

"Your Hometown Honda and Toyota Specialists"

(including Acura, Lexus and Scion)

Newsletter

Celebrating 23 years in business!



You don't need to check your anti-freeze, we've got you covered.

February 2018

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Our 23rd Anniversary

We opened for business nearly a quarter century ago with the goal to help car owners keep their cars reliable and reduce the cost to operate a car.

Continuous research on part failures using scientific methods to determine probabilities has paid off big time. We would like to thank all our family of loyal customers who enable us to continue.

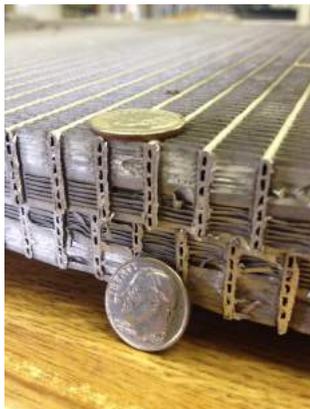
Thanks for the Stars

Our customer retention is off the charts, when compared to other repair shops across the nation. We appreciate it a lot when you take the time to post a short review of our business.

It helps us maintain pride in our work. It helps us attract new customers to replace those who have moved away. It makes us feel good. Thank you.

Antifreeze Checked?

We've kept factory extended long-life coolant (antifreeze) in your car. It's pre-mixed with special water to eliminate mineral buildup. You never need to have it checked to see "if it's cold enough" to withstand Nebraska winters. It's good to 34 below zero. If it's colder than that, stay home.



A professional mechanic's forum featured discussions on how to flush crud out of clogged heater cores to restore heat to the heater. The photo shows tiny passages through which flows hot coolant to provide heat for your little frozen feet.

We only use factory extended long life coolant, which never clogs. We've

never had to flush or replace a heater core. When you crank up the heat this winter and it keeps you warm, you can thank us for warming your heart and saving your wallet.

17 Degrees Below Zero

Emergency road service trucks were so far behind on calls, that they were advising their members to "call whoever you can get to help start your car". Susan B. left her Civic at the airport for 10 days and returned home to this weather at night. Her little car started promptly. So did every one of our regular customer's cars. Every. Single. One.

Exposed skin in these temps can suffer damage in 10 minutes, tongues can freeze to sign posts in less time than that.

When we say that our service saves time, money and keeps you safe, this is proof positive. It sure beats waiting hours for a service truck when it's below zero. At least the ice cream won't melt. ☺

Free Financing

A photo ID, a few answers and a few minutes is all you need to apply. We can do it on the spot. You can get a credit card good at our shop any time.

402.434.6961

www.georgewitt.com

Car Quiz

1. T or F—Spray vinegar onto ice-covered windows and windshield to melt away ice.
2. T or F—Never put snow tires on the front of a front wheel drive car. Do 4 snow tires or no snow tires.
3. T or F—Driving a car with “collision avoidance” technology offers a legal defense in court in the event you’re in an accident.
4. T or F— “Self-driving” cars can reduce traffic jams and greatly increase traffic flow.

Answers to Quiz

1. False. I read about this on the Internet. I tried it. Didn’t make a dent in the ice. I sprayed all sorts of different mixtures, from pure vinegar to many blends with water. None of those made any difference.

Best way to remove ice is to start the car, crank up the defroster, lock the car and have some hot chocolate inside the house.

Come back in 10 minutes and then cut the ice into sections using the edge of a plastic scraper. The ice will slide off easily in large pieces. It’s not necessary to scrape the ice into little tiny pieces.

2. True. I was nearly killed using 2 snow tires. It might make sense to use 2 snow tires to get up a steep hill. The problem occurs when the front tires grip better than the rear. At some point the rear will lose grip and then pass the front. This means a spin and it’s not as fun as a ride at the Fair.

I was on a curve in the mountains and felt the rear of the car starting to move out. There was no guard rail, just a steep drop into a mountain stream. I instinctively gave it a little gas to let the front pull the car back into line and it worked. I was lucky, the only damage was to a pair of pants. ☺

So, either do all 4 or no snow tires at all. We have information on many tires that will perform as well as the old snow tires in snow and ice conditions. The old studded snow tires are nearly as obsolete as wall mounted dial phones.

We’ll give you choices on tires that will do the job you want. All we need is a little information from you on what you expect the tires to do.

3. False. Not even close. It’s as good a defense as saying your car has anti-lock brakes. So?

Consider having one glass of wine too many and getting into a “self-driving” car. Regardless of the capability of the car, the driver is still ultimately responsible for the car. If you’ve got bald tires and the car in front of you has great tires, all these systems might not be so great for you.

The real deal is to pay attention and drive carefully. Realize that people are killed and injured every

day. If you get angry when you drive, reassess your driving habits and mellow out.

If you were just informed that you have 4 minutes to live, what would you do with that 4 minutes? Answer, not much, there’s really nothing you can do in only 4 minutes.

With that in mind, how important is it to beat that light or cut in front of someone else to save a few minutes getting to your destination? You’ve risked your life for a few minutes. We want you safe, we need the money. Try some “Zen Driving”. ☺

4. True. I don’t want to be all down side on “self-driving” cars. Ultimately, cars will be able to communicate with each other and this will enable large numbers of cars to all hit the gas at the same time. Think of the fast lanes that could happen then.

In addition, there won’t be large numbers of gawkers slowing down just to find a guy changing a tire that has created a traffic jam because everyone wanted to slow down to see what was happening. This is a true story. I was involved in a *very long* traffic slow down and that’s exactly what was causing it. No, I’m not kidding.

Beam me up

Old style wiper blades had many parts that gripped the rubber and could freeze the blade into a shape that didn’t match the windshield glass, as seen above.



Below is the new design, called a “beam blade” with the metal reinforcement made into the rubber. Voila, no weird freezing shapes in freezing temps.

They last twice as long and represent a quantum leap in safety.

Wiggle Driving

It was 9 above with light snow. The Interstate road surface was wet, but traction was decent. I wondered about the bridges, so I did a little wiggle maneuver going over one of them. Oh, my, the car was sliding slightly, which told me the bridge was slick. There had been no other warning signs for this condition. I’d been driving 75 mph.

This points up the need to know your car, pay attention and test the driving surface when appropriate. Salt barely has any effect on ice at temperatures of +10 deg and colder. Cold winds and no sun made the surface temperature of the bridges colder than the road pavement. This meant the bridges

were icy when the regular roads were simply wet. Learn how your car responds on dry pavement when you wiggle it at different speeds. This important feel will clue you as to road conditions.

Within 25 miles, there was a huge 4-door pickup truck wedged sideways on a bridge, blocking traffic for a mile. My information was correct and I was able to drive safely the rest of the way home.



Zap!

It can really hurt to grab a door handle getting out of a car and get zapped by sparks from static electricity. Spraying your car seats with a static guard spray can reduce shocking experiences.

Avoiding the curb

Ice in unforeseen places can be an expensive surprise. Taking a slow turn on city streets can find the front wheels sliding away on ice or snow, heading towards a curb.

The best defense is to get off the brake, shift to neutral and steer the vehicle. Slippery surfaces cause issues when the drive wheels in the front are trying to turn the wheels, the brakes are trying to slow the wheels and the ice is letting the wheels slide. This is particularly important in all wheel drive vehicles, as none of the wheels are getting traction if they're all linked together.

Try this out in slick conditions, it works great. It's best done in advance of the turn. Shifting to neutral at slow speeds won't hurt a thing. Practice it sitting still with your foot on the brake.

So, curb shot, it is

Sometimes, nothing we do will work and the front wheels are going to hit the curb. Damage can be reduced if you steer into the curb. Turn the wheels to allow the front wheels to roll up over the curb. Get off the brake and let the car roll.

You might not escape damage, but less harm comes when the wheels meet the curb straight on, as opposed to impacting it sideways.



Hand Warmers

Once you've got some heat flowing, switch the air output to dash vents and point the nearest vents to blow warm air onto the wheel. Ahh, warm hands.

Another Success

Shelli bought her 2001 Accord new and has brought it to us for regular maintenance ever

since. She now has 110,000 miles on it and it looks and drives like brand new.

It's had very few repairs and her total cost of maintenance has only been 6 cents a mile.

According to Edmunds.com "true cost to own a car", a new Accord will cost \$24,500 to own for 5 years excluding the cost of fuel. So, had she traded every 5 years (to keep a reliable car), she would now be on her 4th Accord and have spent roughly \$73,500.

Newer cars have far higher costs for taxes, license plates, insurance and interest. Buying a nice car and maintaining it with us is far less expensive.

Glut of Used Cars

If it is time for you to replace your car, this is a great year to do it. There is a larger number of cars coming off lease this year, driving the cost down. If you really want to save, find a nice sedan. Everyone wants an SUV, making sedans cost even less.

Get a **comprehensive inspection** performed on the car you own, to see if you want to keep it. Or find a car and get it checked to see if you want it. We fix up many cars for less than the cost of plates for a new one



Comprehensive Inspection \$65
Keep it, trade it or fix it & love it?

Decisions are made based on available information. The more accurate the information, the better the decision. Many cars can be made like new for less than the cost of taxes and plates on a new one.

Our inspection process is designed to give you what you need to decide what's best for you.. Get the whole picture and use financing if you wish. Offer ends 6/30/18

25 Wittbucks!

It's right on the front of our website. Go to www.georgewitt.com and print it. Or just mention it. There are some conditions, we won't just fork over cash.

Expires 6/30/18. It's \$25 off regular priced labor in excess of \$150. No, you won't be required to say "race car" backwards, unless you pay by check or cash. That's silly.

Did you also know that women who are a few pounds overweight actually live longer than those who mention it to them?

3% Cash Discount Coupon

Simply present this coupon for a 3% discount when you pay by cash (U.S. currency) or paper check. Offer ends 06/30/18. This is a coupon promotion and is not automatic when you pay. In addition, you must be able to correctly answer "Who's buried in Grant's Tomb?" Ends 6/30/18

Free Loaner Cars?

We used to provide free rides to work. This meant having an extra person on the payroll to do that, which was an enormous expense. There was also the issue of customers far apart needing rides at the same time.

We now have some very nice cars to loan when you drop off your car for scheduled service. Let us know when you make your appointment and you can drive a Witt car for the day *if one is available*. We only ask that you put gas in them. Small price, great convenience.



7am-5pm Mon-Thurs & Fri 7am- noon

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402-434-6961

Once a Year

Or 8,000 miles is often enough for us to help you reduce car expenses and prevent breakdowns. Our basic maintenance visit represents only 2 cents a mile.

We've carefully studied the performance of extended service fluids. Using our information to target less maintenance has resulted in *fewer breakdowns and repairs*.

We provide a greater level of service, improved convenience with loaner cars and, best of all, dramatically reduced overall ownership costs. It's a win!

Newsletter for Owners of Select Asian Cars

George Witt Service (Since 1995)
"Your Hometown Honda and Toyota Specialists"
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Lincoln NE 68504-1559

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Important Cold Weather Tip

Don't start your car in these temperatures just to move it. If you move it a short distance and then shut it off, the chances are very high it won't start again.

Cold starts coat the spark plugs with soot and on the next start attempt, the soot allows liquid gasoline to coat the spark plug, shorting it out and preventing a restart.

Driving it long enough to warm it up heats up the spark plugs and burns off the soot, much like the "self-cleaning" process on an oven. After warming the engine, give it a few light, but firm, bursts of acceleration to complete the cleaning process.



Don't use fancy spark plugs. The majority of "no-start, tow-in" cars that we've seen don't have the correct factory brand spark plugs in them.

New plugs are only needed about every 100,000 miles, anyway.

We keep it simple for you. We use the stuff that works.

Quick convenience tip: When you call to schedule an oil change or service work, have the miles on your car (odometer reading) handy. It helps us advise you on what the car needs, or if it even needs anything at all.