



Brake Inspection & Maintenance Checklist

Modern brakes stop you amazingly well...that is, when they're working. Unfortunately, today's brake systems are very complicated. There are numerous and frequent problems that can affect not only the pleasure of your customers' drive, but also their safety and their very survival.

So, you need to follow these steps at least once a year:

ROAD TEST

- Brake lights work?
- Pull to one side?
- Excessive pedal effort?
- Pedal low?
- Pedal spongy?
- Pedal sinks to floor?
- Pedal pulsation?
- Pedal grabs?
- Dragging?
- Parking brake holds/releases?
- Brake warning light on?

NOISE:

- Squealing/squeaking?
- Grinding?
- Clunking?

INSPECTION ITEMS

Hydraulic System:

- Brake fluid level
- Brake fluid contamination
- Brake hose condition
- Leaks at calipers/wheel cylinders
- Frozen bleeder screws

ABS:

- Warning light
- Pedal pulsation

Vacuum Booster:

- Vacuum hose condition
- Vacuum hose connections
- Check valve condition

Hydraulic Booster:

- Power steering fluid level
- Power steering pump noise
- Power steering pump belt condition/tightness
- Power steering hose condition
- Fluid tightness at booster, accumulator, connections

Disc Brakes:

- Lining thickness
- Lining condition
- Pad fit in caliper
- Rotor surface
- Rotor run-out and parallelism
- Rotor thickness
- Caliper bushing, guide pin, pad retainer condition
- Caliper mounting tightness
- Rear disc parking brake operation/adjustment
- Wheel bearing condition, lubrication, and adjustment
- Wheel bearing grease seal condition

Drum Brakes:

- Lining thickness
- Lining condition
- Drum surface
- Drum roundness
- Drum diameter
- Self-adjuster operation
- Condition of self-adjuster cable, hold-down and return springs

- Condition of backing plate shoe contact points
- Tightness of wheel cylinder to backing plate
- Lining-to-drum clearance adjustment
- Wheel bearing condition, lubrication, and adjustment
- Wheel bearing grease seal condition

Parking Brake:

- Cable condition
- Cable adjustment

Tires/Wheels:

- Tire inflation
- Tire condition
- Tire size/type match
- Wheel run-out
- Lug nut torque

MAINTENANCE ITEMS

- Flush/refill hydraulic system
- Free up bleeder screws, apply anti-seize to threads
- Lubricate star wheel adjusters
- Lubricate/adjust parking brake cables
- Repack/adjust wheel bearings
- Inflate tires to specs
- Rotate tires

Calipers: Precision Designed with the Technician in Mind™

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