



220 INFO HWY. COURT • SLINGER, WI 53086

## 13 Things You Should Never Do To Your Car

### Never Overfill the Tires to “Get Better Gas Mileage”

The Internet is brimming with testimonials from people who claim they upped their mileage simply by inflating their tires to the maximum pressure listed on the sidewall. What they don't tell you about is the rougher ride, premature tire wear, longer stopping distances and increased repair costs due to worn-out suspension components.

The recommended tire pressure for your car is listed on a placard inside the driver's door frame and it's based on vehicle weight along with the best possible handling.

### Never Use the Wrong Coolant/Antifreeze

Whether you do your own cooling system flushes or are just topping off your cooling system after a repair, using the right coolant is critical to the life of your car's engine and all cooling system components. The recommended coolant for your car is listed in your owner's manual. If you use the wrong coolant or mix two different types of coolant you can actually cause early water pump, radiator, heater pipes and heater core failure.

### Never Mix Up Brake Fluid and Power Steering Fluid

A 1-pint bottle of power steering fluid looks almost like a 1-pint bottle of brake fluid. That's why so many DIYers mix them up (it happens more often than you think). If you add the wrong fluid to either your power steering or brake system, the repair can easily cost upwards of

\$1,000. Power steering fluid swells the seals in a brake system, causing total brake failure.

### Never Use a “Universal” Fluid in Your Power Steering or Transmission

Several fluid manufacturers claim their “universal” power steering and transmission fluids work in all car makes and models. The car makers disagree and their arguments against using universal fluids are based on incompatible specifications, not greed. For example, there's simply no way a single transmission or power steering fluid can meet the many different (and mutually exclusive) viscosity and additive requirements for every transmission and power steering system in use today.

### Never Disconnect a Battery Cable to Test the Alternator

Many years ago, you could disconnect a battery cable while the engine was running to test the alternator in your car. If the engine continued to run, that proved the alternator was working. But it's a test you should never try on a modern car or truck equipped with computers and electronics. That's because disconnecting a battery cable while the engine is running causes the alternator to spike a 25-125-volt surge within 40ms after cable removal. That voltage spike can't damage anything in an old non-computerized car, but it can instantly fry the many computers and expensive electronics used on all late model cars.

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### **Never Drive When Your Oil Light is Lit**

All cars have a “low oil pressure” warning light. If the light comes on while you’re driving, it can mean that your car is dangerously low or completely out of oil. Or it can mean that your car has a serious leak that’s causing a pressure drop, a clogged oil passage that’s causing oil starvation, or the oil pump has failed or is failing. Whatever the cause, when the light comes on, pull off the road immediately and shut off the engine. Then pop the hood and check the oil level using the dipstick. If the dipstick shows you’re out of oil or dangerously low, you must add more oil before restarting. Driving a car when it’s dangerously low or completely out of oil will destroy your engine in just a few minutes, and that can easily cost you \$4,000. Don’t think you can drive to the nearest store to get more! It’s not worth the risk. Instead the things you should do are, call a friend or family member and ask them to bring the oil to your location (the recommended type and viscosity is listed in your owner’s manual). Add it to the filler port and check the dipstick to make sure it’s full. Do not overfill.

### **Never Drive With Less Than a Quarter Tank of Gas**

The electric fuel pump is located inside the fuel tank on just about every fuel-injected car and truck. Car makers put it there on purpose so it’s cooled and kept at a safe operating temperature by the gas in the tank. But if you consistently drive with less than a quarter tank, the low fuel level can’t always provide enough cooling for the pump, and that can cause early fuel pump failure. In-tank fuel pump replacement can cost around \$700. Overheating isn’t the only issue, though. Consistently driving with a low fuel level causes the pump to suck in debris from the bottom of the tank. That debris can pass through the “sock” filter in the tank and the particles can wear out the pump impeller, causing a low fuel pressure situation.

### **Never Use the Wrong Oil**

Car makers have had to up their game on engine design to meet higher mileage standards. The newer engines are built to more exacting tolerances and include high-tech mechanisms like variable valve timing (VVT) and turbochargers to squeeze more power and miles out

of every gallon of gas. VVT systems work by pulsing pressurized oil into hydraulic passages to advance or retard the camshaft. The pulse timing and associated camshaft movement is based on the oil type and viscosity listed in your owner’s manual. The computer varies the pulse rate based on engine temperature and driver inputs from the accelerator pedal. It all works great if you use the right oil and it gets messed up if you use the wrong oil. In fact, using the wrong viscosity oil can actually set a trouble code and light the “check engine” light on your dash.

### **Never Use Dishwashing Detergent to Wash Your Car**

Dishwashing detergent is designed to aggressively attack and break down dried on food, oil and grease. That’s great for dishes—not so great for car paint. Car paint, clear coat and car wax contain oils and resins that maintain the paint’s integrity and filter out harmful UV rays. When you wash your car with dishwashing detergent, you actually strip off the wax and pull some of those critical oils out of the paint and paint sealants, leaving it bare and exposed to the elements. If you immediately wax your car with a high-quality wax, you can restore some of the UV protection. If you don’t wax your car after washing with dishwashing detergent, you lose important sun protection. If you regularly wash your car with dishwashing detergent, you’ll degrade the paint and clear coat enough over its life to cause premature fading and even early paint failure

### **Never Neglect the Dipstick**

The oil change intervals listed in your owner’s manual are based on the car maker’s assumption that you’ll not only use the recommended oil, but that you’ll also check the oil on a regular basis and top it off when it’s low. All engines use some oil between oil changes; even some new engines can burn as much as a quart every 1,500 to 3,000 miles. If you never check your dipstick, you’ll never know that you need to add more oil. Worse yet, if you don’t top off your oil, you stress the remaining oil, dramatically reducing its useful life. Here’s an example: Let’s assume the recommended oil change interval for your car is every 7,500 miles. If you burn one quart of oil in the first 3,000 miles and don’t replenish it, you

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deplete the anti-wear and anti-corrosion additives in the remaining oil by about 25 percent. If you burn no more oil (which is unlikely), your oil will be worn out when you reach 5,600 miles instead of the normal 7,500 miles. If you continue to drive on that depleted oil until you reach the 7,500 mile mark, your engine can experience premature wear and develop sludge deposits. With an engine swap costing around \$4,000, it pays to check your oil regularly and refill when it's low.

## Comedy Corner

We heard this fun puzzle on NPR a few weeks ago and thought everyone would enjoy it. We'll give you some famous marketing slogans (past and present). Each contains the brand name, but it's anagrammed. See if you can figure out the name of the brand.

**Example:** This DUB's for you - BUD

1. Please don't squeeze the RICHMAN
2. You're in good hands with A TALL SET
3. The best part of waking up is GOLFERS in your cup
4. This is not your father's IDLE BLOOMS
5. Pardon me - Do you have any YOUNGER POP?
6. Nobody doesn't like A RESALE

To fix an oil leak quit parking on concrete and you won't see it anymore!



## Chocolate Eclair Torte

### Ingredients:

#### Crust:

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup flour
- 1 stick butter
- 4 eggs



### Directions:

Bring water to a boil and boil for 1 minute. Add butter and stir until melted. Remove from heat. Add Flour. Add 1 egg at a time beating after each egg. Place in slightly greased 9 x 13 pan. Bake at 400 for 20 minutes. Crust will create wave like crust, not flat. Cool completely.

#### Filling:

- 1 - 8 oz package cream cheese
- 1 large package instant vanilla pudding
- 2 2/3 cup milk
- 1 medium container Cool Whip
- Hershey's Chocolate

### Directions:

Beat cream cheese, milk and vanilla pudding. Pour over cooled crust. Top with cool whip. Drizzle with chocolate. Refrigerate.

### Congratulations! Oil Change Winners:

March 2019 Ralph Ewart  
April 2019 Jason Wix  
May 2019 Jason Zleppin  
June 2019 Rick Gordon





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## Road Trip Special \$99

### Perform:

- **Oil Change**  
(up to 5 qts. of motor oil, diesel and synthetic extra)
- **Replace Oil Filter**
- **4-Tire Rotation**  
(resetting tire pressure monitor may be an additional cost)

### Adjust and/or Verify The Following:

- **Tire Condition**
- **Tire Pressure**  
(resetting tire pressure monitor may be an additional cost)

### Inspect and Bring to Specifications the Following Fluid Levels:

- **Battery**
- **Transmission**
- **Cooling System**
- **Brake Master Cylinder**
- **Power Steering**

### Inspect:

- **Alignment Check**
- **Belts and Hoses**
- **Shocks**
- **Brakes**



Coupon must be presented at time of service. One coupon per customer. Not valid in conjunction with any other offers/deals/coupons. Not valid on previous repairs. By appointment only. Some models higher. Environmental fees and sales tax will apply. Offer expires August 31, 2019.