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BASIC VEHICLE MAINTENANCE



"The modern motor vehicle is no different to the human body. You must utilise the correct fuel and lubricants on the vehicle to ensure that the engine and other components will function to their maximum capacity, therefore reducing the risk of damage or malfunction. Therefore vehicle maintenance is an integral part of the operation for the well-being of any mechanical object and requires manufacturers service procedures to be adhered to, in order to ensure reliability."

Cor Hendriks, TGS Techincal Training Manager

The theory behind preventive maintenance is quite simple

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

"The proactive replacement of parts combined with regular adjustment and lubrication of moving structures will reduce premature component wear and failure"



OIL FILTER

The oil filter collects all the small items of residue that are produced with the normal working operation of the internal combustion engine. The filter will hold pieces in suspense to be discarded when the filter is changed.

Required to be changed in accordance with manufacturers recommended service intervals.

Always use manufacturers original filters.

ENGINE OIL

Great advances have been made over the last 20 years with the quality of engine oils and many now contain additives to improve the life and operating viscosity of the oil.

Modern semi and full synthetic oils now allow one type of oil to be used in extremes of temperature ranges to ensure easy starting when cold and high lubrication protection when warm.

It is therefore most important that manufacturer recommended oil service interval times be adhered to, in order to avoid problems.

Different oil types should not be mixed in the engine.





FUEL FILTERS

Many vehicles can have two fuel filters mounted under the bonnet, one as a pre filter and the second as a main filter. Both have throwaway elements and the main filter also incorporates a drain point and water indicator unit.

If you have reason to doubt the quality of the fuel or experience engine running problems check these items and change as required by service recommendations.

Always have new filters available as they cannot be cleaned.



COOLANT

Toyota vehicles are filled with a 50-50 mix of water and long life coolant and the level has to be topped up to ensure engines run at the correct temperature.

The coolant not only acts as anti-freeze for the winter but also as a corrosion inhibitor, so even in hot climates it is important that the correct balance is kept in the cooling system.

WARNING

Do not remove radiator cap when engine is hot
Thermostats should **NOT** be removed in hot climates
Do not allow to drain onto the ground as it can be

poisonous to animals •





AIR FILTER

Toyota air filters are of the cyclonic type to ensure that large particles that enter the area fall to the bottom of the filter bowl and can be easily removed from the system.

Filters should be examined and replaced regularly in dusty conditions. The air filters can be washed out with water and left to dry (based on the 70 Series).



TYRES

Check for correct inflation pressure, damage to tread and sidewalls including the spare wheel. Check location of tool kit including jack operation and availability of tyre inflation device. Lowering tyre pressures will assist traction off-road.



OTHER FLUIDS

This area covers battery, screen wash, clutch and brake fluids, which should be checked at regular intervals.

Ensure correct type of fluids available and all receptacles have their caps properly fitted.



ELECTRICAL ITEMS

Before any journey check operation of all lights including warning lights, wipers and communications equipment.

Check security of battery and the terminals.

Ensure that you carry spare bulbs and fuses.





AIR FILTER

OIL FILLER CAP

DIPSTICK

POWER STEERING FLUID

EXPANSION TANK

SCREEN WASH BATTERY



4.2 litre diesel engine

6 cylinder in-line / 12 valve / OHC

TGS vehicles fitted with the 1HZ diesel engine: Land Cruiser 76 Series Hardtop 5 door Land Cruiser 78 Series Hardtop 13 and 6 seater Land Cruiser 79 Series Pick-Up Single and Double Cabin The following should be checked:

BRAKE

FLUID

Engine oil level - If too low, top up with correct oil type from sealed container · Expansion tank level - Check in between the two levels and top up with coolant if required. Check return pipe is present ·

Brake and clutch fluid - Top up as required with fluid from a clean tin. Brake fluid is hydroscopic and contaminated liquid will have a lower

boiling point causing brake fade ·

Belts - Check belts for condition and security. Do not over tighten ·

INSPECTION

AIR FILTER

EXPANSION TANK

RADIATOR CAP

OIL FILLER CAP

DIPSTICK

POWER STEERING FLUID

FUEL FILTER CLUTCH

AND BRAKE

FLUID

SCREEN WASH BATTERY

Battery - Check for security, fluid level and terminal condition · Leaks - Inspect under the engine compartment for leaks and evidence of oil or water ·

Exhaust - Run up engine and listen for leaks from manifold area · Other fluid levels - Top up power steering fluid, washer bottle etc · Fuel filters - Check for leaks and water in main filter and if fitted, the second filter. Drain as required •

Wiring - Visual check of all wiring looms and electrical cables ·

3.0 litre diesel engine

4 cylinder / 8 valve / OHC / EFI

TGS vehicles fitted with the 5L-E diesel engine: Hilux Double Cabin Fortuner Land Cruiser Prado 150 Series

Hiace Commuter Bus





ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS

Generally electrical problems are caused by a flat battery and/or poor battery connections.

Make sure your electrical system is up to the job especially when you have accessories like winches, radio equipment and refrigerators fitted.

Ensure that the battery terminals and clamps are clean and tight, if necessary top up the battery with distilled water and check if the fan belt is at the correct tension.

It is good practice to keep a pair of jump leads in the vehicle and know how to use them.

If your vehicle has a faulty alternator you can temperately solve the problem by swapping every 100km batteries with another vehicle.



TRAINING

Ensure that all persons responsible for using vehicles are capable of simple repairs and correct driving procedures for the type of vehicles.



Always ensure that you carry a small tool kit able to carry out emergency repairs. Some items of spares i.e. filters should also be carried. Technical data and vehicle specifications need to be available.



FUEL PROBLEMS

Most problems encountered with the fuel system are caused by low quality or contaminated fuel.

This will be evident by: poor starting, excessive smoke from the exhaust and poor running of the engine. The warning light on the dashboard, indicating that the fuel is contaminated with water may also be on.

It is important to take extra care when refuelling from barrels or jerry cans and avoid water or dirt entering the fuel tank. Also drain the water from the fuel filter regularly and change the filter elements according to the service intervals.

Changing over to the second fuel tank, draining the water from the fuel sedimentor or changing both fuel filters might get you going again. As soon as possible the fuel tank(s) should be filled with clean fuel.



Regular maintenance is the key to reliable and safe motoring but sometimes the inevitable happens and the vehicle fails to function. At these times you will be grateful for preparation made before setting out on your journey and a little knowledge.

TYRE PROBLEMS

Punctures are common, so know how to change a wheel and make sure you carry the equipment to do so.

It is advisable to carry an extra spare wheel, inner tubes, tyre pressure gauge and a tyre repair kit.

Do not forget a tyre pump and pressure gauge which is also essential when you have dropped your tyre pressure for off-road use.

COMMUNICATIONS

If the vehicle is fitted with HF or VHF equipment, check to see if they work correctly and that the correct frequencies are programmed into the units. If unsure, carry out a test call to the office to confirm.



DAILY INSPECTION

Every day before using the vehicle, open the bonnet and check for any faults. Walk around the vehicle to check tyres and other equipment etc.



IT'S IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KNOW WHETHER A WARNING LIGHT REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

EXTERNAL CHECKS

Walk around the vehicle starting at the front left wing and check the following points:

Front locking hubs - Check for correct hub position dependant on terrain to be expected •

Tyres - Check condition of all tyres for tread, damage, pressure and suitability for journey to be taken. Don't forget the spare! •

Body condition - As you walk around, check for body damage and loose items such as bumpers, mirrors etc •

Lights - Check all lights work as required .



In order to avoid breakdowns and problems during the day, it is important to carry out a first parade of your vehicle and equipment prior to departing from your base.

The following items should be checked and rectified as required:

DOCUMENTS

Ensure that you have the correct:

- Registration documents •
- Insurance documents
- Permission documents
- ...to operate the vehicle concerned ·

Make sure these are in the correct language for the area you are operating in.

Ensure any passengers you are carrying have the correct documents.

INTERNAL CHECKS

Before moving off, check the following items on the inside of the vehicle:

Availability and condition of tool kit •
Security of all items stowed in the rear •
Internal instrumentation on the dashboard for correct operation •
Fuel levels •

Any major faults should be reported to the vehicle manager before setting off.



VEHICLE INSPECTION REPORT

Full physical examination of the vehicle and visible components

A vehicle inspection report is something that all assigned drivers should use to check their vehicle on a daily basis before leaving the compound. This daily vehicle inspection report checklist can be photocopied or downloaded from the media centre on our website.

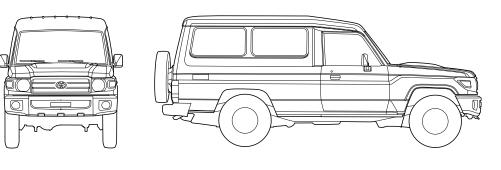
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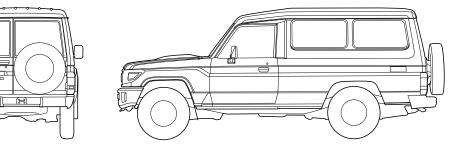
SAMPLE VEHICLE INSPECTION REPORT

ORGANISATION VEHICLE CODE

	INSPECTION	КМ	FUEL
DATE	VEHICLE	CURRENT	MAIN TANK 1/4 1/2 3/4 Full
		NEXT SERVICE	SECONDARY 1/4 1/2 3/4 Full

EQUIPMENT	VEHICLE - INTERIOR	
FIRST AID KIT	REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE PAPERS	
│ │	LIGHTS AND INDICATORS	
SPARE WHEEL RIM AND TYRE	SEATS AND SEAT BELT SECURITY	
	RADIO - HF	
	RADIO - VHF	
ENGINE	VEHICLE - EXTERIOR	
	BODY PANELS	
OIL LEVEL	BODY PANELS INSURANCE STICKER	
COOLANT LEVEL	INSURANCE STICKER	
COOLANT LEVEL BRAKE FLUID LEVEL POWER STEERING FLUID	INSURANCE STICKER	
COOLANT LEVEL BRAKE FLUID LEVEL POWER STEERING FLUID WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID	INSURANCE STICKER INSURANCE S	





DAMAGES AND OBSERVATIONS





Turn the maintenance of your vehicle into a daily routine

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