

## *Car Care Myths and Mistakes*

Times change, people change, and cars have changed, dramatically. Often, the car advice your Dad once gave you when you were young no longer applies to the modern and very sophisticated vehicles we own and maintain today.



*Check your owner's manual, not the weather forecast...*

### **Winterize: Myth**

Typical car maintenance does not necessarily need to be tied to the seasons. This advice goes without saying however, that you should be performing the recommended maintenance outlined in your owner's manual. Notably, during colder months, you should keep more gas in your vehicle to help prevent damaging moisture buildup.

### **No need for a tire gauge: Mistake**

It is good practice to regularly check the air pressure in your tires using a tire gauge, especially as winter approaches. Air inside your tires will lose an estimated two pounds of air pressure for every ten degrees of outside temperature.

### **Warming-up: Myth**

Harshly operating your vehicle when it is cold can be harmful, but letting the car idle for an extended period of time does not necessarily result in a benefit to the vehicle. Your best bet is to drive gently until the vehicle warms-up. Driving gently for a few minutes also helps your brakes warm-up as they can go from zero to 200 degrees quickly with a hard stop. This sudden temperature change promotes warping of brake rotors.



### **3,000 miles = oil change: Myth**

Many people have been trained to change their vehicles oil every three months or 3,000 miles. This old-school rule-of-thumb does not take into account the vast improvements in engines or synthetic oils. The best advice is to always refer to your car manufacturer's suggested oil change interval – which is typically longer than 3,000 miles.

See your local dealer for applicable car care facts.