

Vehicle Inspection Checklist: Light Vehicle Stations

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Vehicle and inspector	
DATE	INSPECTOR NAME
ROLE	YEAR
MAKE	MODEL
VIN	LICENSE PLATE
ODOMETER MILES	UNIT / STOCK NUMBER
VEHICLE CLASS	INSPECTION TYPE
LOCATION	

Exterior and lamps				
Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Low-beam headlamps	☐	☐	☐	
High-beam headlamps and indicator	☐	☐	☐	
Front turn signals and parking lamps	☐	☐	☐	
Taillamps and license-plate lamp	☐	☐	☐	
Stop lamps and high-mounted stop lamp	☐	☐	☐	
Hazard warning flashers	☐	☐	☐	
Side marker lamps and reflex reflectors	☐	☐	☐	
Backup lamp	☐	☐	☐	
Lamp lenses and obvious aim	☐	☐	☐	
Wiper blades and washer	☐	☐	☐	
Visible exhaust	☐	☐	☐	
Fog or auxiliary lamps (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	

Tires and wheels				
Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Cold inflation vs tire placard	☐	☐	☐	
Tread depth	☐	☐	☐	

Size and match on each axle	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cuts, bulges, exposed cord	☐	☐	☐	_____
Irregular wear pattern	☐	☐	☐	_____
Spare tire (if equipped)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Tire pressure monitoring system	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel and rim condition	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel nuts and bolts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible CV boots at the wheel	☐	☐	☐	_____

Under-hood fluids, belts, and hoses

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Engine oil level and look	☐	☐	☐	_____
Coolant level and visible cooling parts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake fluid reservoir	☐	☐	☐	_____
Power steering fluid (if hydraulic)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Windshield washer fluid	☐	☐	☐	_____
Transmission fluid (if checkable)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Drive belts, tensioner, and pulleys	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible coolant and vacuum hoses	☐	☐	☐	_____
Engine air filter (if housing opens)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Battery, cables, and hold-down	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible engine leaks	☐	☐	☐	_____
Fuel cap and visible fuel fittings	☐	☐	☐	_____

Interior and controls

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Brake and ABS warning lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Other warning and indicator lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Instrument gauges	☐	☐	☐	_____
Horn	☐	☐	☐	_____
Turn, hazard, and high-beam indicators	☐	☐	☐	_____
Climate control	☐	☐	☐	_____
Cabin air filter (if accessible)	☐	☐	☐	_____

Interior lamps	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parking-brake indicator	☐	☐	☐	_____
Light and wiper switches	☐	☐	☐	_____

Brakes and steering

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Service-brake pedal integrity	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake pedal reserve	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake power assist	☐	☐	☐	_____
Parking brake hold	☐	☐	☐	_____
Brake hoses and lines	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible pads and rotors (wheels on)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Wheel-off lining and hardware (if removed)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering wheel free play	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering free turning	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering linkage play (if raised)	☐	☐	☐	_____
Visible suspension parts	☐	☐	☐	_____
Shock absorber leak and bounce	☐	☐	☐	_____

Optional road-test notes

Item	OK	Defect	N/A	Notes
Service brake feel on the move	☐	☐	☐	_____
Optional 20 mph stop test	☐	☐	☐	_____
Steering and alignment on the move	☐	☐	☐	_____
Abnormal noises	☐	☐	☐	_____
Drivetrain behavior	☐	☐	☐	_____
Warning lamps after the drive	☐	☐	☐	_____
HVAC on the move	☐	☐	☐	_____

Defects and sign-off

DEFECTS FOUND

ACTION TAKEN

INSPECTOR SIGNATURE

TIME SIGNED

☐ Vehicle is in safe condition for intended use

OWNER / CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

OTHER COMMENTS

Reference only. Verify against the vehicle OEM procedure and applicable regulations.