

Winter Driving Checklist

While our WA winters are relatively mild in comparison to other parts of Australia, it is important to carry out some winter safety checks to ensure your vehicle is ready for the wet roads and chilled conditions.

As with any change of season, you should go to your log book to ensure you are up to date with services.

Check the battery. Winter is not friendly to batteries. Keep terminals clean and tight. Also keep the water level topped up with distilled water so that it is just above the plates. Batteries which are sealed may not require this.

Check the ignition. Make sure the leads, spark plugs, the distributor and all other ignition parts are in good condition and that you don't have any loose or rusty connections. Spray all leads with a silicone spray.

Check your tyres. Winter is not the time to get cheap about your tyres, so take the time to check the tread depth and tyre pressure. Tyres should be cold when checked so do this before you commence driving. Low tyre pressure can lead to tyre damage and poor braking performance. Check for uneven wear, excessive wear and sidewall damage, replace any suspect tyres. Remember the minimum legal tread limit in Australia is 1.5mm.



Check your heater. Have the heater checked and ensure that the front and rear screen demisters are working.

Check your lights. Ensure all front and back lights are working. Look for cracks in the lens covers and keep a spare globe just in case.

Check your belts. With the engine off, check fan belts for any cracks or deterioration. Small cracks can lead to breakages quickly. Check belt tension (refer to your owner's manual).

Check your windscreen wipers and washer fluid

A new set of windscreen wiper rubbers can improve your visibility and safety on wet roads.



Check your washer fluid and ensure you use a windscreen cleaning solvent in the washer bottle. Keep a clean cloth handy to clean the windscreen and lights.



Check your windshield washer fluid. You'll be using lots of washer fluid as you try to keep your windshield sparkly. A mile stuck behind a large truck will have your windscreen looking like a dog's breakfast if you're low on washer fluid.



Check all fluid levels regularly. As a general rule check all fluid levels in your vehicle on a regular basis.



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