Basic MOT Checks: DVSA Safe Driving for Life

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) is responsible for setting and enforcing the standards for vehicle safety and driver licensing in the United Kingdom. One of the most important checks that the DVSA carries out is the MOT test, which is designed to ensure that vehicles are roadworthy and safe to drive.

In this article, we will take a closer look at the basic MOT checks that the DVSA carries out, and we will explain why these checks are so important for road safety.

An MOT test is a mandatory annual inspection of vehicles that are over three years old. The test is designed to check a vehicle's overall condition and to identify any potential safety hazards.



Basic MOT Checks: DVSA Safe Driving for Life Series

by Luke Byrd		
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The MOT test covers a wide range of areas, including:

- Brakes
- Tyres
- Lights
- Suspension
- Steering
- Exhaust system
- Bodywork

If a vehicle fails its MOT test, the owner will be given a list of the problems that need to be fixed. The vehicle will then need to be repaired and retested before it can be driven on the road again.

MOT tests are important for road safety because they help to ensure that vehicles are roadworthy and safe to drive. By identifying and fixing potential safety hazards, MOT tests help to prevent accidents and save lives.

According to the DVSA, MOT tests have helped to reduce the number of road casualties in the UK by around 10% since they were first introduced in 1960.

The basic MOT checks that the DVSA carries out are:

- Brakes: The brakes are checked for wear and tear, and to ensure that they are working properly.
- Tyres: The tyres are checked for wear and tear, and to ensure that they are the correct size and type for the vehicle.
- Lights: The lights are checked to ensure that they are working properly and that they are not damaged.
- Suspension: The suspension is checked to ensure that it is working properly and that there are no signs of wear or tear.
- Steering: The steering is checked to ensure that it is working properly and that there are no signs of wear or tear.
- Exhaust system: The exhaust system is checked to ensure that it is working properly and that there are no signs of leaks or damage.
- Bodywork: The bodywork is checked for signs of damage or corrosion.

If your vehicle fails its MOT test, the owner will be given a list of the problems that need to be fixed. The vehicle will then need to be repaired and retested before it can be driven on the road again.

You will have 14 days to get your vehicle repaired and retested. If you do not get your vehicle repaired and retested within this time period, you will need to pay for a new MOT test.

There are a number of things that you can do to prepare for your MOT test:

- Check your vehicle's tyres: Make sure that your tyres are inflated to the correct pressure and that they have plenty of tread.
- Check your vehicle's lights: Make sure that all of your vehicle's lights are working properly.
- Check your vehicle's brakes: Make sure that your vehicle's brakes are working properly.
- Check your vehicle's exhaust system: Make sure that your vehicle's exhaust system is working properly and that there are no signs of leaks or damage.
- Check your vehicle's bodywork: Make sure that your vehicle's bodywork is in good condition and that there are no signs of damage or corrosion.

By following these tips, you can help to ensure that your vehicle passes its MOT test and that you are driving a safe vehicle.

MOT tests are an important part of road safety in the UK. By identifying and fixing potential safety hazards, MOT tests help to prevent accidents and save lives.

If you are the owner of a vehicle that is over three years old, it is important to make sure that you get your vehicle tested every year. By ng so, you can help to ensure that your vehicle is roadworthy and safe to drive.

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