

# FixItSmartly - Engine Inspection Guide

Engine Inspection Guide

Branded by FixItSmartly

Keep Your Car Running Smooth with Regular Checks

Inspecting your engine regularly can help you catch small problems before they turn into costly repairs. Heres a simple checklist to guide your next engine inspection:

## Step 1: Turn Off the Engine and Let It Cool

Never inspect a hot engine. Wait at least 30 minutes after driving to avoid burns and get accurate readings.

## Step 2: Check Engine Oil

- Pull out the dipstick, wipe it clean, reinsert, then pull it out again.
- Oil should be amber (or darker for older oil) and sit between the low and full marks.
- If the oil looks milky, gritty, or smells burntchange it.

## Step 3: Inspect the Belts and Hoses

- Look for cracks, frays, or signs of wear.
- Press hoses gentlyif they feel brittle or too soft, they need replacing.
- Make sure belts are snug with minimal give.

## Step 4: Check the Coolant Level

- Look at the coolant reservoir and ensure its between the "min" and "max" lines.
- Low coolant can lead to overheating.

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Note: Never open the radiator cap when the engine is hot!

## Step 5: Look for Leaks or Corrosion

- Check under the engine for any fluid drips.
- Look around gaskets, hoses, and the radiator for signs of leakage or rust.

## Step 6: Examine the Battery

- Make sure terminals are clean and free of corrosion.
- Battery should be securely mounted with no visible damage.
- Use a voltmeter if available healthy voltage should be around 12.6V when off.

## Step 7: Inspect the Air Filter

- Open the air filter box and pull it out.
- If its dirty, dusty, or clogged, replace it.

## Step 8: Listen for Odd Noises

- After visual inspection, start the engine and listen.
- Knocking, hissing, or squealing could signal deeper issues.

Pro Tip: Make this inspection part of your monthly or pre-road trip routine to stay ahead of trouble.

Stay smart. Stay safe. Fix it right FixItSmartly.