

**Part 4: Engine start-up, running and test drive**

IGNITION ON, BUT DON'T START ENGINE:

OK	Not OK	
		Charge warning light should come on!

START THE ENGINE YOURSELF:

OK	Not		OK	Not	
		Charge warning light goes out?			Any odd engine noises when cold?
		Do all idiot lights go on/out right?			Exhaust condition/noises? Pressure even?
		Are all the instruments working?			Cap pipe with clipboard. Any exhaust leaks?
		Does it start easily when cold?			Any deposits on clipboard? Does it smoke?
		Does it run smoothly when cold?			Turn car off. Does it restart? Restart again.
		Depress clutch several times. Noises?			Now pull forward. Check for leaks on ground.
		Oil Pressure: idle_____ 4000 RPM_____ (20/38-40)			Do you have any gas? Does gauge really work?
		Water temp constant?			

Notes:

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TEST DRIVE (Allow 30-40 minutes)

OK	Not		OK	Not	
		Test the foot and hand brakes first!			Are there any hesitations/flat spots?
		Relax, drive a bit to get used to it.			Does the power seem right? Hill test.
		How does car ride? Soft or hard?			Is it running too hot or cold? Why? (90-100C)
		Revs smoothly to red line? flatspots?			Drive beside a long wall. Any unusual sounds?
		Any unusual engine noises/vibrations?			Is it too noisy in general at highway speeds?
		Any drive train noises or vibrations?			Any noises or vibrations when accelerating?
		Any noticeable slop in drivetrain?			Any noises or vibrations when coasting?
		Reverse works? Rev.lights go on/off?			Any noises or vibrations when decelerating?
		Trans shifts smoothly to all gears?			Any noises or vibrations when braking?
		Trans downshifts smoothly to all gears?			Steering action loose or tight? Parallel park.
		Any clunks, whines, rumbles, rattles?			Handles OK on bumps, curves and sharp corners?
		Clutch smooth? Slippage on hill test?			Slaloms OK? Bad understeer, oversteer, lean?
		Hand brake works? Test against engine			Tracks straight with hands off steering wheel?
		Is the low engine speed operation OK?			Brakes straight with hands off steering wheel?
		Brakes strongly to stop from 50mph?			Brakes still work? Pulls? Pulse? Drag? Noises?
		Do brakes still work? Stops straight?			Having fun yet? Comfortable? Does it fit?
		Make 2 tight 360' turns each way. Any noises?			Do the heater, defroster work right?
		Accelerates smoothly from dead stop?			Are all the instruments & lights still working?

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Have friend get out and watch the car driving:

OK	Not		OK	Not	
		Tracks straight? (Frame bent?)			Now let it idle a while. Is temp stable/OK?
		Smokes?			Any noise from timing chain?
		Wheels wobble? Any noises?			Any exhaust, gas or coolant odors? Pull forward.
		Leans? General impression?			Turn it off. Go back to check ground for leaks.

POST DRIVE:

OK	Not OK	
		Open hood. See or hear anything unusual?
		Does it restart when warm? Why not?
		Does engine seem too hot?
		Check for fluid leaks after shutdown. (Oil, Coolant, Hydraulics, Trans, Fuel, Differential)
		Check oil cap and dipstick for signs of water. (Oil off-color, brown/gray/white or bubbly)
		Compression test: (disconnect coil, remove ALL plugs) Dry: 1____2____3____4____
		Oiled: 1____2____3____4____
		Plug condition? (OK? Burnt? Oily? Sooty?) 1____ 2____ 3____ 4____

Notes: