

What Should You Check Before Driving?

Worksheet

A pre-driving inspection covers tires, brakes, lights, steering, mirrors, wipers, and fluid levels. This quick 5-minute check can prevent mechanical failures and improve safety.

Questions

1. Which is NOT part of a pre-driving inspection?
 - A) Tire pressure
 - B) Engine oil level
 - C) Air freshener scent
 - D) Brake pedal feel
2. Minimum legal tire tread depth?
 - A) 1.0mm
 - B) 1.6mm
 - C) 2.5mm
 - D) 3mm
3. What does a soft brake pedal indicate?
 - A) Normal wear
 - B) Low brake fluid or air in lines
 - C) Worn pads only
 - D) Engine problem
4. How often should you perform full checks?
 - A) Monthly
 - B) Before each trip
 - C) Yearly
 - D) Only when warning lights appear
5. You notice your tread depth is 2mm. Is this safe to drive?
6. Brake pedal feels soft. Should you drive?
7. One taillight is out. Legal to drive in town?
8. Define: Name five things to check before driving.
9. Define: Legal tire tread minimum?
10. Define: Soft brake pedal — safe to drive?

Answer Key

1. C) Air freshener scent — Air freshener is optional; the others are safety essentials.
2. B) 1.6mm — 1.6mm is the legal minimum; 2mm+ is recommended.
3. B) Low brake fluid or air in lines — Soft pedal = fluid loss or air — get it checked immediately.
4. B) Before each trip — Brief checks before trips catch problems early.
5. Legal minimum tread in most countries: 1.6mm Your tread: 2mm (above minimum but wearing)
Decision: Acceptable but plan replacement soon Recommendation: Check again in 2 weeks
6. Soft pedal indicates low brake fluid or air in lines Do NOT drive — brakes may fail Action: Check fluid level immediately If low, top up and bleed if needed before driving
7. All lights required by law, day and night Missing taillight: Unsafe and illegal Action: Replace bulb before driving If bulb fails to light: Electrical fault, get professional help
8. Lights, tires, brakes, fluids, and mirrors/wipers.
9. 1.6mm in most countries; 2mm is wearing.
10. No. Stop and check fluid level immediately.

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