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SPRING BRAKE CHECK-UP

- Better maintenance means better stopping power

(NC)-Winter wreaks havoc on even the sturdiest of vehicles. Every year your brakes take quite a beating from salt, sand and liters of moisture from the pelting snow. This onslaught from nature causes brakes to rust and corrode. Added to this, stop and go traffic speeds up "wear and tear". Come spring it's always a good idea to have your brakes checked. Remember that spring showers are on the way and it will be slippery, wet and sometimes dangerous on the road.

Here are some of the tell tale signs that you may have brake problems.

If you apply your brakes and they don't respond immediately, this may be an indication that your brakes are not activating properly. If you have drum brakes your calipers are probably sticky. The caliper is the cast iron mechanism that applies and releases the disc pads that stop your car.

If you have to press very hard on your brakes, your brake booster could be defective and if you're hearing loud, grinding or scraping noises, it may be time to check whether your disc pads or brake shoes are worn out.

Also, if you apply your brakes and your car pulls to the left or the right, that's a signal that a caliper is sticking or seized.

It's recommended that you check your brakes twice a year. Spring is the best time to start. With prompt attention to prob-

lems you can save money by simply replacing worn out parts or cleaning sullied mechanisms, instead of buying and installing a whole new brake.

For owners of SUVs and imported vehicles the same words of caution apply but the solutions are sometimes more difficult to find. Braking systems on SUV's are different than passenger cars; as a result, they require different stopping power. For example, Bendix MetLock SUV disc pads are not only reliable and durable; they give the vehicle a luxury feel but is truck tough. MetLock SUV pads are also designed for mini-vans and pick-up trucks.

Because of their greater size and weight these vehicles demand more from their braking systems than passenger cars. In a lot of cases however, the system falls short the harder the vehicle is pushed. The result is greater pedal effort and less stopping power. Metlock SUV is specifically designed to eliminate these problems.

For those of you with imported cars, replacing your brakes often means coping with squeaks, screeches groans and squeals. There is relief however, Bendix IQ brake pads are manufactured with titanium metallic stripes and steel shims, which reduce noise pollution, and there is no break-in period. You even get a brake lubricant with each set of pads.



Whether your vehicle is Domestic or Import, regular year-long maintenance along with a special spring brake check is a good idea.

For additional technical information, you can speak with your local Bendix installer or call the Bendix Technical Hotline at 1-888-633-1438. - News Canada

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HERE'S WHAT WE'LL DO:

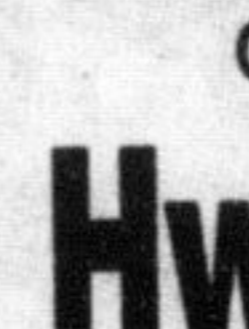
- Clean and inspect fuel injectors

Clean fuel injectors will help:

- Improve acceleration
- Increase fuel economy
- Reduce exhaust emissions

Maintenance tip:
 Service fuel injectors every 40,000 km

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