



WHAT TO CHECK BEFORE TRAVELING

When you're setting off on an exciting road trip to visit loved ones, the last thing you want is to have to worry that something costly and time-consuming will happen to your car while you're far away from home—or worse, that your family's safety is in jeopardy while on the road. Here are some of the things you must do before you travel by car to avoid mishaps and have a fun and successful trip.





Things to cross off your list before you depart

Change your oil if needed

The oil is the lifeblood of your engine, and if you take a long drive without adequate or clean oil in your engine you could be risking serious damage.

Check the condition of air filters

Starting off your trip with a clean engine air filter will boost the vehicle's performance and improve gas mileage. Meanwhile the cabin air filter is vital to ensure you are breathing clean air while you drive.

Inspect your spare tire or inflation kit

Check to make sure your spare tire is in good condition, or that you have everything you need for your emergency inflation kit if your vehicle did not come with a spare.

Download the entertainment for your trip

Whether it's music, podcasts, or audiobooks, you'll need plenty of entertainment to keep you engaged for your long trip.



Items you may need to bring

Charging cables

Make sure you have cables for all the devices you need, as well as adapters to charge in the car if necessary.

Battery jumping kit

A jump starter can be a lifesaver if your battery dies when there is no one else around.

Owner's manual

The original owner's manual should always be in your vehicle while you are operating it, but especially so when taking an extended drive.

What you should double-check just before leaving

Make sure your coolant level is adequate

Look at your coolant level and top off if you need to, and don't forget to inspect the hoses to see if there is any evidence of coolant leaking.

Inspect your lights

Check your headlights, high beams, taillights, brake lights, and turn signals before taking any road trip.

Perform a thorough check of your tires

Your tires will have a lot riding on them when you set off to visit your loved ones. Make sure they're up to the task by checking the air pressure, tread wear, and looking for any visual signs of degradation.

Getting your car serviced by an experienced mechanic before you leave is the best way to prevent a costly headache on the road.



We're here for you

At Big Chief Tire, our number one priority is to put our customers first and build relationships with them so they know their safety is important to us. We offer a full line of automotive services beyond tires including oil changes, brake servicing, and much more. [Make an appointment](#) at one of our Jacksonville locations so that your car will be ready for your big trip.

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