

# Frequently Asked Questions About Motor Vehicle Inspection

**1. Q** *If I sell my car do I need to have it inspected?*

**A.** Yes, if the car is more than six years old and sold to an individual and not used as a trade-in on another vehicle it must be inspected prior to sale. The exceptions to this are vehicles sold from dealer to dealer, or vehicles sold for junk, salvage, or rebuilding. In the latter case, the affidavit contained in the Official Inspection Regulations shall be presented by the buyer to the seller.

**2. Q** *When is an inspection required?*

**A.** Motor vehicles are not required to be inspected for the five-year-period following their model year of manufacture. Inspection is required within 60 days of application for registration; immediately prior to the sale of a used vehicle, if more than six years old except if the vehicle is sold for junk, salvage, or rebuilding; and, if involved in an accident and so directed by a police officer.

**3. Q** *Who can perform motor vehicle inspections?*

**A.** Mechanics who have at least one year of practical experience as an automobile mechanic or who have successfully completed a course of vocational instruction in automotive mechanics from a generally recognized educational institution. They must demonstrate their knowledge and ability to conduct an inspection in compliance with established procedures and be at least 17

years old and licensed by the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

**4. Q** *If the vehicle is rejected and repairs are made elsewhere, must I show a repair bill to the inspection station at the time of reinspection?*

**A.** No, since the inspector/mechanic visually rejected the vehicle, he must visually reinspect it. The reinspection shall take place in the area approved for inspection purposes. In most cases, the vehicle would have to be inspected inside the approved area.

**5. Q** *How long should I have to wait at the inspection station before I receive an inspection?*

**A.** Inspection station operators and/or inspector/mechanics are obligated to conduct inspections and reinspections of vehicles during normal business hours. A vehicle shall be inspected within two hours after being presented unless other vehicles are being inspected. When a vehicle is presented during the 20 day period for reinspections, a reinspection must begin within one hour.

**6. Q** *How much time does a person have to get their defects corrected before they must pay an additional fee?*

**A.** If a person returns the vehicle to the original inspection station within 20 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, the rejected items will be reinspected at no additional cost. The inspection station is only required to perform one free reinspection.

**7. Q** *If I have a complaint against an inspection station, who do I tell?*

**A.** There are nine Highway Patrol troops throughout the state. Contact the troop nearest you and explain the situation, in order that an immediate investigation may be made.

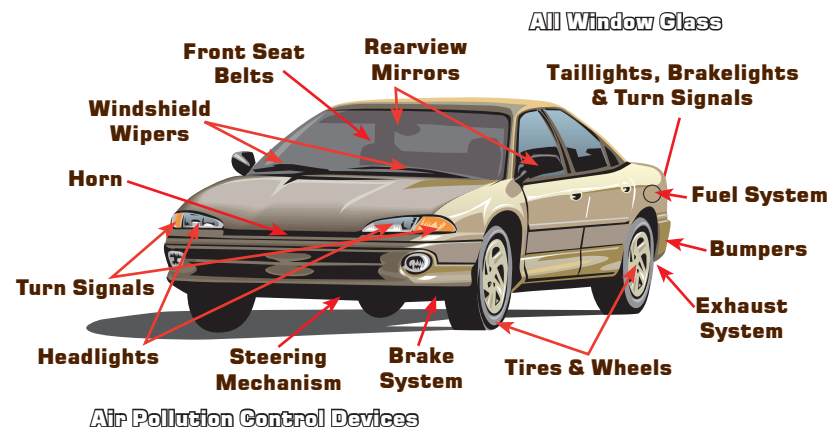
**8. Q** *What items are necessary for a person to take with them to the inspection station?*

**A.** The only items required for an inspection are the fee and the vehicle to be inspected. Proof of ownership and renewal notices are not necessary. The inspector/mechanic should obtain the needed information from the vehicle and the person presenting the vehicle.

**9. Q** *Can a vehicle which does not have a valid registration (license) be operated to an inspection station?*

**A.** Yes, but only for the purpose of obtaining an inspection and over the most direct route between the owner's usual place of residence and an inspection station. If repairs are needed, the vehicle may be operated from the inspection station to a place of repair and returned for reinspection provided the repairs are made within 20 days.

## THESE ITEMS WILL BE INSPECTED



## The Need For Motor Vehicle Inspection

There are three factors involved which contribute to the overall traffic crash experience. They are the driver, the roadway, and the vehicle. All of us have seen vehicles that prove many owners fail to properly maintain their vehicles. The function of the Missouri State Highway Patrol; Motor Vehicle Inspection Program is to identify these defective vehicles and cause them to be repaired or removed from the highways of the state. How, then, are we to accomplish this? The only way to be reasonably certain vehicles are maintained mechanically safe is through periodic motor vehicle inspection. Since the program began in 1969, over one million defects have been identified annually. This has contributed to the continual decrease in the death rate per 100 million miles.



## Have A Question Or A Problem?

There may come a time when you have a question or a problem concerning Missouri's Motor Vehicle Inspection Program. The Missouri State Highway Patrol is vitally interested in seeing that the program is administered properly and that the vehicle owner is treated fairly. If you should have any questions or problems, please call the troop headquarters or satellite in your area or the Motor Vehicle Inspection Division in Jefferson City, MO.

Missouri State Highway Patrol



For the Missouri State Highway Patrol Headquarters nearest you, consult your local phone directory.

### Emergency Highway Assistance

1-800-525-5555 or \*55

### Road Conditions

1-800-222-6400  
or (573) 526-8828

### Meth Hotline

1-888-823-METH (6384)

### Sex Offender Registry

1-888-SOR-MSHP



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