

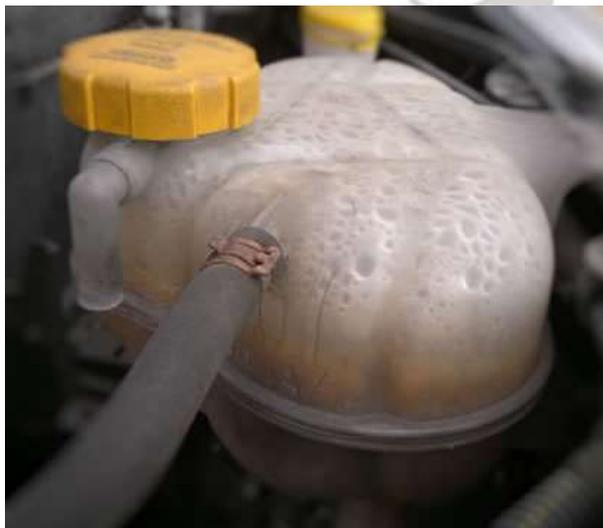
Show Me Tell Me questions and answers for the 2013 practical driving test

Question 1

Q. Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check the engine has the correct level.

A. Identify the engine coolant tank and check the minimum and maximum level indicator displayed on the side of the tank. If the coolant is below the minimum mark, more coolant (water) will need to be added. To do this, unscrew the tank cap when the engine is cold and pour in coolant until the maximum mark is reached.

Engine coolant reservoir



Show Me Tell Me answer 1 explains you should Identify the engine coolant tank and to check the minimum and maximum level indicator. Each make of car will have a different looking coolant tank but will look similar to the one above. Minimum and maximum level markers should be indicated on the tank. Allowing the coolant level to fall below the minimum for long periods can cause overheating and damage your car.

Question 2

Q. Open the car bonnet, identify where the brake fluid reservoir tank is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.

A. Identify the hydraulic brake fluid reservoir tank and check the brake fluid level against the minimum / maximum level indicator.

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Question 3

Q. Show me/explain how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a journey.

A. If the steering becomes heavy, the power assisted steering may be faulty.

Before starting a journey two simple checks can be made:

- 1) Gentle pressure on the steering wheel, maintained whilst the engine is started, should result in slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. If testing when the car is stationary, steering will be extremely difficult to operate.
- 2) Turning the steering wheel just after moving off will give an immediate indication that the power assisted steering is functioning correctly. Steering should be very easy as the car begins to move off if all is working as it should.

Question 4

Q. Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.

A. Identify the dipstick, remove the dipstick and wipe clean the end where the minimum and maximum level indicator is and fully reinsert. Remove once again and check the oil level against the minimum and maximum markings.

Car dipstick



Regular checks of engine oil level is essential. Show Me Tell Me answer is to locate the dipstick which will look very similar to the picture above. Check the minimum and maximum level indicators for your dipstick and not letting the engine oil fall too close the minimum. Allowing the oil to fall under the minimum level can result in engine damage. When putting more oil into the engine, pour in small amounts at a time whilst frequently checking the dipstick to ensure you do not overfill with oil.

Question 5

Q. Open the bonnet, identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you check the level?

A. Identify reservoir tank, lift off cap and make a visual check of level as there are no external markings on windscreen washer reservoirs. Check reservoir regularly.

Windscreen washer reservoir



Checking your windscreen washer reservoir and keeping it full is important as suggested in Show Me Tell Me answer 5. It's surprisingly easy to forget about this and the last thing you need is to be driving on a motorway with your windscreen getting increasingly muddy with no means to clean it.

Question 6

Q. Show me how you would check that the horn is working (off road only).

A. Press the horn and listen (turn on ignition if necessary).

Question 7

Q. Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you. If you need to switch the ignition on, please don't start the engine).

A. Whilst pressing the brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, etc. Or ask someone to help (the examiner). (may need to switch ignition on, prompt not to start engine)

Question 8

Q. Tell me how you would check that the brakes are working before starting a journey.

A. Just as you move off operate brakes. They should not feel spongy and the car should not pull to one side.

Question 9

Q. Tell me how you would check that the headlights and tail lights are working.

A. Turn on lights (turn ignition if necessary), walk around car and check that the lights are on

Question 10

Q. Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working correctly.

A. Activate the indicators or hazard warning lights and walk around the car to see if all the indicators are working correctly. Operating the hazard warning lights is the preferred method as the ignition will not need to be switched on.

Question 11

Q. Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how tyre pressures should be checked.

A. Information will be found using the car manufacturer's guide/manual. Check the tyre pressures by using a reliable pressure gauge when the tyres are cold. Don't forget the spare tyre and remember to refit the valve caps.

Question 12

Q. Show me how you would check the hand (parking) brake for excessive wear.

A. Firmly apply the foot brake to secure the car and apply the parking brake. When it is fully applied it should secure itself and not be at the end of its working travel. (Should be tension whilst lifting as the cable connecting the brakes to the lever tighten.)

Question 13

Q. Tell me how you make sure your head restraint is correctly adjusted so it provides the best protection in the event of a crash.

A. The head restraint should be adjusted so the centre part of the head restraint is at least as high as the eye or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable. Note; some restraints might not be adjustable.

Question 14

Q. Tell me how you would check the tyres to show that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.

A. A safe tyre will have no cuts or bulges. Legally, the tread depth should be at least 1.6mm across the central 3/4s of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.

Tyre wear indicator



Show Me Tell Me answer 14 explains there should be a minimum of 1.6mm of tyre tread depth to remain safe and legal whilst driving. The picture above shows the tread depth has not yet reached the tyre wear indicators. Keep a check on the tyre wear indicators. If the tyre tread depth gets close to these indicators, it's time for a tyre change.

Question 15

Q. Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers.

A. Operate control and hold for approximately 3 seconds to wash and wipe windscreen (turn ignition on if necessary). If asked this question on a driving test, ensure your windscreen is left clean after the initial clean. Sometimes 2 or 3 cleans are necessary.

Question 16

Q. Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively, this should include both front and rear screens.

A. Set all relevant controls including; fan, temperature, air direction / source and heated screen to clear windscreen and windows. Engine does not have to be started for this demonstration.

Question 17

Q. Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti-lock braking system.

A. Warning light should illuminate on dashboard if there is a fault with the anti-lock braking system.

Question 18

Q. Show me how you switch your headlight from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car.

A. Operate switch (with ignition or engine on if necessary), check with main beam warning light

Question 19

Q. Show me how you would switch on the rear fog light(s) and explain when you would use it/them. (No need to exit vehicle).

A. Operate switch (turn on dipped headlights and ignition if necessary). Check warning light is on. Explain use.

