



**FREE Fall/Winter 2015**

**Auto Guide**

Supplement to the Tribune



# Drivers forget where they park and more



(BPT) - Although our everyday routines can be simple and second nature, there's only so much we can remember. And when it comes to cars and car maintenance, many Americans frequently forget routine tasks according to the latest Gauge Index from Hankook Tire.

When running errands, we park our cars, walk into the

store, check our lists, pay for what we need, get back in our cars and drive to the next stop. But most Americans have found themselves wandering around a parking lot because they can't find their car, according to Hankook Tire's Seasonal Gauge Index. In fact, the Gauge revealed that 55 percent of Americans have forgotten where they parked at least once.

Hankook also found that a significant number of drivers have gotten into trouble after

parking by locking their keys in the car. Forty-one percent of Americans have had to call a locksmith or find a spare set of keys to get back on the road.

When you are in the thick of daily errands, there is likely a need for a fuel stop. The stress that can come with the overwhelming daily list of things to do can distract you from the little things you need to do, like closing the gas cap. One third of Americans have forgotten to put the gas cap back on after fueling up,

according to the Gauge Index. Further, more than a quarter of Americans have a tendency to drive off with items on the top of their cars such as groceries, a cup of coffee or even a purse.

For those who forget how to get where they need to go, the Gauge Index revealed that 40 percent of drivers use a GPS device to get them headed in the right direction.

All of this is a reminder to slow down and remember the little, albeit important details of driving.

# Every car needs a little TLC to maximize vehicle life

(NewsUSA) - During the winter months, cold weather gives way to the warm, fuzzy feelings brought on by the presence of that certain special someone. But it's not just your significant other that deserves attention - your hard-working

vehicle needs some extra TLC as well. Tires Plus offers a few tips to keep your vehicle running strong:

- Listen to each other. Keep your engine properly tuned. A vehicle that has a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can decrease gas mileage by as much as 40 percent. A single misfiring spark plug can cut fuel economy by up to 4 percent.

- Keep your vehicle refreshed. Change the engine oil. Use the recommended grade of motor oil for your vehicle, and change it according to your vehicle owner's manual,

which usually says every three months or 3,000 miles. Prolonged driving without an oil change may cause severe engine damage. Regularly check your vehicle's fluid levels, including transmission, power steering, windshield washer and coolant.

- Keep in constant contact. Maintain your tires. Check inflation pressure monthly, and make sure your tires are properly balanced. Don't forget to rotate your tires according to the maintenance schedule and have the alignment checked at least once a year.

- Be considerate. Use good driving habits. Accelerating

quickly and stopping abruptly can prematurely wear your vehicle's engine, transmission, tires and brakes. Aggressive driving also wastes gas.

- Protect it from the elements. Keep the exterior washed and waxed to preserve the paint finish and protect your vehicle from the environment. Salt, water, sand and even de-icing chemicals on the road can cause rust or other damage to a vehicle.

Every relationship takes work, even the one you have with your car. Never underestimate how far a little tender loving care toward your vehicle can go!



**Turn Your Lights On!!**

**Please make it a habit to drive with your lights on, especially in these dark winter months. This just might save your life or someone else's.**

**Auto Guide**

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*Supplement to the  
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# How to boost your cell phone's signal for safe travel

(NewsUSA) - It's the bane of every cell phone user - conversations that become garbled and calls that drop. These "dead zones," usually happen while you're on the road, and can be frustrating at best, while making you feel exposed and defenseless at worst. However, they also present a critical safety issue when driving during the winter.

As winter weather wreaks havoc on roads (never mind cell phone coverage), it becomes more important than ever to stay connected to family and friends - whether it's to let them know you're running late, stuck in traffic or in an emergency situation. That's why zBoost, a Georgia-

based company that develops and manufactures cell phone signal boosters, is helping people stay connected no matter where they are, while giving winter travelers a sense of safety and security.

"As a realtor I am on the road showing homes and I'm dependent on my mobile phone to stay connected," said Lisa Van Doting. "Before adding my zBoost Mobile1 cell phone signal booster, I was frequently in areas with no cell service, which left me disconnected and vulnerable in emergency situations."

The way it works is the zBoost Mobile1 is set up in the interior of any car or truck, and a mobile phone is placed in a sturdy, lightweight cradle

(much like cell phones of old). The cradle amplifier connects to the dash-mount bracket and also connects to the vehicle's 12V power through a power adaptor via a USB cable. The magnetic antenna is mounted on the exterior of the car, which captures the signal outside of the car, brings it in through a narrow cable and amplifies it on the inside for a stronger signal, extending the in-vehicle cell zone (the phone must be in the cradle). The unit also boosts voice and text for all major cell carriers.

In addition to reducing dropped calls and combatting dead zones, it also extends the battery life of the phone, includes a hands-free option,



and most important, extends your cell phone's range.

For more information, visit [www.zboost.com/solutions-products/travel/zb245.html](http://www.zboost.com/solutions-products/travel/zb245.html).

# Are you under pressure? Don't ignore dashboard alert



(NewsUSA) - Beginning with the 2008 model year, tire pressure monitoring systems (TPMS) are now standard on all new cars in the United States, but many drivers don't know about them. Often, drivers are first introduced to TPMS when the icon on their dashboard illuminates, signaling that the air pressure in one or more tires is low - potentially dangerously low.

On average, underinflated tires are responsible for nearly

700 vehicle crashes every day. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that, when all passenger vehicles are equipped with TPMS, the number of annual motor vehicle crash fatalities will decrease by about 120, and the annual number of injuries due to motor vehicle crashes

will decrease by about 8,500. To help raise awareness about TPMS and the importance of proper tire pressure, Schrader, the pioneer and leading manufacturer of tire pressure monitoring systems, has created TPMS Made Simple.com. This comprehensive site offers drivers key facts about TPMS, including how

it enhances vehicle safety and why it is now mandatory on all U.S. vehicles. In addition to safety information, drivers can also find out how much money they can save with properly inflated tires and how proper inflation helps the environment.

If your car is equipped with TPMS, the light will come on

when one or more of your tires are at least 25 percent below the recommended inflation pressure. When this happens, take caution and:

- Find a safe place to pull off to check your tire pressure. Keep a tire gauge with your set of emergency items in your vehicle.
- If the light comes on

while driving at highway speed, immediately grab hold of the steering wheel with both hands in case you are experiencing a blow-out (rapid deflation) scenario. Slowly decelerate to a safe speed and find a safe place to pull off to check your tire

See ALERT on page 6

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# How to stop close calls: don't tailgate

(NAPS)—At least 1,500 people a year could avoid getting injured or killed on the road, government and university researchers say, if road rage could be eliminated.

#### • How To Stop It

One way to do that, according to study.com, is to reduce tailgating, especially by young drivers.

The Hartford Courant found the most common "contributing factor" noted by police in crashes caused by new drivers was following another vehicle too closely.

Most crashes where tailgating was the primary factor happened between 2-3 p.m., about the time high school classes are done for the day.

In other words, the typical crash caused by a 16- or 17-year-old driver doesn't involve a car careening off the road during a boozy, late-night joyride.

#### • The Cause

Tailgating is so high on the list of accident causes because stopping involves more than just applying the brakes. It also includes perception time (realization that you need to stop) and reaction time (moving your foot to the brake pedal). At 60 mph, by the time the vehicle begins to slow down, it will have traveled more than 130 feet.

Most drivers know they should maintain a minimum of three seconds between a



Most rear-end crashes occur in the afternoon when school is letting out.

car and the vehicle in front. However, depending on factors such as vehicle condition, size and type, speed, time of day, road and weather conditions and visibility, the time it takes to fully stop can vary dramatically. For example, a wet road can quadruple the time required to fully stop, and increasing speed from 35 mph to 55 mph nearly doubles the required stopping distance.

#### • What You Can Do

If you find that another vehicle is tailgating you, remain calm and don't let ego get in the way of safety. Do not slam on your brakes, honk your horn or use angry gestures. Instead, if there is an alternate lane, safely move over so the other car can pass. If you can't move over, slowly increase the distance between your car and the one in front of you. That way, if the tailgater hits you, you're less likely to hit another car.

For further information on what to do if someone is tailgating visit [www.accidentattorneys.org](http://www.accidentattorneys.org).

# Five insane driving laws from around the world

By I. Mustafa

While we might see a lot of our laws of the road unnecessary, most of these laws from around the world seem downright pointless!

• **Russia Does Not Like Dirty Cars:** For reasons that are only obvious to those inside the Kremlin, Russia has a law that states if your car is considered dirty by officials, you can be fined around 2000 rubles (£85) on the spot. Russian citizens have stated that they think this is just a way to gauge more money in fines from unsuspecting motorists

• **You Are Banned From Driving On Certain Weekdays in Manila:** In what seems like one of the most arbitrary rules in road law history, the capital city of the Philippines bans drivers from using their vehicles depending on the last letters of their license plates. This is apparently in response to the terrible driving conditions across the city, where red lights are just a suggestion to stop and lanes are there to be changed as much and as fast as possible.

• **Don't Honk Your Horn near Sandwiches in Arkansas:** Inexplicably, it is illegal to honk your horn near a shop that sells sandwiches or cold drinks after 9 p.m. in Arkansas. When researching this law, I couldn't find one explanation of why it was brought in and why no one pointed out how stupid it is. Thinking about this leaves

the mind reeling with so many questions; why is it so specific about the temperature of drinks? What does car horns have to do with food? Was this a serious problem in Arkansas that needed to be stamped out?

• **Drunks Can Only Sit in the Back in Macedonia:** Driving while under the influence of alcohol is a pretty sensible law; you lose a lot of your sense of judgement while drunk and turn into an overconfident idiot. Less sensible, however, is the decision to make sitting in the front seat passenger seat of a car while intoxicated illegal. This was probably invented by someone who likes to drink and then to lie down in the back seat of a car while being chauffeured around.

• **In New Jersey and Oregon You Cannot Pump Your Own Gas:** Filling up your tank with gas is by no means a difficult task, so it is difficult to fully understand the purpose of a gas attendant. Surely, most people are perfectly capable of doing this themselves. New Jersey and Oregon doesn't think so, as there is actually a law that requires every gas station to employ an attendant to pump your gas. Some argue that this is a way of forcing job creation, but opponents of this argue that the money spent on this should be spent on more purposeful jobs, such as city beautification.

Article Source: EzineArticles.com

# Take pressure off cold weather driving

See COLD WEATHER on page 6

(NAPS)—Heavy snow and slick ice on the roads can be a white-knuckle experience for even the most experienced drivers if the automobile isn't properly outfitted for the weather.

While knowing proper driving techniques is important, a good set of winter tires can be the difference between getting where you have to go safely and feeling your heart leap into your throat as your car slides through an ice-covered intersection.

So what do you need to know? Here's a list of commonly asked questions along with answers to help you understand how winter tires can help you.

What's the difference between "winter tires" and "snow tires"?

Winter tires are designed to work in all winter conditions, not just snow. The tire compounds are optimized

to provide grip even on dry roads in weather below 45° Fahrenheit. Also, winter tread patterns are designed to



# Zero-crash future with connected and automated vehicles

By Jim Barbaresso

(NAPS) — Imagine: Someday, people will talk about traffic accident fatalities as a thing of the past. Crashes will be eradicated, thanks to an onslaught of new technologies that eliminate human error behind the wheel, the cause of 90 percent of roadway mishaps today.

A new America THINKS survey found 71 percent of Americans expect emerging technologies, such as connected and automated vehicles, to improve safety.

A zero-crash future is hugely compelling. It's also only possible with the lightning-fast collection and processing of huge amounts of data.

Connected vehicle-to-vehicle technologies sense the speed, direction, size, position and location of every other car nearby and use the data to assist human decision making.

### Safer Roads

In congested highway traffic, for example, you may not see a driver braking hard several car lengths ahead of you. But your connected car, communicating wirelessly with the vehicles around it, will sense the abrupt slowdown, alert you, and assist you in stopping your vehicle before a collision.

### Other Benefits

If cars don't crash, vehicles can drive in platoons at high rates of speed and with less

space between them. That means every lane of traffic in a congested city could carry three times its current capacity.

Combining vehicle connectivity and automation will deliver incredible change—undoubtedly the biggest change to mobility in America since the advent of the automobile itself.

The technology is here. Car-makers are beginning implementation. The time for public education is now. Drivers will need to understand where their personal information is going and how it will be used—especially considering 80 percent of Americans worry about privacy with

new transportation technologies. The survey, however, also indicates that most would grant access to their travel and vehicle information if it guaranteed safer roads or lower gas prices.

National Safety Council statistics indicate that nearly 40,000 Americans may lose their lives in car accidents this year. With the technology available today that is proven to prevent fatal accidents, we have a moral obligation to implement it as quickly as possible. Businesses and governments, however, must work together to guarantee the



New technology could mean greatly reduced auto accidents and congestion, increased speeds.

privacy of personal travel data. For further facts and insights, visit [www.hntb.com](http://www.hntb.com). Mr. Barbaresso is the practice leader of Intelligent

Transportation Systems and emerging technologies for HNTB Corp., an infrastructure solutions firm.

## Funniest reasons people failed their driving test

By I. Mustafa

When you are new to the road, it can sometimes be hard to anticipate what other drivers are going to do next as you just aren't as familiar with how traffic systems work. However, this story is about people failing their driving tests.

Upon pulling up behind some cars, the pupil taking the lesson assumed they were waiting for the traffic lights to change. After seven whole embarrassing minutes, which must have seemed like forever, the instructor eventually told the pupil to drive around the parked cars with no drivers in them.

Nerves hit all of us when we sit in that driver's seat and face down our test route, but with the right training and preparation most should pass with flying colors. Of course, nerves do affect some more than others. One unlucky pupil



managed to let their nerves get the better of them and messed up their test in the worst way possible. Instead of reversing out of the parking space to begin their test, the student mixed up their gears and put it in first, subsequently flying into the side of the test center. I think it is needless to say that they definitely failed.

Some of us may have experienced the terror of seeing an animal caught helplessly in front of our car,

but not many of us are unlucky enough for this to happen on our driving test. One such pupil had this happen to them, with disastrous results. When a pigeon landed in front of the test car, the student swerved around to miss killing it, as most humane people would do. However, this was directly into the path of a semi-truck and trailer. Being a 'sensible' person, the driver decided to shut their eyes at this moment. Upon opening them, they found themselves in the ditch at the side of the road. Another obvious fail.

Article Source: EzineArticles.com

## Flood Car Insurance

By Nobeel Lane

Flood car insurance coverage is something that most people do not know that they may have. Since it might not be such a common occurrence or accident, most people don't bother to know about flood car insurance and whether they are covered. Here are some things that may be helpful.

### • Understanding Flood Car Insurance

Just like what its name implies, flood car insurance covers for damage caused on cars by flooding. Since cars and water don't usually go well together, having such form of protection may help car owners have that peace of mind to know that their vehicles are covered by their insurance policy in case of car flooding.

### • Level Of Coverage

Since damage caused by



floods may not necessarily happen everywhere, the risks that a car may still get damaged by flooding may always be there. Flooding does not merely occur when a nearby river overflows or during very heavy rainfall. Floods can occur when snow melts, a water pipe bursts and a number of other factors. Such instances can cause certain damage to vehicles that may include but not be limited to mold growth, rusting, electrical issues, silt and mud deposits and many others. Having flood car insurance coverage may help in such cases.

### • Flood Car Insurance Benefits

There are a number of benefits that flood car insurance may be able to provide. They can cover for severe damage that floods can cause on cars. It can also cover for your vehicle in areas where there are frequent storms and flooding. With such coverage, it may also be possible for a car to be replaced if it is damaged by floods beyond repair.

For information about flood car insurance and other related information, you can check out the different websites of insurance companies that operate in your area.

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### Don't let your gas lines freeze!

Keep your gas tank at least half full throughout the cold weather to prevent moisture from forming in gas lines and possibly freezing.



# Cold weather *continued from page 4*

provide excellent grip in icy and snowy conditions.

Can I use studded winter tires?

Studded winter tires were once perceived as loud and damaging to the road. However, through innovations in studding technology, the noise and road wear from the studs have been greatly reduced. Now, there is little difference between a studded tire and a winter tire without studs. For instance, Nokian Tyres, a Finnish company known for its expertise in developing and testing tires in demanding northern conditions, makes a winter tire, the Hakkapeliitta 8, that features a new tread pattern with 50 percent more studs than its predecessor. When compared to studded tires of the past, these modern studded tires cause only 20 percent road wear in relation to the typical studded tires of the '60s and early '70s. This new stud technology makes the tire extremely gentle on its driving surface, even while

its winter grip properties are better than ever before.

I don't get much snow, so why do I need snow tires?

In general, non-winter tires are designed for performance at 45° and above. When used in temperatures below this, the tire compounds harden in the cold weather and lose their ability to grip. Winter tires are designed to provide grip in colder temperatures. This is why they're "winter" tires, not "snow" tires—they provide increased safety in cold, not just snow.

"The truth is, winter tires are engineered specifically to perform most effectively in harsh environments where colder temperatures are the norm," said Bernie Del Duca, president of North America for Nokian. "Winter tires don't just combat snow and ice, they're specifically designed and tested to function better in areas where temperatures can drop down below freezing."

Can't I just get two winter tires?

While this used to be

the conventional wisdom, this creates the hazardous condition of having one axle that has grip while the other does not, resulting in an increased chance of a spinout.

Will winter tires lower my gas mileage?

Gas mileage typically dips in the winter due to several factors. While winter tires may contribute, the effect is minimal; a decrease in gas mileage often has more to do with winter gas, which has special additives that affect engine performance. Roof racks and ski boxes add aerodynamic drag; these can also affect gas mileage.

Can I drive my winter tires all year round?

Using winter tires year round is not recommended. Modern winter tires may wear unnecessarily quickly, particularly on coarse spring roads and on hotter summer roads. The wear may be uneven as well. Many tire dealers offer storage for off-season tires, making seasonal tire changing easy for drivers.

When should I put on my winter tires and when should I take them off?

In the fall, once temperatures are consistently at 45° or below, any driver will benefit from the grip of winter tires. It may make sense to put them on a bit early to avoid the tire changeover rush that happens once the first snowfall hits. At the end of the season, it's best to remove winter tires once temperatures are consistently over 45°.

I have four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive so I don't need winter tires, right?

Acceleration with original equipment tires in winter conditions is relatively easy to achieve with AWD and 4WD. The problem comes when there is a need to steer or stop in a hurry and the tires do not grip. This is why you see so many SUVs and 4X4s off the road in the early season storms. All-wheel-drive and four-wheel-drive vehicles benefit from winter tires just as much as front-wheel-drive vehicles do.

How will winter tires affect my vehicle's handling and braking?

In general, dry handling and braking will be affected



Don't let cold weather get your tires down. Get winter tires.

only slightly when using winter tires but the gains in winter weather safety are significant. The biggest change in dry handling and braking a driver could see would be a move from a UHP (ultrahigh

performance) summer tire to a studded winter tire.

For more facts on tires and to locate a local dealer, go to [www.nokiantires.com](http://www.nokiantires.com).

# Alert *continued from page 3*

pressure.

• Once checked, if the tires all appear normal, proceed with caution to have your tire pressure checked and filled to the proper tire pressure. This can be done at a gas station or tire service center.

• If needed, have the problem tire or tires and the TPMS system serviced at your

nearest tire service center.

The TPMS light should go off within several minutes of driving on the repaired or re-inflated tires.

Visit [TPMSMadeSimple.com](http://TPMSMadeSimple.com) for more information about TPMS and the importance and benefits of maintaining proper tire pressure.

## Winter safety kit

- Blanket
- Jumper cables
- Bottled water
- Nonperishable snacks
- Fire extinguisher
- First-aid kit and manual
- Shovel, flares
- Tire repair kit and pump
- Spare tire
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- Extra clothing and boots
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# The hardest driving tests in the world

**By I. Mustafa**

In the UK, there has always been a constant discussion about the difficulty of obtaining your full driving license. Some will declare that anyone can pass and it was much harder 'back in my day', while others will shout from the rooftops that it must be the hardest driving examination in the world, and it is a wonder anyone can pass at all. However, while the UK is high on the list in terms of difficulty, there are many more treacherous tests around the world that are designed to push the capabilities of prospective drivers to the limit. Here is a round-up of the most maddeningly hard tests from across the globe that will hurt your brain just thinking about passing them!

• **Finland**  
 Although you may hear people boasting how they passed in two days with only one lesson (which is most likely completely untrue), the average time in the UK to pass a test is around 8 months. Compare this to Finland, where it takes a minimum of two years of driving to obtain a full license. During this probationary period, if the license holder gets one fine, the period can be extended by a maximum of two years. If this doesn't seem harsh enough, before a person can

get the preliminary license they are subjected to a litany of tests and lessons. They must take two tests, one in the summer and one in winter, and attend over 19 theory lessons in which they learn about Finland's strict driving regulations. A lengthy and difficult process, Finnish driving tests may be one of the hardest.

• **South Africa**  
 A lot of the stipulations in the South African driving test seemed to be designed to create the most complicated examination in the world. In fact, in 2007, there were actually riots surrounding the problems associated with obtaining the license. This may seem extreme, but some of the minute rules that have to be obeyed make the UK's equivalent test look like a walk in the park. For instance, you can be penalized for the most minuscule of errors. If you engage your handbrake and it makes a clicking sound you lose points, if you glance at your gear stick while driving you lose points, if you forget to check your headlights and tail lights you lose points and if you forget to check for leaks under your car you, of course, lose points. In fact, if the car rolls back by one inch during the course of the lesson, you instantly fail. Unfortunately, these extremely strict rules have

actually served to make South Africa's driving standards worse, as many people simply drive unlicensed rather than be driven insane by trying to pass the practical test.

• **Japan**  
 Japan's driving test is different than many other countries, as it takes place on a course resembling a fake Japanese town. However, this doesn't make it any easier, as the fiendishly tricky test only has a pass rate of around 30 percent. Drivers must remain under 19 MPH at all times and instantly fail if they run over a curb, fail to do the correct checks or stop the appropriate distance from traffic lights. Weirdly, drivers won't pass if they don't come close enough to the curb when performing a left turn, as you aren't supposed to leave room for overtaking cyclists, which is the exact opposite of what most road laws say! You can also be denied a license if you don't bend low enough to check under the car for cats or children.

So, next time you complain about your driving test, spare a thought for these poor countries who have to suffer these extremely complicated tests.

Article Source: EzineArticles.com



## Get ready for winter driving

(Family Features) As colder weather approaches, and with it the potential for treacherous road conditions, giving certain areas of your car special attention can also protect your safety.

The following tips will help you learn how to care for the systems and features most likely to affect your safety as winter approaches. Learn about the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair, and order a free copy of the council's Car Care Guide, at [www.carcare.org](http://www.carcare.org).

### Brakes

Brakes sustain normal wear and eventually need to be replaced for both performance and safety reasons. Ignoring routine maintenance and letting brake pads wear too thin can lead to costly rotor and drum replacement, in addition to compromising your ability to execute a sudden stop safely.

Have your complete brake system thoroughly inspected annually and replace equipment as needed.

If your car is pulling to the

left or right, or if you hear odd noises when you apply the brakes, you should have your brakes inspected. Other warning signs include an illuminated brake warning light, brake grabbing, low pedal feel, vibration, hard pedal feel and squealing.

Don't overlook the parking brake, which also may require adjustment or replacement parts.

### Wheels and Tires

When roads become wet or

See *WINTER* on page 8

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# The problem of abandoned high end cars in Dubai

By Kevin D. Hagen

The average person wouldn't recognize most of the cars that roam the busy streets in Dubai. They wouldn't recognize them unless they'd seen them in a magazine or online.

Dubai is one of the wealthiest cities in the world! Until 2009... With the stock market crash, things changed for a lot of people, even many of the aristocratic citizens of Dubai. Prior to the stock market crash, financing was easy to get, money flowed in this city like water.

When you live and work

in one of the world's richest cities, it will cost you to keep up with the Joneses'. Luxury penthouses and exotic cars have all been a part of the culture of Dubai and some of the rich oil producing countries in the Middle East. It has created a strange phenomenon. All over Dubai and quite frequently at the airport, people are leaving some of the world's most expensive sports/luxury cars with the keys in them as they flee the country!

BMW's, Mercedes, Ferraris, Porsches, Jaguars, and Rolls Royces; some worth more

than a million dollars, many are hundreds of thousands of dollars. There was a Ferrari Enzo that valued at 1.65 million dollars that was abandoned! The police report that they had over 3,000 abandoned cars in Dubai last year. They are left to sit around covered in dust, looking like they are worthless. It drives car enthusiasts crazy! People often leave the loan papers or maxed out credit cards in the cars with a note of apology.

The reason they are abandoning them, is because in the United Arab Emirates, there is Sharia law. If you miss

a payment or bounce a check or can't pay your loan, it could mean prison time for you. There is no such thing as bankruptcy in countries that have Sharia law.

People have been kept from leaving the country if they have unpaid debt. Thus, the solution for many is to get out of the country before they are in trouble.

Many are unhappy because these cars are taking up good parking places in the airport



A \$1.65 million Ferrari Enzo was found abandoned in Dubai.

parking lot! When no one claims a car, it eventually gets auctioned off by the police. Now, THERE'S an auction!! You could score one of the

best deals on that new Bentley you are looking to get, but take your cash!! I'm not sure you can get a loan for these purchases anymore!

*Article Source: EzineArticles.com*

## Winter

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icy, the right wheels and tires can help ensure you have the traction you need to maintain control. Maintaining tire balance and wheel alignment reduces tire wear and improves handling and fuel economy. Tire replacement is necessary if the tread depth is below the minimum legal requirement, or if the sidewalls are severely cracked or punctured. In addition, normal wear and road conditions can take their toll on your car's steering and suspension system and disrupt the alignment, which in turn reduces opti-

mum handling.

Use the "penny test" to check your tread; if you see Lincoln's head above the tread, you are ready for new tires.

Have your car's alignment checked at least annually or at the first sign of improper handling or uneven wear.

Check inflation pressure at least once a month (including the spare) and once per week in the winter.

Rotate and balance tires every 6,000 miles to avoid accelerated wear on shock absorbers and struts.

### Battery

Your battery should be

securely mounted, with connections clean, tight and corrosion-free. If the battery is three years old or more, it should be tested and replaced if necessary.

### Headlights

The lighting system provides nighttime visibility, signals and alerts other drivers, and supplies light for viewing instruments and the vehicle's interior.

If there is any doubt about whether or not your headlights should be on, turn them on.

Keep headlights, tail lights and signal lights clean. External dirt and debris

can dim operational lights, making it difficult to be seen by others.

Make sure your headlights are properly aimed. If they aren't, headlights blind other drivers and reduce your ability to see the road.

Don't overdrive your headlights. You should be able to stop inside the illuminated area; otherwise you are creating a blind crash area in

front of your vehicle.

Replace dimming, rapidly blinking or non-functioning lights immediately, but check first to ensure a loose or faulty fuse isn't the source of the problem.

### Windshield Wipers

Many factors can accelerate the replacement of wipers, including operating conditions, frequency of use, material and type of wipers

and weather.

In general, replace blades every six months or when cracked, cut, torn, streaking or chattering.

Be aware that some vehicles have two washer fluid reservoirs. Check levels monthly and use washer fluid only; do not use water.