



Rally Safety Check List

This list is provided as an example to prompt you to check out your car before heading off on a multi-day road rally. It's better to find an issue on the lift than on the side of the road.

The most important component of rally preparedness is to actually drive your car. We recommend 200 miles within the month prior to a rally. This will bring to light any issues before you ship your car to some far off destination. This is much better than discovering issues that might hamper your enjoyment of your driving experience.

Tires

All tires should be less than six years old with minimum tread of 4/32nds

Right Front

Tread Depth
Sidewall Integrity
Tread Integrity

Right Rear

Tread Depth
Sidewall Integrity
Tread Integrity

Left Front

Tread Depth
Sidewall Integrity
Tread Integrity

Left Rear

Tread Depth
Sidewall Integrity
Tread Integrity

Spare

Tread Depth
Sidewall Integrity
Tread Integrity

Wheels

- All spokes tight and true
- Valve stem grommets on tube tires
- Lugs properly torqued
- Knock offs tight
- Rally Front Suspension. Verify for right and left
- No play in ball joints
- No play in king and link pins
- Tie rod ends tight

- Shock absorbers: no leaks & functional
- No play; pitman arm, drag links, idler arms
- Suspension bolts & nuts properly torqued
- Cotter pins & other locking devices present
- Inspect condition of bushings, heim joints & pivot points
- Inspect condition of springs (leaf, coil, torsion)
- All components properly lubed
- No play in wheel bearings

Rear Suspension (Verify for right and left)

- Shock absorbers; no leaks & functional
- All suspension bolts & nuts are properly torqued
- All cotter pins & other locking devices present
- Inspect condition of bushings, heim joints & pivot points
- Inspect condition of springs (leaf, coil, torsion)
- Inspect all spring mounting hardware
- All components properly lubed

Brakes (Verify for all four)

- Inspect master cylinder for leaks, tight fittings
- Fluid level, master cylinder
- Power booster condition and function
- Brake fluid clean & clear
- Inspect calipers / wheel cylinders
- Adequate lining thickness
- Linings not contaminated
- Inspect all brake lines. Fittings tight, no leaks
- All mounting hardware properly torqued
- Pedal firm, proper position
- Wheel bearing seals
- Adjust and bleed brakes

Exhaust Components

- No Leaks
- All bolts tight
- Hangers in good condition
- Header and flange gaskets, no leaks

Drive Components

- Inspect U joints, CV joints, rotax couplings
- Inspect torque tube
- Condition of axle boots

Cooling System

- Inspect hoses and clamps
- Main & auxiliary fans function properly

- Coolant condition
- Radiator condition
- Adequate cold weather protection
- Radiator cap pressure test
- Overflow tank. No leaks, proper function
- Inspect freeze plugs & petcocks
- Inspect water pump for bearing play and seepage

Fuel System

- Inspect / change filter (s)
- Inspect all hoses and clamps
- Fresh fuel
- Verify proper fuel pressure
- Inspect fuel pump (s)

Electrical System

- Inspect wiring
- Brake lights
- Tail lights
- Head lights.
- Hi and low beams
- Dash lights
- Emergency flashers
- Windshield wipers
- Generator/ alternator; Proper output
- Battery condition
- Clean all battery connections
- Ground cables, engine to chassis

Transmission / Clutch

- Inspect master cylinder, slave cylinder
- Inspect shift linkage
- Tighten all brackets
- Inspect transmission mounts
- Check/change transmission oil & filter
- Inspect for leaks
- Engine Compartment Inspect all belts, hoses, clamps
- Inspect motor mounts
- Check/change engine oil & filter
- Inspect all hoses
- Tighten all brackets, inspect for cracks
- Air filters

Road Check

- All gauges operable
- Temperature within range
- Oil pressure within range

- Car tracks straight
- Brakes work correctly

Safety Equipment

- Fire extinguisher mounted within reach of driver
- Flares or reflective triangles
- First Aid kit
- Tow Rope
- Emergency Flares
- One gallon of water
- Flashlight

Spares / Tools Belts

- Hoses
- Water pump
- Fuel pump (s)
- Fuel filter
- Knock off hammer / Lug wrench
- Vehicle specific special tools
- Mobile phone
- Sense of humor

Rally Equipment

- Timewise speedometer installed and working
- Stopwatch checked out and new battery installed
- Analog clock installed and new battery installed
- Spare batteries for stopwatch and clock
- Lapboard fabricated and ready
- Special items required for lapboard such as hole punch
- Pens, pencils, marker pens, etc.
- Speedometer calibration tools (small screwdriver and flashlight)

Other Questions to Answer

- Has car been driven extensively (several hundred miles) to ensure its integrity?
- Have car calibration charts been prepared?