

- Change oil and replace filter

Maintenance

- Rotate tires
- Replace dust filter (if equipped)
- Lubricate hood hinges, latch, and secondary latch
- Reset FSS Display

Function Check

- Horn, hazard warning flashers, turn signals, and indicator lamps
- Headlamps and exterior lighting
- Windshield wipers and washer system

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- Check seat belts for damage and proper function
- Test hydraulic brakes and check parking brake function

Inspection

- Check front and rear brake pads for lining thickness
- Check condition of front and rear brake discs
- Check tires for damage and general condition
- Check tire inflation pressures and correct if necessary
- Check major underbody components for leakage or damage (if there are signs of leakage, determine cause and repair)
- Check condition of front axle ball joints and rubber boots
- Check condition of steering components and rubber boots

- Check underhood components for leakage or damage (if there are signs of leakage determine cause and repair)
- Check condition of accessory drive belt
- Check headlamp aiming, adjust if necessary
- Check windshield wiper blades, replace if necessary

Fluid Levels

Check fluid levels for the following systems and correct if necessary. Should there be a loss of fluid that cannot be explained by regular use, trace and eliminate the cause.

- Engine cooling system (check corrosion inhibitor/antifreeze)
- Hydraulic brake system
- Power steering system
- Windshield washer system

FSS SYSTEM

The Flexible Service System (FSS) permits a flexible service schedule that is directly related to the operating conditions of the vehicle. See the Understanding Your Instrument Panel section for details on how to use the FSS.

The oil change interval for your vehicle is initially set at 7,000 mi (Canada: 11 000 km). Very light duty driving cycles (most trips more than 10 mi [16 km]) at moderate speeds in moderate temperature conditions) can extend the service interval beyond 7,000 mi (Canada: 11 000 km). If **ANY** of the following apply to your driving, the oil change interval can be reduced significantly:

- Day or night temperatures are below 32°F (0°C).
- Stop and go driving.
- Extensive engine idling.
- Driving in dusty conditions.

- Short trips of less than 10 mi (16 km).
- More than 50% of your driving is at sustained high speeds during hot weather, above 90°F (32°C).

There are two symbols which will appear in the main odometer display field prior to the next suggested service.



This symbol represents Service A.



This second symbol represents Service B. Service B rotates with Service A and includes additional service tasks.



The next service is normally calculated and displayed next to the Service A or Service B symbol as distance remaining before the next service is required.

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Depending on operating conditions throughout the year, a clock symbol may appear next to the service symbol. When this occurs, the next service is calculated and displayed in days remaining before the next service is required.

You should have the maintenance performed within the stated time period or distance.

Following a completed A or B service your authorized dealer sets the counter to 7,000 mi (Canada: 11,000 km).

NOTE: When disconnecting vehicle battery for one or more days at a time, such days will not be counted. Any such days not counted by FSS can be added by your authorized dealer.

The interval between services is determined by the type of vehicle operation. Driving at extreme speeds, and cold

starts combined with short distance driving in which the engine does not reach normal operating temperature, reduce the interval between services.

Regardless of the service interval determined by your FSS, the scheduled services as posted in this manual must be followed to properly care for your vehicle.

REGULAR CHECK-UPS

To maintain the safe operation of your vehicle, it is recommended that you perform the following tasks on a regular basis (i.e., weekly or whenever the vehicle is refueled).

CAUTION!

Failure to perform the required maintenance items may result in damage to the vehicle.

At Each Stop for Fuel

- Check the engine oil level about five minutes after a fully warmed engine is shut off. Checking the oil level while the vehicle is on level ground will improve the accuracy of the oil level reading. See the procedure described in Checking Your Engine Oil in the Understanding Your Instrument Panel section or under Engine Oil in the Maintaining Your Vehicle section. Add oil only when the level is at or below the ADD or MIN mark.
- Check the windshield washer solvent and add if required.
- Inspect wiper blade condition.
- Check operation of lighting systems.
- Inspect tires for unusual wear, damage, and pressure (at least every 14 days).

- Mechanical assemblies (e.g., engine, transmission, etc.)
- check for leaks.

Once a Month

- Inspect the battery and clean and tighten the terminals as required.
- Check the fluid levels of coolant reservoir, brake master cylinder and power steering and add as needed.
- Check all lights and all other electrical items for correct operation.

Additional Periodic Maintenance

The following maintenance items should be performed during the scheduled maintenance nearest the time elapsed and/or distance shown. Follow the interval that occurs first.

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Every 2 years:

- Inspect body for paint damage.
- Check chassis and supporting body parts for damage and corrosion.

At approximately every 50,000 mi (80 000 km) or 4 years:

- Check condition of driveshaft flex discs.
- Retighten locking bolts for steering (observe torque).

At approximately every 60,000 mi (96 000 km) or 4 years:

- Replace fuel filter.
- Replace air cleaner filter element.

At approximately 80,000 mi (128 000 km):

- Change the automatic transmission fluid and filter. Use the recommended automatic transmission fluid. After this change it is filled for life. The manual transmission comes filled for life from the factory.

At approximately every 100,000 mi (160 000 km) or 5 years:

- Replace spark plugs.

Every 100,000 mi (160 000 km) or 5 years:

- Replace engine coolant using coolant approved to MB 325.0, such as Valvoline GO5, or an equivalent extended life coolant.

WARNING!

You can be badly injured working on or around a motor vehicle. Do only that service work for which you have the knowledge and the right equipment. If you have any doubt about your ability to perform a maintenance service, take your vehicle to a competent technician.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**Coolant**

Have the corrosion inhibitor / antifreeze concentration in the coolant checked before the onset of winter (once a year in countries with high prevailing temperatures). Have the coolant replaced every five years or 100,000 mi (160 000 km).

Dust Filter for Heating/Ventilation Replacement (If Equipped)

The dust filter is replaced during routine maintenance service. The filter element must be replaced with “B” Schedule service or every 18,500 mi (30 000 km) to maintain effectiveness. However, if operating conditions are dusty, these filters should be replaced more frequently. A cover in the HVAC unit that can be reached from the passenger foot well provides access to the filter element.

ENGINE OIL CHANGE AND FILTER REPLACEMENT

The recommended oil and filter change interval is based on FSS or 1 year. Please refer to the heading FSS System in this section for a full description of the use and interpretation of symbols in the FSS system. Only use synthetic engine oils, approved to MB 229.3 or MB 229.5, such as Mobil 1 SAE 0W-40. The FSS may not alert for an oil change at the proper interval if an unapproved engine oil is used; engine damage and reduced engine life may result. Information is available from your authorized dealer. The oil filter should always be changed when the oil is changed.