



Newsletter

"Best of Lincoln Award" 2018

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Fall 2021

New Text Number—402-858-7935

Answers to Quiz

1. False. That's what would make sense. Where else would oil go if it's not leaking? Engines consume or burn oil internally. In theory, it's not possible for an engine to *not* use some oil. We are seeing a number of cars come in with very little oil left in them.

Please, about once a month, pull that dipstick out and check the level, it's important. Add Mobil 1, Extended Performance oil. The weight for your engine is written on the oil fill cap right on top of the engine.

2. True. It's pretty well known that gas caps can set a light, so can low engine oil level in some cars. When in doubt, whip out that dipstick.

3. True. Body oils build up and attract dirt on the fabric of the belt. Clean the belt with a mild soap solution and use a cotton swab with alcohol on it to clean the metal loop above your shoulder. You may find a gross black build up. Let everything dry in the sun and you'll have less trouble with the belt.

4. False. The battery is the power source for the computer network in your car. A weak battery causes electronic havoc. We recently saw a car with a ton of rotating error codes that still started fine. After a lot of testing and evaluation, it turned out to be a weak battery with low voltage.

When to Buy a Battery...

We've tested thousands of cars. Mathematical probability formulas showed that battery failures in Lincoln, Nebraska ramp up dramatically at 39 to 42 months. You can save money when you just replace the battery as a maintenance item at 36 months.

Beats waiting 2 hours for a jump while you slowly freeze in the dark.

Jeannie Gives Up

She finally traded her 1999 CR-V for a new HR-V. Her total cost for maintenance and repairs over 20 years was a paltry 12 cents a mile. AAA just reported the cost of driving a new car is currently 48 to 77 cents a mile. It only makes sense to keep the car you love.

Chips Ahoy

The shortage of computer chips has slowed vehicle production and raised prices. This may continue through 2023. More reasons to keep your car.



TPMS—The Pony May

Stumble? Yes, the symbol does look like a horseshoe. It means you probably have a

low tire. For every 10 degree change in tire temperature, tire pressure changes 1 pound (psi).

So when temps go from 70 to 30, pressure drops 4 pounds. Fair enough. You can ignore it for now as long as it goes out again. **Don't ignore this light if it stays on for days.** We've had to replace tires damaged by running them too low. It might be a nail.

Catalytic Converter Thefts

This has become a huge crime problem. Converters contain precious metals, like platinum. Some have scrap values from \$300 to \$500. Thieves crawl under the car and cut them off in 2 minutes.

Quick tips:

Use the garage—If you have one, use it every time and keep the door closed.

Park where there is heavy foot traffic—Forget cameras, put your car near where people walk. Next best bet is the end spot where people drive.

Use the Panic Button—If you can see your car, keep your key fob handy and learn how to use the panic button feature. Keep the fob near your nightstand. It can also be useful if you hear things during the night.

Take the cheap fix—If yours is stolen, have a muffler shop install a cheap aftermarket replacement. They only have 20 bucks worth of stuff. You'll probably get passed next time.

Get Your Car Ready for Winter

Since you'll be using your garage, let's get it ready. The mice are moving in for the kill, right now.

First, cut off the food source. Seal all pet food and bird seed in metal containers.

Next, use the bye weeks to **get everything off the floor of the garage.** Eliminate all hiding places that you can. Mice don't like large open areas.

Move anything that might be used for bedding out of the garage. Newspapers, towels and blankets are all favorites.

Lift the hood and check for evidence of vermin. It will normally be on top of the engine. While the hood is open, **clean leaves off the air intake vents** at the base of the windshield to keep leaves from getting sucked in. Check the oil while you are there. :)

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Car Quiz

- 1. T or F—You only need to check the engine oil level if you have a leak.
- 2. T or F—If you get a "Check Engine" light, check the oil level
- 3. T or F—Seat belts slow to retract can often be fixed.
- 4. T or F—If your car starts readily, the battery is probably still good.

Answers inside.

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