



Drivers License Road Test



Vehicle Safety Inspection Checklist

Your vehicle has to pass the test too.

Your road test will begin with a vehicle safety inspection to make sure your vehicle is safe to drive and you are familiar with it. Listed below are the parts of your vehicle that will be examined. You should know where they are located and how to operate them. Be sure everything works! Otherwise, your examiner may postpone your test until any problems are corrected.

VEHICLE PART	DESCRIPTION	
VEHICLE STRUCTURE	No part of the vehicle should be hanging loose. Inspect the bumper, tailpipe, windshield wipers or any other part that could fall off during the test. Look under the vehicle for fluid leaks.	
TIRES	Make sure your tires are fully inflated, free of side wall bulges, and have plenty of tread. If the tire's tread shows too much wear, the test may have to be postponed until the tires are replaced. A good way to tell if there is enough tread is to stick a penny between the treads with the head upside down. If the top of Abraham Lincoln's head is visible, the tires are too worn and should be replaced.	
FLUIDS	Have at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of a tank of gas in your car for the road test. Otherwise, your examiner may feel you don't have enough gas and cancel your test. Check your oil, coolant, and even your wiper fluids. Your goal is to prevent every problem possible, so you can focus on passing your road test.	
WINDOWS	Keep your windows clean. Dust and dirt particles can actually reflect direct sunlight, making it nearly impossible to see. Make sure there are no objects on the dashboard or rear window that could block your sight.	
HORN	This is an easy one! Verify the horn works by giving it a light tap.	
WINDSHIELD WIPERS	Turn your wipers to the first setting to check them. Your examiner will have you keep them on just long enough to see that they work.	
DEFROSTER	Remember that even in summer a sudden thunderstorm can cause the windshield to fog up quickly. You need to have a working defroster no matter what the time of year or what part of the country you live in.	
EMERGENCY BRAKE	Make sure you know where the emergency brake is and how to activate it. The emergency brake should be able to hold your car on a small hill. If your emergency brake handle is in the center console, make sure it isn't covered by something such as a sweater, paperwork, or anything else.	
WINDOW MECHANISMS	Be sure the windows on both sides of the vehicle are in working order. This is for your own safety. The examiner may require you to roll the windows down just a little bit during the road test.	



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VEHICLE PART	DESCRIPTION	
SEATS	Always sit in your car with the seat in the full upright position. A fully upright seat helps protect you in a crash. Do not slouch or hunch over the steering wheel while you drive. Maintaining good posture as you drive will allow you to react more quickly in an emergency and many examiners will look at your posture during the test.	
SEATBELTS	Verify that the seatbelts are in good working order and that they are always used.	
LIGHTS	All your lights should be clean and free of debris (such as insect nests) even behind the plastic lens covers. This will ensure they work at their brightest. You'll have to show that all the lights are in working order. You don't want your test postponed because a bulb is burned out so have a parent or a friend help you perform a light check from outside the vehicle. With the engine on, your parent or friend should walk around the vehicle and check every light as it is activated. Check for proper operation of the following:	
	Headlights	
	Bright Beams	
	Front left turn signal	
	Front right turn signal	
	Rear left turn signal	
	Rear right turn signal	
	Brake lights (step on the brakes)	
	Backing up lights (With your foot on the brake pedal, shift the car into reverse.)	
	License plate light	
	Emergency Flashers	

