

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE & SUMMER CAR CARE

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Currently a public and urban mass transport professional M. K. Soni has more than 21 years of global experience. His experience includes setting up of fleet operations (depot planning, recruitment, SOP's, security procedures etc.) from scratch, fleet maintenance and electric busses.

"Fleet Maintenance" is a routine recurring schedule of work which is implemented in order to keep vehicle in its original or designated capacity and efficiency. Maintenance can be of two types

1. Preventive Maintenance
2. Corrective Maintenance



Under Preventive Maintenance program, vehicles are being attended at a regular interval as per Kms/miles covered by the vehicles in order to avoid breakdowns.

While in Corrective Maintenance repair work is carried out only when vehicle breaks down (or is off road when driver reports any complaint)

Under preventive maintenance the vehicles are required to be attended for schedule maintenance as given below

1. Minor Preventive maintenance schedule

2. Major Preventive Maintenance Schedule
3. Reconditioning/Refurbishing/Mid-Life

Why Preventive Maintenance is Important...?

1. Companies that rely solely on Corrective Maintenance are actually waiting for a problem to happen, and this is very costly move. Companies with no preventive maintenance program are actually spending extra on maintenance because corrective maintenance always leads to surprise expenditure. Remember PM reduces unscheduled repairs and the higher costs relating to them.
2. Companies those who carry out preventive maintenance program properly would find increased life of vehicles and morale of driver is also high.
3. With proper preventive maintenance program companies face minimum breakdowns.
4. PM would help improve efficiency of vehicles like improved mileage of vehicles. With preventive maintenance program we had improved mileage by 22% in one of the companys.
5. With preventive maintenance life of vehicle is also improved and much, much more...

Very common summer car problems with preventive solutions



Overheating:

The cause of this problem is two-fold, so stop solely blaming summer's hot temperatures. The other cause is a faulty cooling system, making your car work harder to maintain a healthy temperature inside the cabin. If the warning light comes on or there's steam coming out from under (not above) your hood, the problem is serious. Pull over and call your local repair shop immediately.

How to prevent this problem: Check your fluids regularly, or have your mechanic check them at every oil change. Don't miss an oil change, and check under your car randomly to see if your car is leaking (beyond the regular dripping from your AC, that's normal). If you do have a leak, make an appointment with your mechanic and get the problem fixed and prevent overheating.

Remember: Overheating could even damage your engine.

Flat Tire:

Summer is hard on tires. Hot roads can make your tires flex more and can add stress to tires that are filled to the maximum air pressure. In addition, road construction can add to the amount of debris left on roads, leaving drivers stranded with a flat. Statistics says that maximum tire burst cases are recorded in summers.

How to prevent this problem: Know the right tire pressure for your car and check it regularly. If you happen to roll over a random nail or piece of metal, follow the steps for replacing your flat tire. Control over speeding during summer. I am big fan of Fast & Furious movie but would not try to do those stunts and risk my life.

Remember: Proper tire management can save huge amount in maintenance.