

Car Maintenance

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Chapter 1. Garage Tasks

When you go into the garage, be prepared to get your hands dirty!

Maintenance Benefits

Avoid costly repairs by constantly performing simple maintenance tasks.

Related information

[Changing the oil in your car \(on page 1\)](#)

Changing the oil in your car

Once every 6000 kilometers or three months, change the oil in your car.

Changing the oil regularly will help keep the engine in good condition.

1. To change the oil:
2. Remove the old oil filter.
3. Drain the old oil.
4. Recycle the oil and oil filter by taking them to the nearest service station or auto shop.
5. Install the drain plug.
6. Install a new oil filter and gasket. Most oil filters need to be tightened by hand. Overtightening them might damage the gasket.
7. Add new oil to the engine.
8. Check the air filter and replace or clean it.
9. Top up the windshield washer fluid.

Recommended oil types:

Type	Temperature
5W-20	low
10W-30	high

Related information

[Maintenance Benefits \(on page 1\)](#)

Washing the car {#changing.the.oil}

Keep your car looking great by washing it regularly.

1. Move the car onto the driveway. Avoid washing the car in direct sunlight as this might damage the paint.
2. Attach the water hose to a spout and pull the free end over to the car.
3. Fill a bucket with soapy water.
4. Use a sponge to apply the soapy water to the car and gently remove the dirt.
5. Rinse the car by spraying clean water from the hose.
6. Dry the car using a dampened chamois.

An image reference that uses the href attribute.



See also Changing the oil and waterhose topics

[Changing the oil \(on page 1\)](#)

[Water hose \(on page 4\)](#)

Chapter 2. Garage Concepts

A well-stocked garage can be the envy of the neighborhood.

Lawnmower

The lawnmower is a machine used to cut grass in the yard.

Lawnmowers can be electric, gas-powered, or manual.

Oil

Motor oil keeps your car's engine running smoothly.

Oil should be changed every 6000 kilometers.

Paint

Paint is useful for refreshing the look of rooms and furniture.

Store unused paint in the garage.

Shelving

Wooden or metal shelving is useful for storing things in the garage.

Shelving also keeps things neat and organized.

Snow shovel

Use the snow shovel to clear the drive way and side walk of snow in the winter.

A good snow shovel has a straight, wide scoop and a strong handle. To help snow come off the scoop, spray the scoop with cooking spray.

Tool box

A tool box contains many compartments for organizing tools and hardware.

Keep the tool box handy for all sorts of jobs around the house.

Tools

Invest in a good set of tools for doing all kinds of tasks around the house.

Useful tools include the following items:

- Hammer
- Screw driver set
- Wrench set
- Nails and screws
- Level
- Saws
- Drill
- Air pressure gauge
- Spade
- Rake

Keep your tools organized in a tool box which you can store in the garage.

Water hose

A water hose is useful for cleaning and gardening projects around the yard.

Keep the hose coiled on a large hook near a water spout.

Related information

[Washing the car {#changing.the.oil} \(on page 2\)](#)

Wheel barrow

A good wheel barrow will save your back from extensive trauma when you garden.

Workbench

Use the workbench for storing tools and hardware, and for doing small projects.

Windshield washer fluid

Windshield washer fluid is required to keep your windshield wipers functioning properly.

Keep your car's windshield washer fluid topped up so you will have a clean windshield whatever the weather or insect population.