

Faulty Headlights, Brakes Top Canadian Car Problems

Well over half of all cars inspected in provincial compulsory and voluntary motor vehicle inspections are rejected because of malfunctions.

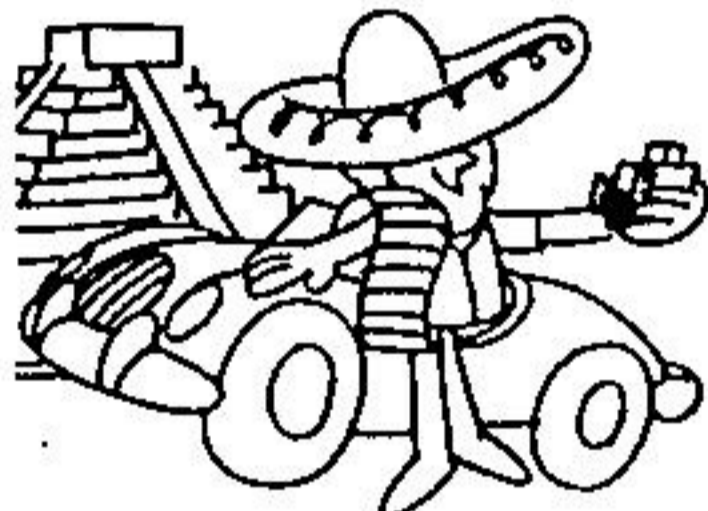
A Canada Safety Council survey shows that more than 1,725,000 out of the preliminary motor vehicle registration figure of 8,250,000 underwent some kind of inspection in 1969, the last year for which statistics are available.

Faulty headlights were the main reason for rejection in most jurisdictions. This malfunction can be most dangerous not only by reducing the driver's area of perception but also by misleading other drivers.

Keep Camera Handy. Film Vacation Travel Events

Vacation trips are enjoyed many times over by thousands of American families who record events and sights on film. But for the thousands of memories that are preserved, probably as many are lost because of mistakes or simply because the camera was out of reach.

Rule number one for the family that wants to record its vacation is never to pack away the camera. Keep it handy on the seat of the car, next to the photographer, so



Bring Your Camera

that when a special scene presents itself the camera is readily available.

Rule number two is have plenty of film, for the handy camera is worthless if the last picture taken was also the end of the film supply, and the nearest store is 20 miles away.

These two basics will not automatically produce memorable photographs, but they will allow the photographer to be ready when the time comes.

If a brand new camera is to be taken on the trip, expose a roll of film and look at it before leaving. Like any mechanical object, cameras are not always perfect when they leave the store. It's best to be sure the camera works properly before it's too late.

Film storage, especially in the heat of summer, is also an important consideration. Never leave film where it will be exposed to the hot rays of the sun, such as on the car's dashboard, or in a place where heat can build up, such as a glove compartment.

If an ice chest is kept in the car, it's an ideal place for film. Prolonged heat can damage or ruin the film's emulsion, particularly color film.

Incorrect exposures that make a picture too light or dark can ruin special shots. Persons using adjustable cameras can compensate for abnormal light conditions by bracketing, which is photographing the same scene at various exposures.

This is of particular importance on water or a sandy beach where normal sunlight is intensified by reflected light. Sunsets also demand this special care, for late afternoon light can be tricky.

Faulty brakes were also high on the list. What is disturbing is that drivers can generally detect these malfunctions by spongy handling characteristics.

Steering defects accounted for many other rejections.

Obviously defective tires — many say the inspections of the car's only contacts with the road are not sufficiently rigorous — accounted for the rejection of many vehicles.

The vehicle owner could obviously have spotted tire malfunctions just by looking at them for excessive wear, breaks and deep cuts.

Another common cause of rejection was an inadequate exhaust system. Not only does this increase sharply the possibility of deadly carbon monoxide seepage but it also impedes the functioning of emission devices designed to cut down pollution.

In a more intensive survey carried out recently, poor alignment was detected in a large majority of the cars tested. Alignment should be checked by a competent mechanic.

Thousands of the drivers of the cars tested operated their vehicles with defective horns, windshield wipers and signal lights they could have detected and had fixed with a minimum effort.



PHIL CLOAKE of L and L Ford Sales gives prospective buyers a look under the hood. Photo by J. Jennings

INCREASE TIRE LIFE
Improperly balanced wheels can reduce the life

span of your tires by as much as 25 percent. Check wheel alignment and balance and

rotate your tires every six months.



Lots of people are concerned about pollution. But concern alone won't stop it.

Tests on cars with high emission levels show that an engine tune-up can substantially reduce pollutants. By more than 50% on the average.

So there is something that you can do to fight pollution. Have your car's exhaust emissions checked. If your car needs a tune-up, get one. At least once each year or every 10,000 miles. And urge your friends and neighbors to do the same.



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