

# Classic Spring Check-Up

After standing idle for this long past Wisconsin winter, there are a number of items that require attention before that first trip. The whole inspection and maintenance procedure can be made much simpler if a garage hoist can be rented or used for the chassis, exhaust, and other work under the car.

To simplify this, I've made a check list starting under the car:

1. Wheels and tires--brakes:  
\_\_\_\_ Remove front wheels &  
\_\_\_\_ inspect brake linings.  
\_\_\_\_ Check front wheel bearings  
\_\_\_\_ & repack if needed.  
\_\_\_\_ Adjust front wheel bearings--  
\_\_\_\_ replace wheels-tighten  
\_\_\_\_ nuts.  
\_\_\_\_ Check tires for wear, cuts,  
\_\_\_\_ bulges, inflate to correct  
\_\_\_\_ pressure.  
\_\_\_\_ Remove rear wheels & in-  
\_\_\_\_ spect brake linings.  
\_\_\_\_ Replace drums, wheels &  
\_\_\_\_ tighten lug nuts.  
\_\_\_\_ Adjust brakes--parking  
\_\_\_\_ brake too.
2. Chassis & Exhaust System:  
\_\_\_\_ Inspect suspension for  
\_\_\_\_ signs of wear or breakage.  
\_\_\_\_ Inspect steering linkage--  
\_\_\_\_ replace or adjust as re-  
\_\_\_\_ quired.  
\_\_\_\_ Clean all grease fittings  
\_\_\_\_ and relube.  
\_\_\_\_ Inspect exhaust system for  
\_\_\_\_ leaks, rattles, etc.  
\_\_\_\_ Check shock absorbers for  
\_\_\_\_ fluid level, leaks & loose  
\_\_\_\_ linkage.
3. Drive system:  
\_\_\_\_ Check rear axle oil level.  
\_\_\_\_ Check transmission oil level.  
\_\_\_\_ Lube universal joint (s)  
\_\_\_\_ if required.

4. Engine Lube (while  
\_\_\_\_ you're under the car):  
\_\_\_\_ Drain crankcase and refill.  
\_\_\_\_ Also check lower radiator  
\_\_\_\_ hoses.
5. Cooling System:  
\_\_\_\_ Check radiator for signs  
\_\_\_\_ of leakage.  
\_\_\_\_ Check hoses and hose  
\_\_\_\_ clamps.  
\_\_\_\_ Check fan belt for  
\_\_\_\_ cracks, fraying, tension.  
\_\_\_\_ Water level OK--add rust  
\_\_\_\_ inhibitor & pump lube.  
\_\_\_\_ Lube water pump if re-  
\_\_\_\_ quired.  
\_\_\_\_ Check pump shaft packing  
\_\_\_\_ for leaks.  
\_\_\_\_ Check pump drive or  
\_\_\_\_ drive coupling.  
\_\_\_\_ Check thermostat or  
\_\_\_\_ shutters after starting  
\_\_\_\_ and warm-up.
6. Fuel System:  
\_\_\_\_ Filter clean and tight.  
\_\_\_\_ Fuel pump OK? When  
\_\_\_\_ was it last rebuilt?  
\_\_\_\_ Carb clean and adjusted.  
\_\_\_\_ Add fresh fuel.
7. Engine:  
\_\_\_\_ Add oil that you forgot  
\_\_\_\_ after draining crank-  
\_\_\_\_ case.  
\_\_\_\_ Ignition system--plugs,  
\_\_\_\_ wires, points.  
\_\_\_\_ Lube distributor if re-  
\_\_\_\_ quired.  
\_\_\_\_ Check for stuck exhaust  
\_\_\_\_ heat riser if used.
8. Electrical:  
\_\_\_\_ Inspect wiring for bare  
\_\_\_\_ wires, cracks, corrosion  
\_\_\_\_ on terminals.  
\_\_\_\_ Check battery--water  
\_\_\_\_ level, clean terminals,  
\_\_\_\_ age?  
\_\_\_\_ Lights--corrosion in  
\_\_\_\_ sockets?

8. Electrical: (continued)  
— Generator--brushes, charging rate, lube bearings.  
— Starter--brush condition? Lube if required.
9. Misc.  
— Windshield wipers work? Blades OK?

The chances are pretty good that if you've taken your pride and joy thru this list, you'll enjoy a summer of trouble-free classic motoring.

Jack Hoffman

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3. Oil coolers are very important for holding the temperatures below a certain level if babbitt bearings are used.

4. Oil coolers will decrease the oil warm up times in summer and winter (if so designed, they will actually function like an oil warmer).

5. Oil coolers are not subject to clogging if properly maintained; in fact, they can stand some abuse and still function.

Bill Bell

#### WANTED:

- ..One sidemount tread cover for a '37 Packard Super 8. The cover measures 65 in. in circumference.

- ..Two sidemount mirrors for the same.

- ..Hub Cap magazines for the years 1974, 1975, 1976.

Bill Bell  
351-2456

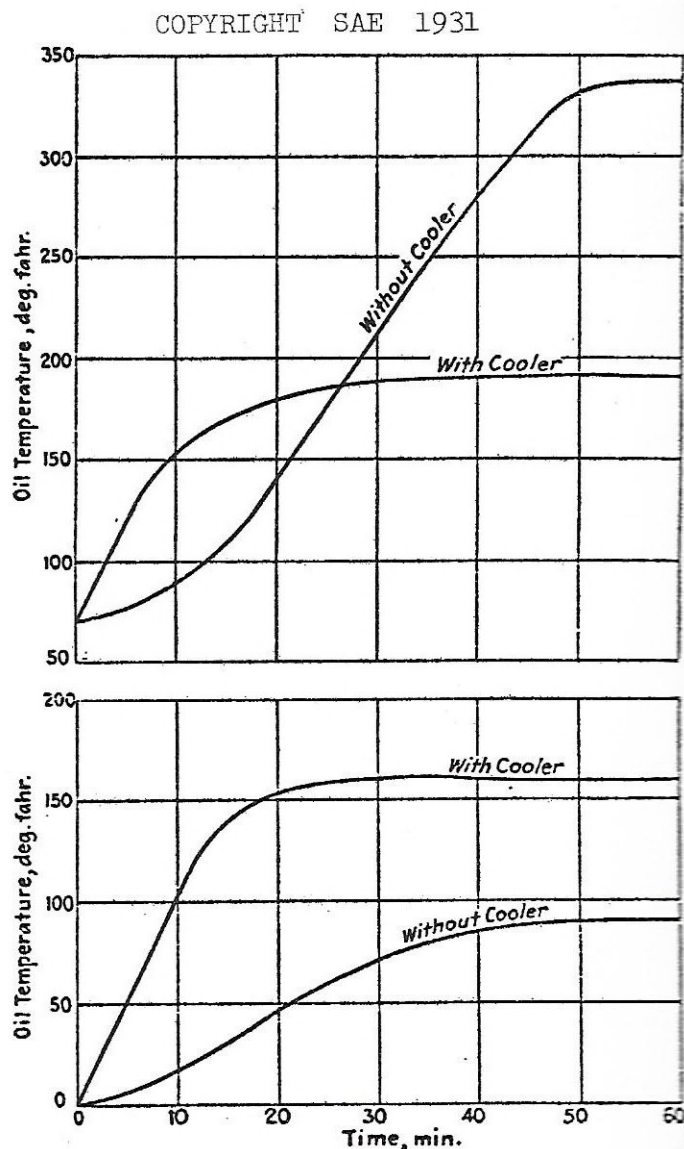


FIG. 2 —OIL-TEMPERATURE CONTROL RESULTING FROM INSTALLATION OF AN OIL-COOLER

The Upper Chart Is for High-Speed Summer Operation and the Lower Is for Winter Operation in Traffic