Vehicle Safety Checks – Skoda Octavia



A presentation meant as a preparation for the practical exam with this car

Introduction

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In this presentation you will find answers and guidance on how to solve the first part of the partial exam; Vehicle Safety Checks.

This counts for smaller part of the assessment basis for the exam, but it will make a good first impression if you are able to solve these questions in a good way. You can study and practice this at home, but it also a good idea to do a complete walk-through of the car you're driving with your instructor. The pictures in this particular presentation are from a Skoda Octavia used by Wright Trafikkskole. If you drive a different car with Wright you may find another presentation that matches that car better. There may be variation between this car and the one you drive at home. Ask your instructor about possible differences.

Vegtrafikklovens § 23. Ansvaret for kjøretøyets stand m.m.

Før kjøringen begynner, skal føreren forvisse seg om at kjøretøyet er i forsvarlig og forskriftsmessig stand og at det er forsvarlig og forskriftsmessig lastet. Han skal sørge for at kjøretøyet også under bruken er i forsvarlig stand og forsvarlig lastet. Eier av kjøretøy eller den som på eierens vegne har rådighet over det, plikter å sørge for at kjøretøyet ikke brukes dersom det ikke er i forsvarlig stand. Endret ved lov 4 juli 1991 nr. 49.

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Vehicle registration certificate

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The Vehicle Registration Certificate works as the cars ID. Here you will find information about who owns the car and when it was first registered, as well as the vehicles dimensions and limits regarding weight etc. It will also show you what wheels the car should be equipped with.

Kjøretøygruppe, teknisk Antall sitteplasser i alt 6. Farge/registreringsdistrikt/registreringskoder Antall aicsler Antall aksler med drift Aksel 2: 205/60R15 6.0D016 Alt. 1: 215/50R18 Alt. 2: 205/60R16 M+S 215/50R18 205/60R16 M+S 6.0.X16 6.00016 215/55R17 6.0JX17 Page 9 7. Typegodkjenning e13*2007/46*1845*18 DTTCX1AC4 Standstøy (db(A)) Ved Omdreiningstall CO2-utslipp (g/km) Kombinert forbruk (1/100 km) Page 5 Miliaklasse Euro 14. Tilhengerkopling Energekt med farer illatt nyttelast inkl. pass Godkjent som Førerprøve og Lærevogn, for klasser B, B 96, BE 1819 4234 1531 Lengde 10. Motor/drivverk Slagvolum (cm3) Motoreffekt (KW)



Payload (the cars capacity to carry passengers and cargo))

(F.1/F.2)	Tillatt totalvekt	: 1950		
	Tillatt aksellast	: 1020 / 970		
(G)	Egenvekt med fører	: 1536		
	Tillatt nyttelast inkl. passasjerer	: 414		
(F.3)	Tillatt vogntogvekt	: 3550		
(0.1)	Tillatt hengervekt med brems	: 1600		
(0.2)	Tillatt hengervekt uten brems	: 720		1231116
	Tillatt koplingslast	: 80	1	
	Tillatt taklast	: 75		

What is the payload of this vehicle now when its already carrying one driver and one passenger?

Answer: The weight of the driver is already included in «Egenvekt med fører», so you can disregard your own weight. The weight of the passenger must be subtracted from «Tillatt nyttelast inkl. passasjerer». Meaning: 414kg – Passenger weight = Remaining payload (see example)

What could be the disadvantages of carrying too much weight in the car?

Answer: Reduced Braking and acceleration performance. Insufficient steering and loss of traction on the front wheels.

Example:

Payload (Tillat nyttelast)	414kg
- <u>passenger weight</u>	80kg
= Remaining payload	334kg

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Trailer weight, limited by this vehicle

(F.1/F.2)	Tillatt totalvekt	: 1950		
(1.41.2)	Tillatt aksellast	: 1020 / 970		
(G)	Egenvekt med fører	: 1536		
(0)	Tillatt nyttelast inkl. passasjerer	: 414		
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(0.2)	Tillatt hengervekt uten brems	: 720	A THE ST	
	Tillatt koplingslast	: 80		
	Tillatt taklast	: 75		



What's the highest allowed trailer weight you can tow with this vehicle?

Answer: Find the Vehicle Registration Certificate and look for «tillatt hengervekt med brems». Here 1600kg.

What could be the disadvantages of towing too heavy trailer?

Answer: Reduced Braking and acceleration performance. Instability when turning, insufficient steering and loss of traction on the front wheels

Notice that the towing capacity is limited to 720kg when the trailer is not equipped with brakes.

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Trailer weight, limited by your driving license

Tillatt totalvekt	: 1950	
Tillatt aksellast		
Egenvekt med fører	: 1536	
	: 414	
Tillatt vogntogvekt	: 3550	
Tillatt hengervekt med brems	: 1600	
Tillatt hengervekt uten brems	: 720	
Tillatt koplingslast	: 80	
Tillatt taklast	: 75	
	Egenvekt med fører Tillatt nyttelast inkl. passasjerer Tillatt vogntogvekt Tillatt hengervekt med brems Tillatt hengervekt uten brems Tillatt koplingslast	Egenvekt med fører : 1536 Tillatt nyttelast inkl. passasjerer : 414 Tillatt vogntogvekt : 3550 Tillatt hengervekt med brems : 1600 Tillatt hengervekt uten brems : 720 Tillatt koplingslast : 80

What's the highest allowed trailer weight you can tow with this vehicle with a Class B license?

Answer: The Class B Driver License is limited to 3500 kg Gross Combined Weight Rating ("tillatt totalvekt" car and trailer). We calculate like this:

3500kg – The vehicle weight limit = What you can tow

Example:

License limit 3500kg

- Vehicle weight limit (tillatt totalvekt) 1950kg

= Tow limit with Class B license 1550 kg

N.B. The answer refers to the weight limit found in the Trailer's own Registration Certificate and applies whether the trailer is empty or loaded

What are the possible consequences of towing a trailer with too high weight limit?

Answer: The Vehicle combination (car and trailer) can experience reduced braking, steering and acceleration performance if the trailer is too heavy for the car. It's also illegal to tow a trailer with too high weight limit and it will be subjected to big penalties and fines.

Did you know...?

You can actually drive a car and trailer with a combined weight rating up to 4250 kg with a regular driver's license, if the car has a maximum permitted weight of 3500 kg, and the trailer not more than 750 kg??



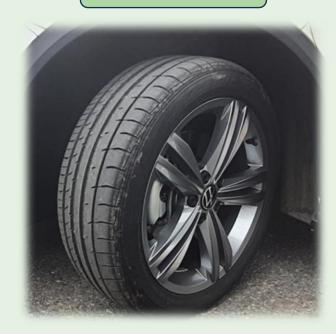
Summer Tires.

Bigger surfaces between treads than Winter tires, so a greater part of the tires body and surface interact with the road.

The rubber blend is harder on summer tires.

Notice the continuous grooves going in the direction of the wheel's rotation. This is for better grip on wet road.

Minimum tire tread depth 1.6 mm



Minimum tire tread depth 3,0 mm



Marked with M+S or Snowflake symbol

Winter Tires.

Notice that the surface is interrupted by more grooves and sipes than the Summer tire.

Softer rubber blend provides better grip in winter conditions and low temperatures.

The tread pattern is more across the rotation direction for better grip on snow and ice but may result in increased risk of aquaplaning.

Tire dimensions

Width and height ratio (%)

Rim size diameter. Inches.



mm width





Practical task: Check that the tire dimension is correct on all four wheels.

Execution: Look at the numbers on the sidewall and make sure they match the numbers in the Vehicle Registration Certificate. If they don't match «Standard» see if you can find that they match an «Alternative».

Practical task: Check that the tire's Load Index is correct.

Execution: As above. The Vehicle Registration Certificate says minimum 91. The marking on the tire in this picture says 95, well above minimum. These are numbers in a chart indicating how much weight each wheel can carry.

In the Vehicle Registration Certificate and on the sidewall of the tire you will find a letter indicating how high speed the tires can be driven in; «Min hast». Winter tires are exempted this demand and must only be marked with Q or above.

Damage on Tire and Wheel

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Practical task: Check tires and rims for damage.

Execution: Walk around the car and look for damage as shown on these pictures.



«Curb Rash». Usually just cosmetic but can also cause vibrations during drive.



Tear in the sidewall. Increased risk of puncture when subjected for greater load or speed.



Bent wheel (Rim). Increased risk of pressure loss.

These are the most common damages on tires and rims but punctures, cracked rims and bulges on the sidewall may also occur.

Wear and tread dept

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Practical task: Check the wear on each wheel.

Execution: Study the tread depth on the outer and inner side, as well as the center of the surface area (picture),

and check if the wear is even.

Surface

area

What can the wear tell you?

Answer: Excessive wear at the center of the surface area may indicate that tires has been driven with too high pressure. Excessive wear on the inner and outer parts may indicate that the pressure has been too low. If a tire shows excessive wear on only one of the sides it may indicate a faulty wheel suspension, making the tire roll incorrectly on the road surface

Minimum limit for tread depth on summer tires is 1,6mm.
On winter tire the limit is 3,0mm.

-This is the absolute minimum. It's recommended to replace the tires before such low measures.

Wear indicators

Practical task: Measure tread depth on one of the tires.

Answer: Use a designated instrument (picture below) on the most represented part of the surface area and read the result. You mat also look for the wear indicators (picture to the left) and make sure that the rubber is not worn all the way down to

these.

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This winter tire was measured to 7,3 mm – Well above minimums.

Pressure

What is the correct tyre pressure?

Answer: Open the fuel filler cap and check the chart.



The chart shows the correct pressure front and rear, and that it should be adjusted according to how much the car is loaded. Front is stated from 2.5 to 2.8 depending on rim size and load. The rear varies in the same way and should be raised all the way to 3.5 bar for heavy loads on the 17-inch wheel.

Practical	task:	Check the	air pressur	e in all wheels
Practical	task:	Check the	pressure in	all tires.



Execution: If the yellow instrument cluster waring is not lit, everything should be in order. You may do a visual walkaround just to see if one tire sticks out from the rest in terms of how much the tire is bulging. If you do have a designated instrument, you may measure the pressure precisely. Make sure that no air escapes when you place the instrument on the valve. Use both hands and push firmly.

		nr = 100 KF np = 100 KF	1a 125	70 R18
	111		†††	Most in
R16	2,6	2,7	2,7	3,4
R17	2,7	2,8	2,8	3,5
R18	2,5	2,5	2,6	3,3
R19	2,6	2,7	2,7	3,4

Temperature affects air pressure so an increase of 0,2 bars is recommended on winter tires.

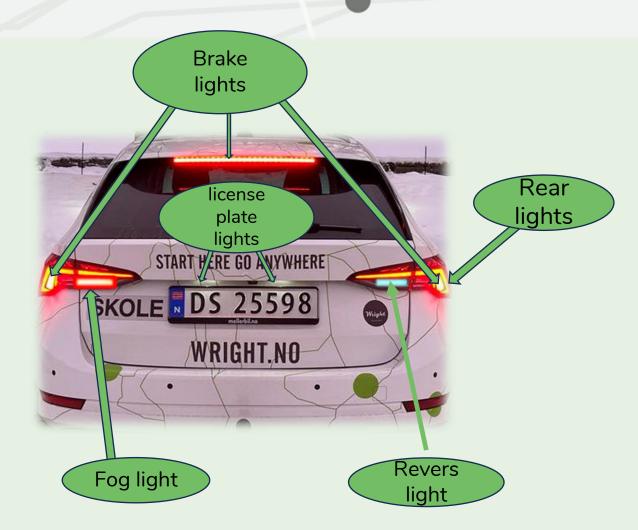


Lights









Low beam- and High beam (Headlights)

Practical task: Check that low beam is working and correctly adjusted. Execution: Turn the light switch all the way to the right to turn on the low beam. Move the car towards a wall and see if right and left beam hits the wall at the same height. You may also stand in front of each lamp to see if the lights hit you at the same height.



When executing practical tasks and light inspections you need to push the "START" button without pressing the brake pedal to turn on the electrical power. – or start the engine completely so that everything is working!!





What are the disadvantages with headlights that are not properly adjusted?

Answer: If the headlights are adjusted too high, they may project a blinding glare onto oncoming traffic. If adjusted too low your visibility will be limited.

Lights on this car are automatically height adjusted but this test may be useful to discover inconsistency between left and right headlight..





Practical task: Check if high beam is working.

Execution: Set the light switch as previously shown and push the indicator handle away from you. This symbol should then appear in you instrument cluster

Low beam minimum is 40 m.
High beam minimum is 100m

Brake lights and Hazzard lights

Practical task: Check that the brake lights are working.

Execution: Put the Warning triangle or the snow brush on the brake pedal and move the seat forward to hold id in place and activate the brake lights for you. Walk behind the car and make sure all three lights are working. (see picture on page 13

Is it responsible to drive without working brake lights?

Answer: No! Traffic behind you will not recognize that you are braking, and it may cause dangerous situations.

Practical task: Check that all the hazard lights are working.

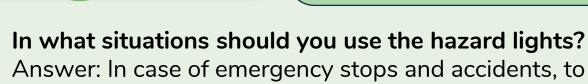
Execution: Press the button on the picture. Og out of the car and inspect all indicator lights in front, rear and in the side view mirrors.

Wriaht



warn other traffic

Remember to turn of any other lights on the car to make the hazard lights more visible.

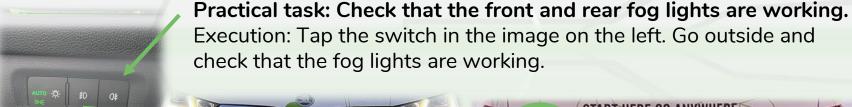






Fog lights and Parking lights





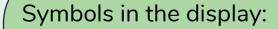


What are the disadvantages with incorrect use of fog lights?

Answer: The fog lights can be blinding to other traffic, especially in the dark.

Practical task: Check that the parking light is working.

Answer: Press the button on the far left of the image until "parking lights" appear in the display.



Rear fog lights:



Fog lights in front:



Parking lights:







In what situations is it important that the parking lights are used?

Answer: When stopping in the dark to drop off passengers, so that other cars can more easily see them when they have exited the car. Parking lights are important to use when standing still so that you are not confused with a moving car. Then other cars can continue to use high beams as they pass you, and more easily detect dangers.

Rear lights and license plate lights



Practical task: Check that the rear lights and license plate lights.

Execution: Turn the switch to low beam, then the rear lights will come on. Go behind and see that the rear lights and license plate lights are lit.

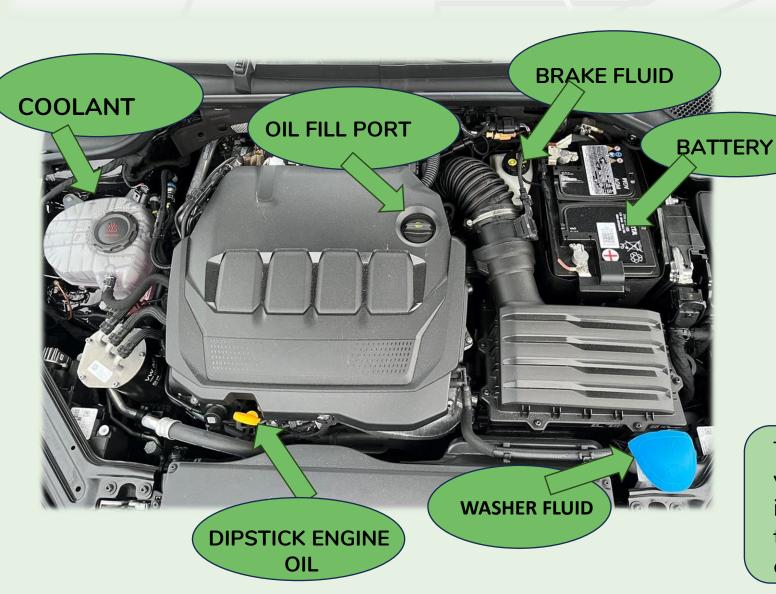








Engine compartment









Above you can see how the engine compartment opens. First pull the handle in the doorway (driver), then a lock under the hood that must be pushed to the left. When the hood is lifted up, it will support itself.

This overview shows you the most important features of the engine compartment.

Brake fluid and Engine oil



Practical task: Check the brake fluid level.

Execution: Locate the brake fluid container and shake it. See if you can see how high in the reservoir the brake fluid is sloshing. Must be above the minimum mark. Low levels will normally trigger a red warning light in the instrument cluster.

What do you do if the level is too low?

Answer: The car cannot be driven at too low a level, because that indicates a leak in the system.

Practical task: Show where you add engine oil.

Execution: Open the bonnet and point at the engine oil filling point.



Practical task: Check engine oil level.

Answer: Pull up the dipstick, wipe with paper, re insert the dipstick (completely), and pull it out again. The oil level must be within the textured section on the stick.















Engine oil can be topped up yourself. If the level is very low, try with 0.5 liters, wait a few minutes, and take a new measurement.

Battery and Washer fluid

Practical task: Check that the battery is properly fastened.

Answer: Firmly grasp the battery and move it back and forth to feel that it is secure. A good suggestion might be to pull up the "handles" on the battery to get a good grip.

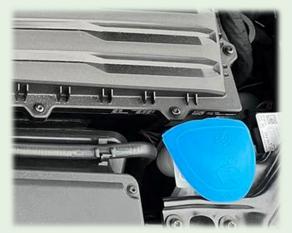


What can a loose battery lead to?

Answer: It may cause short circuits and fatigue breaks in the wires. In addition, the battery contains acid that can damage the car or other components in the engine compartment if the battery is damaged or tips over so that the acid leaks out.

Practical task: Show where to add washer fluid.

Execution: Open the hood and show the washer fluid filling point.





It is not possible to visually check the washer fluid level. The filling is just on top of a tube that leads to the container itself that is hidden further down. But the symbol above lights up a while before it is completely empty.

Brake booster and Power steering

Praktisk oppgave: Sjekk at bremsekraftforsterkeren virker.

Execution: The most traditional way is pressing the pedal many times with the engine off, also starting the engine with pressure on the pedal, does not work on all new cars. On many models, including this one, there are electronic solutions that are more difficult to test. Here you simply must brake the car at low speed and feel how hard you have to push. The car should stop effectively with little pressure on the pedal if the brake booster is working properly.



Is it safe to drive if it doesn't work?

Answer: No. The brake pedal becomes very heavy and gives poorer braking effect.



Practical task: Check that the power steering is working.

Execution: Try turning the steering wheel when the engine is not running. Then you will "feel resistance" quite quickly and the steering wheel will not turn any further if you try to turn it with normal force. Continue to hold the pressure while starting the engine. Then the steering wheel should give way and the resistance will be gone. You can also look for the power steering warning cluster.

Is it safe to drive if it doesn't work?

Answer: On many modern cars, the steering will be so heavy that it can be irresponsible to drive without power steering. The fact that the warning light for the Power steering is red also indicates that you should not drive with a fault on this system.

Steering and stability



Practical task: Check if the car is pulling to one side while braking. Execution: Use a smooth surfaced and straight stretch to build up some speed (10-15 km/h). Brake normally without holding the steering wheel. The car should go straight ahead.

What does it indicate if the car is pulling to one side during this test? This test is to detect faults with the brakes that cause the wheels to not brake equally and may lead you to lose control during hard braking. Other factors that can cause this test to give undesirable results are different air pressure in the tires or that the road you were braking on was very rutted. Check air and try again on a different surface.



Practical task: Check that the car is directionally stable while driving.

Execution: Find a straight stretch with little traffic, or a parking space where you can drive straight ahead at low speed (20km/h) Carefully loosen the grip around the steering wheel and see if the car continues straight ahead. (don't let go completely) Then take a turn at an intersection, or if possible, turn around in the parking lot and release your grip on the steering wheel on the way out of the bend. Notice if the steering wheel returns to straight by itself and the car drives straight ahead again (self-alignment).

What could be the reason as to why the car pulls to one side?

Answer: The above tests are to detect faults in the suspension and steering. Here, too, you can get undesirable results if the tires have different air pressure, or the road is very rutted. Check air and try again on a different surface.

Warning triangle





Practical task: Set up the warning triangle.

Answer: Find and assemble the warning triangle. It's very good if you already know where it is in the car you're using, and that you've tried to assemble it before. Will you find it in a storage net in the trunk, or in a designated place – such as here in the tailgate.



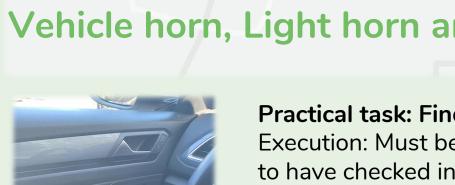
Where will you place the warning triangle if you have to deploy it?

Answer: Basically, we say that within densely populated areas, it is 50-100 meters behind the car. While Outside densely populated areas, and higher speedlimits, we say 150-250m. In addition, you must consider other factors with the road, such as bends or hilltops, or whether the situation requires you to put your triangle correspondingly far from the accident scene in the other direction.

.. or do we have to go all the way here?



Vehicle horn, Light horn and High visibility reflective vest



Practical task: Find the reflective vest.

Execution: Must be within reach of the driver. Good to have checked in advance where it is in the car you are using. Put it on BEFORE you exit the car to place the warning triangle, even in daylight.

Practical task: Check the vehicle horn and light horn.

Execution: Press in the centre of the steering wheel to honk.

Pull the turn signal switch to flash the high beams.





Seatbelt





Practical task: Check all seat belts.

Answer: Pull out the entire belt roller and check for chipped edges, creases and twists, and that the plastic on the shackle is intact. Pull the belts to check the belt tensioner. Release the belt and se if it quickly retract into the rollers. Check that the bracket "clicks" into place as it should.

What are the risks of slack rollers?

Answer: The belt will not be held close enough to the body and will not work properly in the event of an accident or sudden stop.

Cargo securing

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Practical task: Check that the car is properly loaded.

Answer: Check that there are no loose items inside the passenger compartment

or in the trunk.

Any objects must be secured in a proper manner so that they cannot move at the moment of collision.





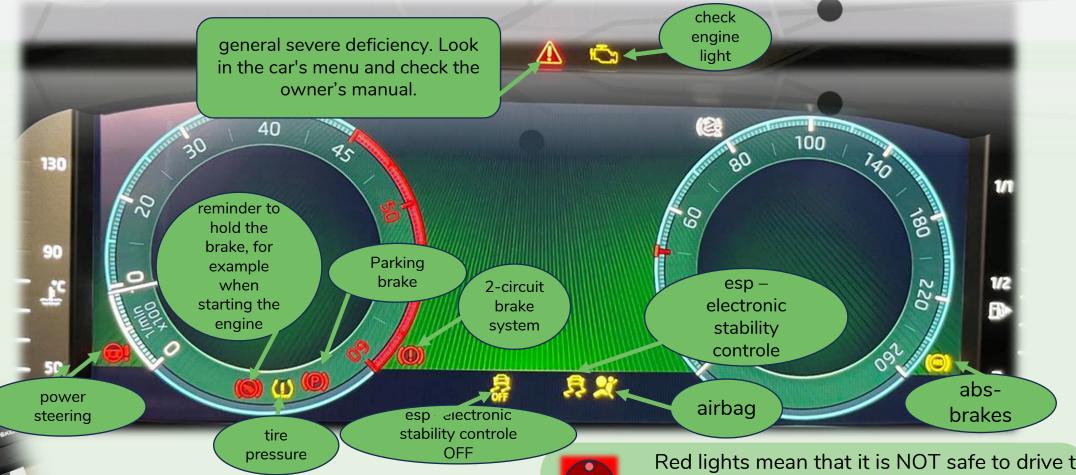




Objects that have time and space to gain speed before it hits something or someone can do great damage to themselves, the car, and most importantly; the people inside the car. Heavy, loose loads can, in the worst case, knock trough the back of the rear seats.

Instrument cluster warning lights





All functions and warning messages are well explained in the car's owner's manual. These can often be found online as well. There is a lot that is identical on all cars, but there can also be some variations from one car to another.

Re car the

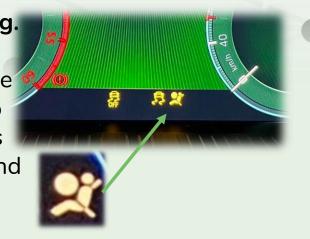
Red lights mean that it is NOT safe to drive the car. Have the car towed to a workshop or see if the problem can be solved before you drive.



Yellow lights mean that something is not right. Evaluate the weather and road conditions and the necessity of the trip. Warning light, airbag

W.

Practical task: Check that the airbag warning light is working. Execution: Press the start button without holding the brake (engine does not start). The warning light should appear on the screen for a few seconds. After this, the lamp should go out to show that everything is in order. The warning light that shows whether the airbag on the passenger side is active can be found in the ceiling by the interior lighting.





Does it matter which passengers you place in the front seat when the car has an airbag?

Answer: Children in a rear-facing child seat should NOT sit in front of an active airbag. The airbag deploys with such violent force that the seat and the child will be injured. Front passengers should also not have a height below 140cm due to the airbag's point of impact. It can be turned off using a key.



Warning lights, brakes





Practical task: Check that the warning light for ABS brakes is working.

Execution: Press the start button without holding the brake (engine does not start). The warning light should appear on the screen for a few seconds. After this, the lamp should go out to show that everything is in order.

What do you do if the light appers when you are driving?

Answer: The car's brakes work just as well as usual, but the ABS function is out of order. This means that the wheels will lock in the event of hard braking or slippery conditions, making it easier to lose control of the car. The car can be driven, but the fault should be rectified at the workshop as soon as possible.



Practical task: Check that the warning light for the two-circuit brake system is working.

Answer: Press the start button without holding the brake (engine does not start). The warning light should appear on the screen for a few seconds. After this, the light should go out to show that everything is okay

What do you do if the light appears when you are driving?

Answer: Stop and call roadside assistance! The light is red and indicates a serious leak or malfunction with the brake system.

Fan and Heater(most important functions)

Heated rear window: "REAR" Remove

Air recirculation is used in tunnels or other areas with highly polluted air, but be aware that this can cause more dew on the inside of the windows





Practical task: Show how to remove ice and dew from the windshield most effectively.

Execution: Direct all the heated air towards the windscreen by pressing MAX below the screen in the middle of the car. Then set the temperature on the bottom of the screen to HI) if it does not happen automatically.

Practical task: Adjust the heater to your liking for a drive.

Answer: Turn the temperature adjustment for the driver (18-23 degrees, usually). You get the best use of the heater for the selected temperature if you press the "auto" button.

Dew and ice on mirrors are removed with a switch on the door handle.

Press "Clima" to open the heater's menu for more options such as "auto" and recirculation.



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Practical task: Check that the windscreen wipers are working.

Answer: Look at the handle to find what you need. Up and down adjusts the speed of the front windshield wipers. Back and forth applies washer fluid front and rear, as well as operating rear wipers

Practical task: Check that the windscreen washer is working.

Answer: Look at the handle to find what you need. Pull to spray on windshield, push to spray on the rear window.

Praktisk oppgave: Kontroller viskerbladene.

Execution: Turn the power on and off with the start button and hold down the windshield wiper switch until the wipers come up on the window and stop there. Then the wipers can be flipped out and inspected. Check that the rubber blade is connected to the rest of the wipers. and see if there is anything stuck between the rubber blade and the window, e.g. snow or leaves. Also check for cracks and tears in the rubber blade.







Adjustments of steering wheel and seat





Practical task: Show how to adjust the seat and steering wheel before driving.

Execution: First, set the seat at the height and distance to the pedals that suits you. Next, set the angle of your back and the height of the headrest. Finally, adjust the steering wheel as follows:

Press down on the lever on the left side of the steering column so that the steering wheel is "loose". Move the steering wheel to the desired position and push the lever back up to lock the steering wheel. The steering wheel must be positioned so that you can see the instruments and have enough rom for your arms. Elbows shall not touch the seat back.

What is the disadvantage of incorrect sitting position?

Answer: In addition to ensuring good visibility, the way you sit in the seat, and adjust it before driving, will determine how well you feel the car's movements, as well as how safe you are in the event of a collision. This may be called Anchoring or Grounding. If your back is too steep, you will "roll" out of the seat when cornering, if your back is too reclined, you can slip under the seat belt in the event of a collision. If the steering wheel is too close, or there is something between the steering wheel and you, the airbag can injure you.

Driver assistance systems

ACC- Adaptiv Cruice control:

Keeps the distance to the car in front up to set speed, and down to a complete stop.

Fatigue warning: The car registers how long it has been driven without a break and whether the driving behavior changes.

Practical task: Show which driver assistance systems there is on this car.

Answer: Have the ignition on, press the "SET" button below

screen (or "menu"), and select "ASSISTANTS".

Then this overview of driver assistance

systems is displayed.

Here you will find info about the different systems, and you can engage, disconnect and adjust them.

Lane assist: Keeps the car between visible lines on the road in case the driver is inattentive or distracted.

Front Assist - Emergency Brake Assist: Detects obstacles and traffic stops, and assists with alarm and emergency braking.

Emergency assist: The systems will work together if the driver falls asleep or is incapasitated in any ways while driving with the cruise control on. The car first warns the driver with a message on the screen, then alarm, tightening of the seatbelt, and braking. If the driver still does not intervene, the car will stop, honk and activate the hazard lights. The doors are also unlocked so that you can get help.

Trafikkskiltgjenkjenning:

Displays registered traffic signs, such as hazard signs and speed limits, so that It will be easier to drive legally and safely.

Blind Spot and Exit Warning: If traffic is detected in a blind spot driver will be alerted by a yellow light in the door mirror, or with an alarm if they open the door to exit the car.