

Motorists! Avoid winter woe on the roads

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Snow and arctic conditions! Yes, the wonderful winter weather warnings are already upon us. And with them come perilous driving conditions in sub-zero temperatures. Being prepared for the worst is something that too many motorists overlook when it comes to making essential and quick checks to make sure their vehicles are in the safest condition to tackle winter driving.

Why check my car now?

It's never too early to check that your car is in tip top condition to take on the challenges of winter driving. Ensuring your car is running as effectively as possible before the cold snap sets in not only helps improve your safety on the roads but can help prevent costly break downs.

What if I don't bother?

Leave it to chance and motorists could face a host of winter woes. Driving with incorrect tyre pressure and tread on slippery roads presents obvious dangers, while good visibility is also vital. Ensuring correct tyre pressure and tread and topping up your windscreen washer are therefore essential to help prevent endangering yourself and other road users. Checking that your antifreeze level is correct will ensure your engine is protected from driving in lower temperatures and avoid costly repairs.

So what do I do now?

The Good Garage Scheme's comprehensive 20-point Winter Check is the perfect solution to help you avoid hitting the skids this winter. The essential winter motoring package includes checking:

- " The condition and levels of antifreeze.

- " Engine oil and brake fluid

- " Brakes and tyres.

- " Windscreens.

- " Wipers and lights.

It is also recommended that coolant systems are drained and cleansed thoroughly using a Cooling System Flush, which is designed to remove rust and limescale build up. With these contaminants removed, the coolant will perform more efficiently and will flow freely throughout the system.

After flushing, the system can be refilled with fresh coolant plus a Cooling System Conditioner. This important treatment ensures smooth running of the system by preventing further corrosion and erosion, overheating and scale formation. Using a Conditioner is particularly important for cars equipped with aluminium engine blocks and cylinder heads as these are more susceptible to corrosion and erosion problems than their cast-iron counterparts.

What if something goes wrong?

Simply log on to www.goodgaragescheme.com and type in your postcode to find your nearest Good Garage Scheme member garage offering the Winter Check.