How driving on empty can damage your car



Driving with a depleted gas tank is risky. In addition to the possibility you'll get stranded on the side of the road, you could potentially damage your vehicle. Here's what you should know about driving on empty.

It can damage your fuel filterDirt and debris will collect in your gas tank over time. If you drive while the fuel level is very low, there's a risk this debris will get sucked into your fuel pump and clog the fuel filter.

It can damage your fuel pump Fuel pumps are designed to operate while submerged in gasoline. Plus, the fuel in your tank helps keep the pump cool. Running on empty will expose the

fuel pump and cause it to overheat.

It can cause your engine to misfire

If your gas tank gets too low, the fuel pump will suck in air, which can cause your engine to misfire. Over time, multiple misfires may damage your engine.

It can damage the exhaust system

If you run out of fuel, your car will sputter and stall, which can damage your catalytic converter, an expensive part of your vehicle's exhaust system.

You can avoid these problems by always having plenty of fuel in the tank. Make sure to start looking for a gas station when your tank is a quarter full.



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Your dashboard warning light will illuminate when seven to 11 litres of gasoline remain in the tank. How far you can travel depends on the type of vehicle you drive, road conditions, whether you're driving uphill or downhill and if you're cruising in town or on the highway.

Check out the Spring Car Care 2022 edition and much more online at www.world-spectator.com

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Why is it important to check your fluids come spring?

Lubricant, coolant, cleaner — there are various fluids in our car that play several important roles when it comes by our engine's health. And since the mechanical compoents of your car are under heavy strain throughout the vinter months, it's important to check your oil and other luid levels when the weather lightens up in order mainain their effectiveness.

Motor oil is subject to significant temperature variaons during the cold season. These changes are responible for the formation of moisture, which reduces the efectiveness of the oil's lubricating properties. That's why 's important to drain your fluids every spring, even if ou don't drive much during the winter. Alternatively, if ou use motor oil designed to withstand extreme cold,

come spring, it will need to be replaced with one that's more suitable for summer weather.

During the summer, coolant prevents your engine from overheating. So it's important to check on it before the summer heat wave finally hits. To preserve the mechanical parts of your car for as long as possible, your brake and power steering fluids have to be carefully maintained - your mechanic will make sure they stay at the appropriate levels so that your car continues to work at peak performance

Last but not least, take a second to check your windshield wiper fluid: have you filled it since the last snow-storm? Don't wait until you need it to find out!



During the winter, motor oil undergoes temperature variations that foster moisture formation and reduce its effectiveness. Change it in the

Essential tools for vehicle maintenance



Do you know how to perform basic car maintenance tasks like removing a tire, replacing a light bulb and changing the oil? If so, here are a few tools you should have on hand:

- A ratcheting wrench to secure parts
- A torque wrench to tighten fasteners
- A pressure gauge to check your tire pressure
- Pliers and wire cutters to replace or install electronic
- A spotlight to see under the hood and carriage
- A set of screwdrivers with multiple bits
- A tool tray to keep everything organized
 A set of jacks, ramps and stanchions to safely lift vour vehicle

Visit your local hardware or auto parts store to get all the tools you need.

Does your vehicle need major repairs? If so, enlist the services of a professional mechanic.





Marek Zdunczyk

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things on your car you should check in spring

After a long, cold winter, you should inspect your ehicle and make sure it's in good condition. Here are even things to check.

Before installing your summer tires, assess the tread epth. If it's less than 4.8 millimetres, invest in a new

set. Once your summer tires are installed, inflate them according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Additionally, inspect your winter tires before storing them. If the wear is uneven, visit a mechanic for an alignment

Depending on when your car was last serviced and the number of kilometres you drove over the winter, you may need to change the oil. Additionally, top up the coolant, brake fluid and windshield washer fluids.

Determine if the engine or cabin air filter is clogged with dirt. If so, clean or replace them.

4. Air conditioning Don't wait until there's a heatwave to ensure your air conditioning system is working.

5. Windshield wipers

If applicable, swap your winter wiper blades for summer ones. Additionally, if your windshield wipers are cracked and worn, invest in a new set.

6. Bodywork

After thoroughly washing your vehicle, check for rust. If you notice any corrosion, repair it immediately.

7. Cabin and trunk

Clean the interior of your car, and make sure to orga-nize your emergency kit, put away seasonal items and replace anything that's outdated in your first aid kit.

Additionally, it's a good idea to schedule a full inspection with your mechanic to ensure your car didn't suffer any damage over the winter.









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Have your car looking spotless in six easy steps

With sunny days once again looming the horizon, it's without a doubt time start thinking about having your car eaned from top to bottom. Ready to roll? ere's a small reminder of the main tasks ou'll have to take care of:

1. Lighten your load.

Take everything you know you won't needing this summer out of your trunk hovels, sandbags, etc.) and remove any inter gear (skis for example) that will ake your car heavy for no reason. Makg your car lighter and more aerodynamwill improve its fuel efficiency.

2. Vacuum.

Pick up or throw away everything that's ing around in your car, take out the carets and vacuum the floors. This will reove all the dust and gravel that's accuulated over the winter.

3. Clean the carpets.

Rid your carpets of any salt stains with mixture of 1 cup of vinegar and 4 cups of arm water (and a stiff brush, of course).





4. Clean the interior.

Use a damp cloth along with specialized cleaning products for each type of surface in your car (leather, fabric, etc.) to clean the dashboard, seats, doors and other ac-

5. Make the body sparkle. Rinse the exterior of the car thoroughly, and then clean it from top to bottom (the hood, roof, trunk, doors, bumpers, wheels, rims) with products that are suitable for the task (and won't damage the paint). Note that it's far easier to work in cloudy weather, which prevents streaks.

6. Wash the windows.

Clean your windows with the help of a specialized cleaning product or with homemade cleaner (such as the one used to clean your carpets).







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