## **Auto Mechanic**

| <ul> <li>(1) Learn how and when to complete<br/>routine auto "check-up" tasks yourself,<br/>including: <ul> <li>Check oil, coolant, brake fluid, and<br/>antifreeze levels.</li> <li>Check and refill windshield wiper<br/>fluid</li> <li>Check tire pressure and tread<br/>depth.</li> <li>Check lights.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | These tasks are preventive<br>maintenance. By checking these areas<br>regularly, you can head off many issues<br>like flat tires, engine trouble, and even<br>tickets for blown lights.   |
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| <ul> <li>(2) Learn how and when to complete routine auto maintenance tasks yourself:</li> <li>Change oil and oil filter.</li> <li>Change engine air filter.</li> <li>Top off coolant.</li> <li>Rotate tires.</li> <li>Change a headlight, taillight, and blinker bulb.</li> </ul>  | These tasks are responsive<br>maintenance. When you observe a low<br>fluid level, uneven wear on tire treads,<br>or non-functioning lights, you can often<br>handle these issues on your own<br>without paying a mechanic.                                |
| (3) Learn to complete a tire change by hand.   | Tire changes require an electric or<br>manual jack, which takes the car's<br>weight off the tire, as well as a jack<br>stand to keep the vehicle secure while<br>it's lifted.   |
| (4) Make a minor repair or part<br>replacement such as a battery, brake<br>pads, or spark plug.  | Instructions for minor repairs can<br>usually be found by searching the make<br>and model of the vehicle as well as the<br>broken part online. Minor repairs<br>should be for easily accessible parts<br>that are more prone to wearing out.              |
| <ul> <li>(5) Learn to recognize the signs of an issue with the following vehicle parts:</li> <li>Transmission</li> <li>Engine</li> <li>Alternator</li> <li>Power Steering</li> <li>Struts</li> </ul>   | Identifying major vehicle issues before<br>the issue becomes severe can save you<br>time and stress. Once you identify the<br>problem, you can consider whether you<br>can fix it on your own or if you should<br>visit a local auto shop for assistance. |