

# SKILLED FUTURES VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

## SKILLED FUTURES IN TRADES - AUTOMOTIVE

### AT HOME AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE TUNE UP

Regular auto maintenance is essential to keeping vehicles secure for the road and can help prevent unexpected issues. Having the knowledge to perform a routine auto tune up is a skill that can keep you safe and save on repair costs. All information provided is an overview; more specific information about your individual vehicle can be found in the owner's manual for your family's car.

#### TOOLS AND SUPPLIES YOU NEED:

A partner or a smartphone  
Tire gauge  
Tire inflator

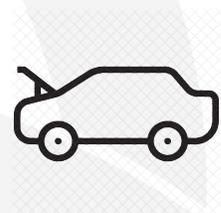
Paper towel  
Vehicle  
Windshield washer fluid

Start your engines! *No you are good to leave the car off.* Let's start the at home automotive service tune up.

**\* Adult Supervision is Recommended**

#### CHECK YOUR WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID:

Step 1 - Begin by lifting the hood. A lever will be located inside the car on the driver's side, below the dashboard or along the floorboard, labeled with a picture of a hood. Pull this to pop the hood open. The hood should be open slightly, but you will need to push a latch to the side that is located just under the middle of the hood. Once your hood is open, look for the prop and raise it to hold the hood open while you work.



Step 2 - Look for the washer fluid reservoir to the left of the engine towards the front. The cap will be labelled with a windshield symbol or might say windshield fluid. Be sure you've found the right reservoir before removing the cap.



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Step 3 - Remove the cap and check the levels of the fluid by looking at the side of the reservoir and locating the level lines. If the fluid does not reach the full line then begin to slowly pour the windshield fluid into the tank, stopping at the full line to avoid overflow. Put the cap back on the reservoir and turn until you hear it click.

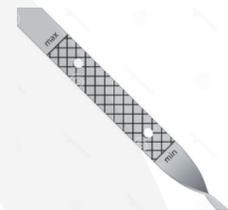
### CHECK YOUR OIL LEVELS:

\*SAFETY NOTE - Before starting, make sure the vehicle engine is turned off.

Step 1 - Start by lifting the hood and locating the oil dipstick. This is usually yellow or orange in color and may be labelled oil, you can also find it by referencing the owner's manual.



Step 2 - Next you will need a rag or paper towel handy as you pull the dipstick out. Wipe off any excess oil and reinsert the dipstick into the tube for about 3 sec. Pull the dipstick back out and take notice of the bottom of the dipstick where there will be notches indicating the oil level.



You will want your oil to be as close to the top notch as possible, which indicates that the oil level is full. You might also take note of the quality of the oil. If the oil is amber to deep brown it means the quality of the oil is okay, but anything darker will need to be changed.

### CHECK YOUR TIRE PRESSURE:

\* For this task you will need to be at a service station where an air machine is located.

Step 1 - Before checking or adjusting your tire pressure it is important to know the proper operating pressure for your tires. This number can be located in the



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owner's manual of your family vehicle or can be found listed inside the driver's door.

Step 2 - Once you have located the proper inflation number, start by twisting the cap off the tire valve. Use your tire gauge or the gauge provided on the air hose. Push it onto the valve stem to read the number. If the gauge indicates your tire pressure is too low, you can add air to it to reach the desired number.

Use the tire gauge to recheck the pressure. If the pressure is too high, use the back of the tire gauge to apply pressure to the valve stem and release air. Finish by twisting the cap back into the valve.



## Do you want to share your experience for a chance to win a prize?

Take a picture of you performing your automotive tune up and share it with us on Facebook and/or Instagram by including #SkilledFutures in your post and tagging @SkillsNS.

**HAPPY TUNING!**

## CAREER CONNECTIONS - AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

This activity can be connected to the following careers in the transportation industry:

Automotive Master Technician  
Automotive Service Technician

Specialty Service Technician  
Diesel Service Technician



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## CURRICULUM OUTCOME CONNECTIONS

The Skilled Futures Virtual Experience has been confirmed with representatives from the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development to connect with the following curriculum outcomes:

### Grade 11 Transportation Trade

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of work and working conditions in the transportation trades
2. Identify the work of Automotive Service Technician, Heavy Duty Equipment Technician, Motorcycle Mechanic, Motor Vehicle Body Repairer, Partsperson, Recreation Vehicle Service Technician, Transport Trailer Technician, Truck and Transport Mechanic and the roles and responsibilities of people working in those trades
3. Demonstrate an ability to sequence tasks
4. Recognize established work specifications in the transportation trades and perform work meeting those specifications
5. Model the employability skills required for successful employment in the transportation trades
6. Demonstrate an understanding of, and apply, workplace health and safety practices and procedures in various work situations

