



Simple Steps to Inspect Car Engines?

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An [automobile engine](#) is considered to be the nervous system of an automobile. It is basically a fuel-consuming machine, which is used for moving cars, scooters, buses, trucks, airplanes and other types of automotive. Engine is one of the fundamental parts of the automobile, which converts the chemical energy present in the fuel to mechanical energy for generating power. A typical car engine comprises of an [engine block](#), cylinder head, cylinders, [pistons](#), valves, crankshaft, and [camshaft](#).

An engine is the integral component of the car. There are myriad of things, which a driver should know while inspecting an engine of the car. Keep in mind that the engine is the fundamental part of the vehicle therefore it needs to be given additional care and maintenance. If the driver is acquainted with the functioning of each and every part of the engine, then even in case of the breakdown he or she can easily fix up the trouble without facing any more difficulties.

Here are the few tips that you can follow to ensure smooth functioning of the engine:

- ◇ Check the level of oil and its condition: First step that one should follow is to regularly check the level of oil in the engine. Generally, an [oil dipstick](#) is used for this purpose. What you need to do is to take out the oil dipstick installed in the engine, clean it with a piece of cloth and then put it back. Again, pull that stick out and then see whether the level of oil is at the "Full mark" or not. If the level of oil is low, then it means your engine requires more engine oil. The key to successful functioning of the engine is using the engine of same brand always.
- ◇ Examine the leaks if any: To detect any leakage in the engine, see the underneath of your car. Make sure that there are no droplets of oil dropped on the road or floor. The other step that you can follow is to open up the engine oil cap and peek inside through the oil filler hole. While looking through the oil filler hole if you locate any black oil sludge inside the engine, then it denotes that either the engine oil is overheated or it has not been replaced from a long time.
- ◇ See the pressure of oil: Whenever you have to see the pressure of engine oil, then always check it when engine is cool. Firstly, start the engine and then closely watch the [oil pressure gauge](#) installed in the instrument panel. Make sure that the time between the starting of the engine and oil pressure at the instrument panel should not exceed 2 seconds. If the oil pressure warning light is on even if the engine is in running or idle state, then it signifies that either engine has some major defects or it is overused.
- ◇ Monitor those internal [engine parts](#) that are visible: Consistently, keep checking the unhidden components of your car's engine. Always make sure that bolts, nuts, treads, wiring and fastenings are intact and properly fixed.
- ◇ Within a span of one week, do check the level of coolant poured in the overflow tank. Don't open the radiator cap when the engine is heated. The antifreeze used in the engine can be in between minimum or maximum level. The coolant should be transparent, dirt less and should not have any compounds of engine oil. In case, if it has any trace of engine oil, then it implies some defects either with [radiator](#) or engine. Properly inspect the radiator and water hose to see if it has any cracks or leakage.
- ◇ Keep a check on timing belt. Timing belt used in most of the cars run between 60,000 and 1,00,000 miles. After covering this much distance, it is required to be replaced with the new timing belt.
- ◇ Another important thing that you should see is the smoke emitted out by the engine. For this, first of all start the engine and let it remain at rest for five to ten minutes. Next, press the accelerator for a short span of two or three seconds. Closely scrutinize the smoke, if it is grey blue in color then it means engine absorb more oil.

Be attentive if the running engine of your car makes noises. If your engine makes whistling, tapping or disturbing noises, then it indicates over use or wear of any of the internal parts of an engine.

Lastly, inspect all the warning lights like low oil pressure, low oil level, over heating, service engine etc. If found any defects then visit your car servicing station and get your car's engine repaired.

If these tips are followed properly, then you can easily avoid the risk of getting your engine seized and damaged. In order to ensure safety for yourself and for your car, periodic inspections are a must. Make sure to visit your servicing station or a garage to get your car inspected mechanically. So, follow these simple tips and enjoy happy driving.

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