

PUTTING FAITH AND TRUST BACK INTO CAR CARE!



216 Hiawatha Trail Springboro OH 1-937-746-7999 Mon-Fri 8 AM - 6 PM Closed Sat & Sun



Fun Facts

- The first cars did not have steering wheels. Drivers steered with a lever.
- The first speeding ticket was issued in 1902.
- In 1916, 55 percent of the cars in the world were Model T Fords, a record that has never been beaten.
- In 1923, 173 new inventions by women for cars had been reported. Among these inventions were a carburetor and an electric engine starter.
- The first car radio was invented in 1929.
- Buick introduced the first electric turn signals in 1938.
- The Peanuts characters were first animated in 1957 for a Ford Fairlane automobile commercial.
- Most American car horns beep in the key of F.
- The automobile is the most recycled consumer product in the world today.



Most Drivers Cannot Do Without Air Conditioning

For decades now it has been said that Americans have a true love affair with cars and for most people these days that love extends to the many accessories that used to be considered luxuries, but which are often standard nowadays.

One such accessory is the car **air conditioner** and a growing number of people consider a car useless without "air." If they live in the warm southern states, or in an area that heats up considerably in the summertime, then that is understandable.

But, when the car air conditioning system goes on the fritz, people can lose their cool in more ways than one. More than a few cases of road rage over the years have been attributed to people who completely lost their cool because they were stuck in sweltering heat on a gridlocked freeway.

Either the car didn't have air conditioning or the auto air conditioning unit had broken down.

The combination of a flaring temper, frustration and "too-hot-to-sit-in car" has caused more than one person to fly off the handle and do something that was later regretted.

A great way to keep the car air conditioner running in top-notch condition is to have **routine maintenance** performed on it annually. In the springtime before the heat of the summer weather sets in is the best time to have such auto air conditioning maintenance done. Air conditioning service will provide a complete inspection of the air conditioner system in your car and

will diagnose any problems and often **includes basic repairs** as well. If the inspection reveals additional problems with the air conditioning system, then you will be provided with an estimated cost to carry out the needed air conditioner repair to keep your system running worry-free.

In many cases, the air conditioner in your car simply needs to have the **refrigerant recharged**, and this is usually covered as part of the maintenance checkup service. However, if there is a leak in the system and your auto air conditioning is completely drained of Freon, the refrigerant, then you are looking at a larger problem. The leak in your automobile's air conditioner system must be identified and repaired to stop additional refrigerant from being leaked into the atmosphere, which can be hazardous both to people and also harmful to the environment. The Freon can be expensive to completely replace, so it is best to find and **repair the leak** before fully loading the auto air conditioning system with refrigerant again. Proper maintenance will not only help to make sure that you are always comfortable and cool while driving, but will help to keep bigger service issues from developing. Mike Selvon



7 General Rules of Defensive Driving

Choose the right car.

Color matters, dark and bland colors are like urban camouflage. Also choose a car with low center mass and avoid heavily tinted windows.

Inspect your car before driving.

Brake, tires, fluid and light check are quick and essential.

Focus on the road.

Continually scan the roadway ahead and take note of driving style of others. Tailgater? No use of turning signals? Constant breaking? Drifter? Road hog? Road raging? On the cellphone?

Assume the worst in other drivers.

May seem paranoid but it can save a lot of headaches.

Keep and exit route.

On freeways especially, keep to the outer lane in the event you need to reach the shoulder you don't have to cross the lane.

Avoid danger.

Badly damaged vehicles could indicate inexperienced or older drivers. Stay clear and be safe.

Observe caution when approaching or passing vehicle break-downs and crash scenes.

Rubber-necking detracts from focusing on the road and staying clear of other vehicles.

Car Auctions: Savvy Guide to Buying Cars at Auctions

Gone are the days when you just look at the hood and assess the physical appearance of a repo-car when you are aiming to buy at a car auction. You need to make further research into important factors about the used car you are eyeing. If you want to eliminate this need, you should opt to buy a brand new car.

A car auction is not the suitable place to buy such cars. Expect to find old, second hand and repossessed cars at any car auction event. You need to be savvy enough if you are aiming to buy a good and reliable used car. It is not enough that the car you are eyeing looks good or its tag price is significantly higher compared to other used cars. You should be careful because some used cars put on sale at car auctions may be relatively expensive, but that does not mean the status and quality of the car is A-ok.

The paint and the exterior of the car may have been modified and repaired thoroughly to make the car look extravagant and almost new. But the pedals would give out the car's deepest, darkest secrets. Likewise, check the steering wheel. There should be no clunking noise if you try to jiggle back and forth the car's steering wheel.

Here is a list of comprehensive and effective guidelines that you may observe to make your purchase really worthwhile.

Bring with you a mechanical expert so that you would have access to first-hand expert opinion. Check the car thoroughly. The engine and the overall condition should be in good status. Almost all car auction organizers make sure the used cars for sale at their events are in reliable, if not superior, condition.

Before bidding, make sure you look at the given history of the car. Used cars that previously had been involved in any accident should be dubious and should not be priced too much because such cars may not function well and may be involved again at possible car incidences in the future.

Do not bid too much for any car. Bidding is necessary and is a common occurrence in every car auction. If a car is already priced too much because bidders are competing with each other, let the winning bidder have it. If it becomes expensive, it may not be a good deal.

Check the pedals. A simple tip for you: for used cars, pedals are not usually replaced or changed. Thus, you can determine and have a hint of the original condition of the car by looking at the pedals.

Look closely at the frame. A frame-damaged used car indicates that the car has been involved in a major accident in the past.

When checking the paint on the exterior, run a finger into the edges. If there are rough spots, it may be an indication that there has been a major repair possibly from a major collision or crash. The roughness comes from residues from masking tape used during the repainting.

Most of all, rely on your intuition. Your overall feel and impression on a used car would certainly be the best reading. As you prepare to go to a car auction, remember to bear in mind: You are there to find and make the best deal.



Six Cautions to Take Before Giving Your Pre-Teen Their Own Cell Phone

- 1.) Have your child pay part of the cost.
- 2.) Monitor Text Messages
- 3.) Set limits on phone and text messaging
- 4.) Discuss respect and etiquette
- 5.) Have an explicit discussion on "sexting"
- 6.) Establish privacy and safety rules.

Read the entire article by Gregory Ramey, PhD at the Dayton's Children Medical Center Website <http://bit.ly/Ramey>

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03/22/2010



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