

Tom Dwyer Automotive Services, Inc.
Impeccable Automotive Service and Repair since 1981
Your ASE Blue Seal of Excellence Full Service Facility

YOUR CAR MATTERS

630 SE Tenino Street Portland, OR 97202 • 503.230.2300 • www.tomdwyer.com

Tom Dwyer
 ASE
 Automotive Services Inc.

How to keep your
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
Alive!

An automatic transmission is one of the most complicated parts of a vehicle. The repair or replacement of an automatic transmission can be extremely expensive. Some of the overdrive transmissions can cost more than \$3,000.00 to overhaul. Having your Automatic Transmission Serviced regularly is the best way to prevent an expensive failure.

Clean, Cool Transmission Fluid is your Best Insurance

Automatic Transmission fluid lubricates, cools and cleans internal components of the transmission. It also helps to maintain the hydraulic pressure necessary for the transmission to function. The additives in the transmission fluid are depleted over time.

Automatic Transmission fluid life

expectancy is directly related to the operating temperature of the transmission. Normal operating temperature is about 215 degrees Fahrenheit, but the cooling efficiency of your vehicle's cooling system and the type of driving you do will be the real determinate of the transmission fluid's life expectancy. At 215 degrees, the transmission fluid should go for 60,000 miles, but for each additional 20 degrees, the mileage is cut in half.

Automatic Transmission filter helps remove dirt and contaminants from the automatic transmission fluid. The transmission filter needs to be changed on a periodic basis as well. Normal service intervals will vary as a result of the use of the vehicle and the operating temperature of the transmission.

Automatic Transmission from P2

Know Thyself
TEEN DRIVERS
Know Thy Limits

The leading cause of death for teenagers is not drugs, nor is it guns or violence. It is car crashes. In 2004, 5,896 teens aged 16 to 20 were killed in car crashes. Another 456,000 were injured. Driver's Edge, a non-profit organization sponsored in part by Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire LLC, has answered the call to reduce teen deaths and injuries with a no-cost educational program offered to young drivers, aged 16 to 21.

Launched in June 2002, Driver's Edge employs a national tour in addition to its Las Vegas-based classes to bring its message to more than 20,000 teens and their parents. The events are scheduled in major cities across America and Canada. This year, there are 14 stops on the organization's tour that runs through October 28. The 2006 schedule and registration information can be seen viewed at <http://www.driversedge.com>

The Ultra
LOREMO
Efficient Car

German Loremo AG will introduce their ultra Efficient Car at the Motor Show 2006 in Geneva this year. The car start-up developed a lightweight passenger car with outstanding aerodynamics. The Loremo LS is powered by a 2 cylinder Turbo Diesel engine with 20 hp and 160km/h top speed. The amazing thing is that the Loremo only needs 1.5l per 100km. This is approx. 157MPG! The Toyota Prius hybrid has only 55MPG (combined city and highway). With one tank (20l) you could drive 1,300km. Loremo AG plans to sell the Loremo LS for less than 11,000 Euros (~\$13,000).

The Loremo



REMEMBER

Although the technicians have the weekend off, the office is open on Saturdays from 10am to 1pm. We are here to make appointments for service, receive vehicles for work the following week, release vehicles that are completed, and answer any questions that you might have!

When it Stinks, Change it!

When we check the fluid level we note how it looks and smells. Good Automatic Transmission fluid will be clean and odor free. When the fluid is dark and smells burnt it is past due for changing. A burnt smell will exist before the color of the transmission fluid changes. A burnt smell indicates the need for transmission fluid replacement. Don't wait for the fluid to turn dark and nasty.

How Can I Make My Automatic Transmission Last Longer?

- ❖ Don't ignore it! Have the fluid level and condition checked regularly.
- ❖ Have your Automatic Transmission serviced as needed, usually every 24,000 – 36,000 miles.
- ❖ Repair any leaks/problems promptly.
- ❖ Add an auxiliary cooler if the vehicle is used for towing, commercial, or high ambient temperature climates.
- ❖ Synthetic fluid may benefit some applications by lowering operating temperature resulting in a longer life, but not all transmissions can use the synthetic fluid.



It is every customer's nightmare.

You take your car in for an oil change.

And the guy goes down the checklist of things they have done -- and charges you \$60.

But did they actually do what they said they did?

They said they changed the fuel filter.

But did they?

They said they flushed the transmission.

But did they?

Trust, but verify.

Tipped off by a Jiffy Lube insider, KNBC -- the NBC affiliate in Los Angeles -- wired two test cars with hidden cameras to watch Jiffy Lube mechanics at work.

Those cars were then driven to Los

Angeles-area Jiffy Lube outlets to get an oil change.

At one, the mechanic recommends that the fuel filter be changed.

"We pay up, but they didn't change the fuel filter," KNBC reporter Joel Grover told his viewers earlier this month. "We know that, because before taking our car in, we lowered the gas tank so I could mark the fuel filter. After leaving that Jiffy Lube, we checked the fuel filter and the original one that I had marked was still on the car."

At another Jiffy Lube outlet, the manager recommends a top-of-the-line transmission flush.

"It's a machine called T-Tech, which they're supposed to hook up to the transmission lines under the car to suck out all the dirty fluid," Grover said. "But the entire time our car was being serviced, we noticed no one ever touched that machine. And our hidden camera shows no one ever touched the transmission lines underneath. But they charged us for the T-Tech service anyway. And it happened to us again at another Jiffy Lube."

In fact, Grover says, he got stiffed at five out of nine Los Angeles area Jiffy Lubes he tested.

Jiffy Lube insiders told Grover that Jiffy Lube employees are on a quota system.

Jiffy Lube continued on P4

All Transmission Services are Not Equal

Automatic Transmission Drain & Fill

Replaces 40% of the fluid at best.

Service includes removing the transmission fill/drain plug to remove the old automatic transmission fluid that is in the sump or pan.

Reinstalling transmission fill/drain plug, and refilling the transmission with new automatic transmission fluid to the proper level.

Automatic Transmission Filter Replacement

Replaces 40% of the fluid at best.

Service includes as necessary:

Spin on external filter or more likely...

Remove the transmission pan.

Remove the old transmission filter and replacing it with a new transmission filter,

Remove the old gasket material,

Replace the pan gasket with a new gasket and reinstalling the pan.

Refill Automatic Transmission fluid to proper level.

Automatic Transmission Fluid Exchange

Replaces 100% of the fluid.

Service includes changing the fluid in the transmission system, including the torque converter and transmission cooler.

When the used car salesman told Larry that he'd be saving a bundle by switching to an alternative fuel vehicle, he didn't expect this.

MAXIMIZING *Your Vehicle's Worth*



The American Society of Appraisers offers the following list of the top 10 steps consumers can take to help enhance the value of their car and keep it in better shape longer.

1. Keep it clean. Have your car professionally detailed yearly and before you attempt to sell it.

2. Maintain your car. Get your car serviced regularly.

3. Use synthetic oil. While they are more expensive, they also have a longer service life. Your engine could last longer and operate better at cooler temperatures.

4. Fix what breaks. Today's cars are much more complicated than cars from 10 years ago. A little problem can become a big problem if ignored.

5. Fix those paint chips. Little paint chips have a way of growing into big paint chips; fix them before they grow.

6. Wax on. Find a high-quality paste wax and pamper your car once a year at a minimum and repeat often.

7. Get an annual vehicle physical. Get a yearly inspection that includes looking over the tires, belts, hoses, brakes and every other system subject to wear.

8. Park and walk. You get a little more exercise, and your car avoids the chance for a few dings and being a target for the "park-by-touch" crowd.

9. Don't be cheap. Use parts that are approved by the manufacturer or come from a trusted aftermarket source. Aftermarket parts can be as good, or better, than original equipment. Develop a relationship with the shop that repairs your car.

10. Keep your records. Maintain a simple file of all of your bills, receipts, recall notices, e-mails and letters about your vehicle. Future buyers will thank you.

"Cars are usually the second largest purchase for most people, right after their house," said Dave Kinney, accredited senior appraiser with the American Society of Appraisers (ASA). "It makes sense to take care of your automobile, not only for sustaining its worth, but for safety purposes as well."

Don't Be Shy SAVE A TREE *Give Us Your Email*

In an effort to conserve time, energy, postage, and paper we would like to send out newsletters via email. But we need your email address in order to make this happen. We promise that we won't give this personal information to any third party and we won't be sending spam. So don't be shy and help save a tree!

Green Source



Green Source offers customers a way to help reduce our reliance on fossil fuels

Tom Dwyer Automotive Services is a PGE Green Source supporter!

Under this option, 100 percent of our electric bill supports energy from renewable sources.

TOXIC AT ANY SPEED *Chemicals in Cars* & *The Need for Safe Alternatives*

Seat cushions, arm rests, floor coverings and plastic parts used in most car interiors are made with toxic chemicals known to pose major public health risks. PBDEs, used as fire retardants, and phthalates, used to soften PVC plastics, have been linked to birth defects, impaired learning, liver toxicity, premature births, and early puberty in laboratory animals, among other serious health problems.

A first-of-its-kind report by the Ecology Center - Toxic at Any Speed: Chemicals in Cars and the Need for Safe Alternatives - found significantly higher levels of PBDEs in vehicle dust and windshield wipe samples than those found in homes and offices in previous studies. Since the average American spends more than 1.5 hours in their car every day, this is a significant source of indoor air pollution. The study ranks car manufacturers according to the levels of toxic chemicals found inside the vehicles.

Check out: <http://www.ecocenter.org>

REMEMBER

We offer a Courtesy Shuttle Van Service to help you get to where you need to be going. Schedule an appointment for the Shuttle when you make the appointment for your vehicle to be serviced.



