

DVSA "SHOW ME TELL ME"  
QUESTIONS



These questions are designed to help you understand the need for essential safety checks on your vehicle. You will be asked 2 questions at the start of your test: one "show me" and one "tell me". We will go through these questions during your driving lessons. A good way to remember what safety checks you should do regularly and some before each journey is the word "FLOWERY" What do you think this might stand for?

**YOU WILL BE ASKED TWO OF  
THESE AT THE START OF YOUR  
DRIVING TEST  
or DURING THE DRIVE!**

**QUESTION**

**UNDER THE BONNET**

*(electrics  
settings  
relate to  
Mazda 2)*

**SUGGESTED  
ANSWER/ACTION**

SHOW 1 Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.

Identify reservoir and explain how to check level. (warning light will show in car if low)

SHOW 2 Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.

Identify dipstick , describe how you would pull out the dipstick, clean it, reinsert and pull out to check oil level against the minimum/maximum markers.

SHOW 3 Open the bonnet, identify where the brake fluid reservoir is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.

Identify reservoir, show check level against high/low markings.

SHOW 4 Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would know that the engine has the correct level.

Identify high/low level markings on header tank

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**OUTSIDE THE CAR**

SHOW 5 Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working

Applying the hazard warning switch  
**check functioning of all indicators by walking all around the vehicle** (no need for electrics on)  
You must walk all the way round!

<p>SHOW 6</p>	<p>Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you, if you need to switch the ignition on, please don't start the engine)</p>	<p>Key in car, (no need for electrics on) Operate brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, or ask someone to help On the test, examiner will help. (they will stand behind car)</p>
<p>TELL 7</p>	<p>Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how tyre pressures should be checked.</p>	<p>Manufacturer's guide, use a reliable pressure gauge, check and adjust pressures when tyres are cold, don't forget spare tyre, remember to refit dust caps.</p>
<p>TELL 8</p>	<p>Tell me how you would check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.</p>	<p>No cuts and bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across the central ¾ of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.</p>

INSIDE THE CAR

<p>TELL 9</p>	<p>Tell me how you would check that the brakes are working before starting a journey.</p>	<p>Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. Vehicle should not pull to one side.</p>
<p>SHOW 10</p>	<p>Show me / explain how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a journey.</p>	<p>If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly. Before starting a journey two simple checks can be made. Gentle pressure on the steering wheel, maintained while the engine is started, should result in a slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. You can compare that to how heavy it feels when the engine is off.</p>
<p>SHOW 11</p>	<p>Show me how you would check the parking brake (handbrake) for excessive wear, make sure you keep safe control of the vehicle</p>	<p>Apply footbrake firmly. Demonstrate by applying parking brake (handbrake) so that when it is fully applied it secures itself, and is not at the end of the working travel</p>

TELL 12	Tell me how you make sure your head restraint is correctly adjusted so it provides the best protection in the event of a crash	The head restraint should be adjusted so the rigid part of the head restraint is at least as high as the eyes or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable.
SHOW 13	Show me how you would check that the horn is working (done off road only).	Check it by pressing it! (no need for electrics on)
SHOW 14	Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers	Key in car, turn electrics on (two presses of start button), Operate control to wash and wipe windscreen
TELL 15	Tell me how you would check that the headlights & tail lights are working. (No need to exit vehicle)	Turn electrics on, (two presses of start button) and Operate lights switch then say you would walk round vehicle (As this is a Tell Me question there is no need to actually walk round to check the lights)
SHOW 16	Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively, this should include both front and rear screens	Key in car, electrics on.(two presses of start button) Set all relevant controls including; fan, temperature, air direction and heated rear screen button to clear windscreen and windows. Then put back to normal
SHOW 17	Show me how you would switch on the rear fog light(s) and explain when you would use it/them. (No need to exit vehicle)	Key in car, electrics on. Turn on dipped headlights and. Operate rear fogs switch. Check warning light is on.
TELL 18	Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti lock braking system	Point out which warning light should illuminate and would stay on if there is a fault with the anti lock braking system
SHOW 19	Show me how you switch your headlight from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car	Key in car, electrics on. Turn on dipped headlights Check with main beam warning light Turn lights off when done.

