


A How-to Guide for Used Audi Maintenance



Learn how to maintain your used Audi, with expert advice on interior/exterior care, tire repair, fluid levels, and more.

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Before we start, thank you for choosing Parktown Imports for your luxury car needs. The history of Audi is one of the most intricate ever told in the history of the auto manufacturing industry. The Audi emblem, with its four silver rings, identifies one of Germany's oldest-establish automobile producers. Many of you know that it represents the four previously independent motor-vehicle manufacturers: Audi, DKW, Horch, and Wanderer.

Every year, Audi combines the latest technology with features that make the driving experience less painful. Their innovations allow you to feel more comfortable with your travel experience; The Parktown Imports team developed this guide to help you get the most out of your Audi.

The How-to Guide for Used Audi Maintenance will allow you to care and maintain your Audi from the comfort of your own home, or for the unexpected. This guide offers topics that are relevant to your safety as satisfaction, and it will help you preserve your car's value.

EXTERIOR CARE

Regular and careful care helps to maintain the value of your Audi. This may also be one of the requirements for upholding any warranty claims in the event of corrosion or paint defects. Audi dealers and specialist retailers, such as Parktown Imports, carry stocks of suitable car care products. Please follow the instructions for use on the packaging.

WARNING

- Cleaning products and other materials used for Audi care can damage health if misused.
- Audi care products can contain toxic substances and must always be kept in a safe place out of the reach of children.

For the environment

- When purchasing car care products, try to select ones which are not harmful to the environment.
- Surplus cleaning materials should not be disposed of together with ordinary household waste.

Washing Your Audi

The longer substances like insects, bird droppings, tree sap, road dirt, industrial deposits, tar, soot, road salt, and other aggressive materials remain on your Audi, the more damage they will cause to the paint. High temperatures will further intensify the corrosive effect of these substances. It's especially important to wash the underside of your Audi after a period when salt is put on the roads.

Automatic car washes

Before taking your Audi through an automatic car wash be sure to take the usual precautions, such as closing the windows and sunroof. If the vehicle has special accessories such as spoilers or a roof carrier, it is advisable to consult the car wash operator. It is best to use a car wash without revolving bristles.

Washing your Audi with a pressure washer

Always follow the operating instructions for the pressure washer equipment you're using. This applies particularly to operating pressure and the spraying distance. Do not hold the spray nozzle too close to soft materials, such as rubber hoses or seals. Do not use a nozzle that sprays the water out in a direct stream or one that has a rotating jet for forcing off the dirt.

Washing your Audi by hand

This is by far the safest way to clean the dirt, road grime, and other soot off of your Audi. Make sure to use plenty of water to soften the dirt first, and rinse off as well as possible. Then, clean the vehicle with a soft sponge, glove, or brush, using only slight pressure. You should start on the roof and work your way down to the bottom areas of your Audi.

Special care shampoo should only be used for persistent substances, and you should practice rinsing the sponge or glove thoroughly and often. Wheels, sills, and similar areas should be cleaned last. Use a second sponge for this.

Caution

- Do not wash your Audi in direct sunlight, as it will damage the paint.
- Do not use insect sponges or abrasive household sponges, as they will damage the surface.
- The headlight should only be washed with water, not dry cloths or sponges.
- Never wash the tires with a pressure jet that sprays the water out in a direct stream, as it could damage the tires. If used at a far distance, only spray the tires for a short amount of time.

For the environment

- Your Audi should only be washed in special wash bays. This prevents the oily water from entering the public drains. In some areas, washing anywhere else may be prohibited.

Waxing and Polishing Your Audi

Waxing

Waxing protects the paintwork. It is time to apply a good coat of wax when water no longer forms droplets and rolls off the clean paintwork. Even if a wax solution is used regularly in the car wash, it is advisable to protect the paint with a coat of wax at least twice a year.

In the summer, you will find it is much easier to remove dead insects (which accumulate on the bumper and the front of the bonnet) if the car has been waxed recently.

Polishing

Polishing is only necessary if the paint has lost its shine, and the gloss cannot be brought back by putting on wax. The car must be waxed after polishing if the polish used does not contain wax compounds to seal the paint.

Caution

- Matte painted and plastic parts must not be treated with wax or polish.

Ornamental Trim and Moldings

The metal brightwork on the body is made of aluminum rather than chrome (for environmental reasons).

Dirt or marks on the trim moldings should be removed with an acid-free cleaning agent, not a chrome cleaner. Body polish is also unsuitable for the use on trim moldings. These intensive cleaning solutions often go into the car wash, which can cause dull or milky patches when they dry out.

Audi dealers, such as Parktown Imports, often carry stocks of cleaning products which have been tested for use on your Audi and are not harmful to the environment.

Plastic parts

Plastic parts will come clean with regular washing. If regular washing isn't doing the job, plastic parts should only be cleaned with a special solvent-free plastic cleaning agent. Do not use paint cleaners, polishes, or wax on plastic parts.

Paint Damage

Minor damage to the paint, such as chips, should be touched up without delay before the metal starts to corrode. Suitable touch-up brushes or sprays for your Audi can be obtained from an Audi dealer like Parktown Imports.

If corrosion is already visible, then it must be thoroughly removed by a qualified workshop.

Windows

Clear vision makes for the safest driving experience. The windscreen should not be cleaned with insect remover or wax, otherwise the windscreen wipers will not function properly.

Substances like rubber, oil, grease, or silicone can be removed with a window cleaning solution or a silicone remover. Wax residue can only be removed with a special cleaner. Use a separate cloth or chamois to dry the windows. Cloths used for waxing and polishing should be avoided, as they contain residues that will cause smears on the glass.

WARNING

Do not use water-repellent coatings on the windscreen. In bad visibility conditions such as light rain, low sun, or when driving at night, these coatings can cause increased

dazzle, which is a serious safety hazard. Such coatings can also cause the wiper blades to judder.

Caution

- Remove snow and ice from windows and mirrors with a plastic scraper only. To avoid any scratches that may be caused by dirt on the glass, move the scraper in one direction only.
- The heating element for the rear window is located on the inner side of the window; therefore, you should avoid placing decals, stickers, and similar items on the inner-side of the window as they could damage the heating element.
- Never use warm or hot water to remove snow and ice from windows and mirrors. This could cause the glass to crack.

Rubber Seals and Weatherstrips

Silicone sprays and other suitable care products can be applied to the weatherstrips to keep them from getting dried out and cracked. Also, this will prevent premature aging and leaks. By treating such seals, the doors will be easier to open in the winter time and they will be less likely to freeze.

Wheels

The wheels require regular attention to preserve their appearance. It is important to remove road salt and brake dust by washing the wheels regularly. After washing, the wheels should only be cleaned with an “acid-free” cleaning agent for alloy wheels. Never leave the cleaning agent on the rims for longer than specified in the instructions before rinsing it off. Wheel cleaner that contains acid can attack the surfaces of the wheel bolts.

Car polish or other abrasive agents should not be used. If the protective paint coating is damaged with rock chips, the damaged area should be touched up immediately.

WARNING

- Ice and road salt can impair the effectiveness of the brakes - this can cause an accident.

INTERIOR CARE

Sound System/MMI Display Screen and Control Console

The display screen can be cleaned with a soft cloth and a special “LCD cleaner”. Moisten the cloth with a small amount of cleaning fluid.

Clean the MMI control console with a fine brush first to prevent any dirt from getting in between the control buttons and the housing. It’s recommended to wipe the MMI control console using a cloth moistened with washing-up liquid and water.

Caution

- Do not wipe the display with a dry cloth, as it will scratch the screen.
- Avoid getting liquid inside the control console.

Plastic Parts and Leatherette

Plastic parts and leatherette can be cleaned with a damp cloth. If dirt is still visible, you should only treat these parts with a special solvent-free plastic cleaner.

Textile Covers and Trim Parts

Textile covers and trim parts (ie. seats, door trim) should be cleaned regularly with a vacuum cleaner. This will remove surface dirt that could be rubbed into the surface during driving. Do not use steam cleaners, as the steam could carry the dirt deeper into the textile material.

Normal cleaning

Parktown Imports recommends that you use a soft sponge or lint-free, micro-fiber cloth for normal cleaning. Only use brushes on floor coverings and mats, as other textile surfaces could become damaged.

Foam cleaners can be used in cases of normal surface dirt. Use a sponge to spread the foam on the textile surface and to work it into the material lightly. However, make sure that the textile material does not become soaking wet. Then, dab off the foam with a dry and absorbent cloth, such as a micro-fiber cloth, and vacuum off any residue once the surface is completely dry.

Removing tough stains

Coffee, juice, and food stains on sensitive fabrics can be treated by making up a solution with a mild detergent. If the stains are too difficult to remove, a washing paste can be applied directly onto the stain and worked into the fabric. The surface will then have to be wiped clear with water. To do this, we suggest using a damp cloth or sponge and then dabbing the stain with an absorbent cloth.

Chocolate and make-up stains can be treated using a washing paste and then completing the rinsing process with water.

Spirit-based cleaners can be used to remove grease, oil, lipstick, or ball point pen stains. Once applied, dab the dissolved grease or color particles off with an absorbent cloth. Depending on the stain, you may have to treat the stain once more, using a washing paste and water.

Badly soiled stains that appear on the textile trim panels are recommended to be cleaned by a professional cleaning company.

Natural Leather

General notes

Nappa is the main type of leather used in Audi vehicles, and it has a smooth surface in a selection of various colors.

The amount of dye used in the leather determines the appearance and properties of leather. Leather retains its typical natural appearance if it's left in its natural state, ultimately leaving it pleasant and comfortable for the seat occupant. Some characteristics of genuine natural leather include fine veins, healed scars, insect bites, wrinkles, and a subtle variation in shading.

Natural napped leather does not have a protective surface coating or dye. Therefore, it is more prone to damage. Keep this in mind if your children or pets are traveling in the car, or if there are other situations that could lead to damage.

Leather with a colored surface coating are more resistant to damage, as you could see the advantage with day to day use. This means that the natural characteristics mentioned above will be less apparent; it will not affect the quality.

Cleaning and care

Finished leather has a certain sensitivity to dirt and grease because of the natural properties of the specially selected hides. A special degree of care is required in everyday use and when looking after the leather. Damp, dark, or incorrectly dyed clothing can stain the leather. Also, dust and grit can get into the pours and seams, making for an abrasive mixture that can damage the surface of the leather.

Leather should be cleaned regularly, depending on the actual amount of use. Everyday driving can cause your car seats to develop a distinctive patina over time. This is a typical characteristic of real leather upholstery and is a sign of genuine quality.

Maintaining the value of natural leather is important, and you should take note of the following points:

- Use a suitable impregnating cream with ultra-violet protection regularly after cleaning. This cream will moisten the leather, keeping it supple and able to breathe. It will also protect the surface of the leather.
- Clean the leather in your Audi every 2 to 3 months and remove fresh dirt as necessary.
- Immediately remove stains from ball-point pens and other inks, lipstick, and shoe polish.
- Special colored creams will renew the leather when required and will rid it of any differences in color.

Caution

- Avoid exposing leather to direct sunlight for long periods of time, otherwise it may lose some of its color. You can preserve the leather by covering it in certain situations of prolonged sunlight, such as during work and street parking.
- Sharp-edged objects on clothing and clothing accessories can leave permanent scratches and rough marks on the surface of the leather.

Cleaning and Care of Leather Upholstery

Normal cleaning

Moisten a cotton or woolen cloth with water and wipe over the leather surfaces.

More stubborn dirt

You can remove more stubborn dirt by using a mild soap solution (pure liquid soap: two tablespoons dissolved in one liter of water). It's important not to let the water soak through the leather or penetrate into the seams. Wipe the mild soap solution dry with a soft, dry cloth.

Removal of stains

You can remove tough water-based stains such as coffee, tea, and blood with an absorbent cloth or kitchen roll, dried-on stains with the cleaning agent from the care set.

Fat-based stains such as butter, mayonnaise, and chocolate can be removed by using a cloth or the cleaning agent from the care set.

Treat less common stains, such as ball-point pens, nail polish, and shoe polish with a special leather stain remover.

Leather care products

You should treat the leather regularly (twice a year) with a special leather-care product, like a cream, and wiping off with a soft, dry cloth.

If you have any questions about cleaning or caring for your leather, we urge you to contact Parktown Imports. Our expert staff will gladly provide you with further information on how you can clean and care for the upholstery with a complete range of products.

Caution

- Never use solvents, wax polish, shoe cream, or similar products in caring for or cleaning your Audi's leather.

Cleaning Alcantara

Removing dust and dirt

Slightly moisten a cloth and wipe down the seat covers.

Removing stains

First, moisten a cloth with lukewarm water or diluted methylated spirits. Second, dab at the stain and start at the outside and work inward. Lastly, dry the moist area with a soft cloth.

Do not use leather cleaning products on Alcantara seat covers.

As for leather, dust and grime can have an abrasive effect and damage the surface of the leather. You will find that the leather will remain protected if your Audi is left in the sun, mostly because of the protection of the seat covers.

Caution

- Avoid the use of solvents, wax polish, shoe polish, stain removers, leather cleaning products, or any similar products on Alcantara.
- Consult a qualified workshop for stubborn stains.
- Never use brushes, hard sponges, or similar utensils.

Seat Belts

Your Audi's seat belts should be looked after properly to ensure that they are operating correctly. Here are some practices to follow:

- Keep your seat belts clean using a mild soap solution.
- Check the condition of the seat belts at regular intervals.

Extremely dirty belts may not retract properly. Also, make sure that the inertia reel seat belts are completely dry before allowing them to retract.

Caution

- When cleaning your Audi's seat belts, do not remove them from the vehicle.
- Do not use chemical cleaning agents or corrosive fluids when cleaning seat belts, as they could damage the webbing.
- Replace your seat belt if you find damage to the webbing, fittings, or retractor, as they should be replaced by a qualified workshop.

TIRE REPAIR

General Information and Safety Notes

Keep in mind that repaired tires are only suitable for temporary use. Also, your Audi is most likely equipped with a tire repair kit, called a Tire Mobility System (TMS). The TMS consists of a sealing compound and an electric compressor, located under the floor panel in the trunk. The TMS will reliably seal tires that are damaged by foreign bodies, specifically cuts and punctures that are no larger than 4mm in diameter.

If the foreign body can be seen lodged in the tire, there is no need for removal. The sealing compound should not be used:

- On cuts and punctures larger than 4mm.
- If the wheel rim has been damaged.
- If you have been driving while the tire has experienced low pressure or if it's completely flat.

The TMS can be used at outside temperatures down to -4 degrees Fahrenheit.

*Note: Leave the sealant to dry if any leaks out. When it has dried, you can pull it off like a piece of foil. Also, take note of the expiration date of the sealant that is located on the can. If expired, have the compound exchanged by a qualified workshop.

WARNING

After repairing the tire, you should:

- Not exceed 50mph when driving.
- Avoid quick acceleration, hard breaking, and fast cornering.
- Your Audi's handling could be impaired.
- Tires which have been sealed using the TMS are only suitable for temporary use. Damaged tires must be renewed or replaced.
- Seek professional assistance if the repair of a tire puncture is not possible with the sealing compound.
- Do not let the sealant come in contact with your eyes, skin, or clothing.

- Immediately rinse your skin or eyes with clean water if the sealant has contact with these areas.
- Change clothes immediately if they have become wetted by the tire sealant.
- Avoid inhaling the fumes that are given off by the sealant.
- If you accidentally ingest the sealant, immediately rinse the mouth thoroughly and drink lots of water. Do not induce vomiting and immediately contact a doctor.
- If you experience any allergic reactions while using the tire sealant, you should seek medical attention immediately.
- Keep the sealant away from children.

Repairing a Tire

Preparations

- Stop the car well away from moving traffic before assessing the damage done to the flat tire.
- Apply the parking brake to ensure that your Audi does not move accidentally.
- Engage manual transmissions into 1st gear and automatic transmissions into Park mode.
- Check whether the repair is possible by referring to page 15 of this guide.
- Make sure all of the passengers have exited the Audi and have moved to a less dangerous area. I.e. Away from the roadway.
- Take the tire sealant can and electric compressor out of the trunk.

Filling the tire

- Shake the can of tire sealant thoroughly.
- Screw the enclosed filling hose onto the sealant can as far as it will go. This will automatically pierce the foil sealing the can.
- Take the valve cap off the tire valve and use the enclosed valve insert tool to unscrew the valve insert.
- Place the valve insert onto a clean surface.
- Remove the sealing plug from the filling hose and insert the hose into the tire valve.
- Hold the tire sealant can upside down and fill the complete contents of the can into the tire.

- Finally, disconnect the hose and screw the valve insert firmly back into the tire valve.

Inflating the tire

- Screw the filling hose of the electric compressor onto the tire valve and plug the connector into the cigarette lighter.
- Pump the tire up to the 2.0 to 2.5 bar and monitor the pressure shown on the pressure gauge.
- You may need to drive the car about 1 to 2 feet forward if the pressure remains lower than the value specified above. This will ensure that the sealant is spread evenly throughout the inside of the tire. If the tire still remains below the specified value, then the tire is too damaged and cannot be repaired using the tire sealant.

Final checks

- Check the tire pressure 10 minutes after the tire has been filled.
- If the tire has lost a significant amount of pressure, then the tire is too badly damaged to be repaired and you should consult professional assistance, like Parktown Imports.

WARNING

- It's important to switch off your warning lights and to display the warning triangle in moving traffic. This will keep you and other drivers safe on the roadway,
- Make sure your passengers wait in a safe place when you're repairing the tire.
- Please note the safety warnings on the compressor and tire sealant canister.
- If you are unable to fill the tire with the pressure designated above, then the tire is too badly damaged to be repaired.
- Call a professional - like Parktown Imports - if the tire is too badly damaged for self-repair.

Caution

- Take special precautions if you have to repair the tire on an uneven surface.

*Note: Do not use the compressor for more than 6 minutes at a time, as the machine must cool down. Leave the sealant on the tire if it is leaking out. Remember to repair the tire or get it patched after you've reached your destination. This should be done by a professional.

JUMP STARTING

Before Starting the Engine

The battery can be connected to the battery of another vehicle to start the engine if your battery has failed or has been discharged. Suitable jumper cables are required.

Jumper cables

Each of the batteries you're connecting to must be 12 Volts. The capacity of the battery you're supplying from should not be significantly lower than your discharged battery. Also, your jumper cables must be heavy enough to carry the starter current. Reference the details given by the manufacturer and your car's owner manual.

Positive cable - usually red

Negative cable - usually black

WARNING

- A discharged battery can freeze at temperatures of 32 degrees fahrenheit; therefore, you must thaw the battery before connecting the jumper cables. Failure to do this may result in an explosion.
- Please refer to your owners manual for any warnings of working in the engine compartment

*Note: There must be no other contact between the two vehicles during this connection; the current could flow as soon as the positive terminals are connected. Also, the discharged battery must be properly connected to your Audi's electrical system.

Connecting the positive terminals with the positive cable

1. Connect one end of the positive cables to the jump-start terminal (red cap) of the discharged battery.
2. Connect the other end of the positive cable to the positive terminal of the boosting battery.

Connecting the negative terminals with the negative cable

3. Connect one end of the negative cable to the negative terminal of the boosting battery.
4. Connect the other end of the lead to the jump-start terminal (black cap or hexagon) to the discharged Audi battery.

Starting the Engine

- Start the engine of the vehicle with the boosting battery and let it run at idling speed.
- Then, start the engine of your Audi (with the discharged battery.)
- If your Audi's engine fails to start, do not operate the starter for longer than 10 seconds. Wait for about 30 seconds and try again.
- When your Audi's engine starts, disconnect the cables in the exact opposite sequence as described in the above steps.
- Refit the red cap onto the positive terminal

WARNING

- The metal part of the positive jumper cables must not come in contact with other metal parts of the vehicle. This could cause short circuiting.
- Do not bend over the batteries or you risk acid burn.
- The screw plugs on the battery cells must be screwed in firmly.
- Keep sparks, flames, and lighted cigarettes away from the batteries. The gases given off by these items could cause an explosion.

CHANGING A TIRE

Preparations

- If you have a flat tire, stop your Audi well away from moving traffic. Choose a location that is as level as possible.
- All passengers should leave the Audi and wait in a safe location away from moving traffic.
- Engage the parking break to stop your Audi from moving accidentally.
- Engage first gear or move the selector to the “P” position.
- Take the tools and the spare tire out of the luggage compartment.

WARNING

- If your Audi experiences a tire puncture in moving traffic, switch on your hazard warning lights and place the warning triangle in a visible location. This is for your safety as well as the safety of others.

Caution

If you have to change the tire on an incline, block the wheel opposite to the wheel being changed by placing a stone or similar object under it to prevent the Audi from rolling away.

How to Change a Tire

- Pull off the hub cap. You can refer to your Audi’s owners manual for specific instructions of this process.
- Loosen the wheel bolts.
- Raise the car with the jack.
- Take off the wheel with the flat tire and then put on the spare tire.
- Lower the vehicle to the ground.
- Tighten the wheel bolts firmly in diagonal sequence with the box spanner.
- Fit the hub cap back on the tire.

After Changing the Tire

- Place the defective tire in the spare wheel well and secure it.
- Put the tools and the jack back in the trunk.
- The inflation pressure of the newly fitted spare tire must be checked as soon as possible.
- Have the tightening torque of the wheel bolts checked as soon as possible with a torque wrench. Refer to your Audi's owners manual for the correct tightening torque.
- Have the flat tire replaced by Parktown Imports as quickly as possible.

*Note: If your Audi's wheel bolts are corroded and difficult to turn when changing the tire, then they must be replaced before having the tightening torque checked. In the interest of safety, drive at moderate speeds until the tightening torque of the wheel bolts have been checked.

Hub Caps

Removing

- Start removing the hub caps by inserting the hook (provided in your Audi's tool kit) in then hole in the hub cap.
- Pull off the hub cap.

Loosening and Tightening the Wheel Bolts

Loosening

- Fit the box spanner as far as it will go over the wheel bolt.
- Grip the box spanner as close to the end as possible and turn the wheel bolts about one turn counter-clockwise.

Tightening

- Fit the box spanner as far as it will go over the wheel bolt.
- Grip the box spanner as close to the end as possible and tighten the bolt firmly by turning clockwise.

WARNING

- **You can avoid accidents by only loosening the wheel bolts slightly (about one turn) before raising your Audi with the jack.**

*Note: Do not use the hexagonal socket in the screwdriver handle to loosen or tighten the wheel bolts. If the wheel bolt is very tight, it may be possible to loosen it by pushing down the end of the spanner carefully with the weight of your body using your foot. Hold on to the car for support and make sure not to slip.

Raising Your Audi

Your Audi must be raised with a jack in order to remove the wheel. Each jacking point is marked by a recess underneath your Audi.

- Place the jack underneath the jacking point closest to the wheel being changed. Make sure the base plate is flat on the ground.
- Extend the jack by rotating the knob until the claw of the jack completely surrounds the seam on your vehicle.
- Now, fit the crank handle onto the jack by inserting it in the opening on the knob. Turn the crank handle clockwise or anti-clockwise to secure it in place.
- Raise the vehicle by winding the crank handle until the defective wheel is clear of the ground.

You can find the jacking point at the front and rear of the door sills. There is one jacking point for each wheel. The distance from the jacking points to the wheel arches is approximately 8 inches at the front and 16 inches at the rear. The jack may only be applied at the seam of the jacking points.

An unstable surface under the jack may cause the Audi to slip off the jack. Always provide a firm base for the jack on the ground. If necessary, use a strong, large board for additional support. On a hard, slippery surface (like floor tiles) use a rubber mat or similar surface to prevent the jack from slipping.

⚠ WARNING

- Prevent the base of the jack from slipping - risk of injury.
- Your Audi can be damaged if the jack is not applied at the correct jacking points. There is also a risk of injury since the jack can slip off suddenly if it is not properly engaged.

Taking Off the Tire and Putting on the Spare

Taking off the wheel

- Unscrew the wheel bolt nearest to the top and place the bolt on a clean surface. This should be done using the hexagonal socket in the screwdriver handle (provided in the vehicle's tool kit.)
- Screw in the mounting pin (provided in the vehicle's tool kit) by hand in place of the wheel bolt.
- The unscrew the other wheel bolts as described above.
- Take off the wheel; the mounting pin stays where it is.

Putting on the spare tire

- Use the mounting pin to guide the spare tire into place.
- Screw in the wheel bolts and tighten them lightly using the hexagonal opening in the screwdriver handle.
- Then unscrew the mounting pin and tighten the remaining wheel bolt lightly.
- Carry out the steps required after you have changed the wheel.
- Carry out "After Changing the Tire" on page 21.

The wheel bolts should turn easily and they should be clean. Inspect the conditions of the wheel and hub mounting surfaces before putting on the spare tire.

The wheel bolts are easier to remove from the wheel rim if you use the hexagonal socket in the screwdriver handle. The reversible screwdriver blade should be removed as a precautionary measure when the tool is used for this purpose.

*Note: Do not use the hexagonal socket in the screwdriver handle to loosen or tighten the wheel bolts.

Tires with Directional Tread Pattern

You can identify a directional tread pattern by the arrows on the sidewall pointing in the forward running direction. Make sure that you always note the direction of rotation indicated when mounting the wheel. This will ensure that the tires get maximum grip and avoid excessive noise, tread wear, and water-planing.

You should drive cautiously if you ever have a puncture and may have to mount the tire so it rotates in the wrong direction. In this case, the tire will not give optimum performance, especially on wet roads.

The defective tire should be replaced and refitted as soon as possible to ensure that all tires again rotate in the correct direction. Plus, there are many advantages to having tires with this type of tread pattern.

OIL MAINTENANCE

General Notes

We recommend that you have your Audi's oil changed at Parktown Imports by one of our qualified technicians. This should be done according to the intervals stated in the Service Schedule or according to the service interval display in the instrument cluster.

Whether your Audi is serviced at flexible service intervals or fixed service intervals is shown in the Service Schedule.

The correct oil specifications for your engine are listed in the Technical Data section of your Audi's owners manual, most likely under "Performance, weights, and dimensions".

Flexible service intervals (Audi LongLife Service*)

Special engine oils have been developed as part of the Audi LongLife Service.

This type of oil must be used if you intend to take advantage of the extended maintenance intervals allowed by this program.

- Do not mix the LongLife oil with oil intended for fixed service intervals, as the requirements for the extended service intervals are then no longer guaranteed.
- In exceptional circumstances, if the engine oil is too low and you cannot obtain the specified LongLife oil, you can put in a small quantity of oil for fixed service intervals. This should not be done more than once and no more than .5 liters should be used.

Fixed service intervals (Inspection Service*)

If you do not take advantage of the LongLife service for your car, you can use the oils for fixed service intervals. In this case, your Audi must be serviced according to its owners manual.

Checking the Oil Level (with dipstick)

Checking the oil level

- Park your Audi on a level surface.
- Allow the warm of the engine to run briefly at idling speed and then switch off the ignition.
- Wait approx. 2 minutes.
- Pull out the dipstick. Wipe the dipstick clean with a cloth and insert it again, pushing it in as far as it will go.
- Then, pull the dipstick out again and check the oil level. If the level is too low, add more engine oil.

Oil level at MAX line

- Do not top off your oil

Oil level in MIDDLE area.

- Oil can be topped off until oil level is at MAX line.

Oil level at MIN line or below

- Oil MUST be topped off until oil level is at MAX line.

Depending on how you drive your Audi and the conditions in which your Audi is used, oil consumption can be up to .5 liters every 650 miles. You should therefore check the oil level at regular intervals, ideally every time you fill the tank, and also before setting off on a long trip.

Checking the Oil Level (without dipstick)

In most Audi's, you can check the oil level via the sound system or MMI.

- Select the correct function on either system.
- Park your Audi on a level surface.
- Allow the warm engine to run briefly at idling speed and then switch off the ignition.
- Wait approx. 2 minutes.
- Read off the oil level on the display. Top off the engine oil if the bar in the oil level display is near the MIN line.

Depending on how you drive your Audi and the conditions in which your Audi is used, oil consumption can be up to .5 liters every 650 miles. You should therefore check the oil level at regular intervals, ideally every time you fill the tank, and also before setting off on a long trip.

*Note: The oil level display is only intended for informational purposes. An oil level warning will appear in the instrument cluster if the oil level is too low.

Topping Off the Engine Oil

- Unscrew cap (with oil can image) from the oil filler opening.
- Carefully put in the specified grade of oil .5 liters at a time.
- Check the oil level again after two minutes by referring to the last two sections on pages 26 and 27.
- Add more engine oil if the current oil level is too low.
- Replace the oil filler cap carefully and push the dipstick all the way in (on Audi's with a dipstick).

WARNING

- Ensure that no oil comes into contact with hot engine components when topping off: this could cause a fire.
- Wash your skin thoroughly if it comes into contact with engine oil.

 **Caution**

- The oil level must never be above the MAX level. This could result in damage to the catalytic converter or to the engine. On vehicles without an oil dipstick, you can check the oil level via the sound system or MMI. Contact Parktown Imports to extract the engine oil if necessary.
- No additives should be used with engine oil. Any damage caused by the use of such additives would not be covered by the factory warranty.

 **For the environment**

- Never pour oil down drains or into the ground.
- Bring empty oil or old oil canisters to a local recycling center for proper disposal.

COOLANT MAINTENANCE

Coolant

The purpose of engine coolant is to carry heat away from the engine. The correct amount of engine coolant is important to prevent the cooling system from freezing in the winter.

The cooling system is filled for life at the factory, so the coolant does not need to be changed. The coolant consists of a water mixture and anti-freeze additive.

Anti-freeze additive

The amount of anti-freeze additive required depends on the temperatures to be expected in the winter season. If the anti-freeze concentration is too low then the coolant can freeze, resulting in failure of the cooling system and heater.

The cooling system is filled at the factory with the correct amount of anti-freeze.

In most cases, the mixture consists of 60% water and 40% additive. This mixture gives the required anti-freeze protection at temperatures down to -13 degrees fahrenheit and protects the alloy parts of the cooling system against corrosion. It also prevents scaling and raises the boiling point of the coolant.

Caution

- Parktown Imports advises you to have the cooling system checked before the winter season to make sure that the antifreeze concentration is adequate for the conditions to be expected. This applied specifically to those who plan on taking their Audi to a cooler climate zone.
- Only use the coolant that is referenced in your Audi's owner manual.

Checking the coolant level

The amount of coolant in the system can be checked at a glance.

- Switch off the ignition.
- Read off coolant level on radiator overflow tank. When the engine is cold it should be between the MIN and MAX marks. When the engine is hot it may be slightly above the MAX mark.

The coolant level should be checked with the engine switched off.

The coolant level is monitored by a warning lamp in the instrument cluster. However, we recommend that it should be checked occasionally.

Coolant losses

Any loss of coolant normally indicates a leak in the cooling system. In this case, the cooling system should be inspected by Parktown Imports without delay. It is not sufficient merely to top off the coolant. If there are leaks in the system, a loss of coolant can only occur if the coolant boils and is forced out of the system as a result of overheating.

Caution

Radiator sealants must not be added to the coolant. Such additives could seriously impair the function of the cooling system.

Topping Off the Coolant

Be careful during this process and make sure to follow the instructions accordingly.

- Switch off the engine.
- Wait for the engine to cool down.
- Cover the cap on the expansion tank with a cloth and carefully unscrew the cap counter-clockwise.
- Add coolant.
- Screw the cap on again tightly.

Make sure that the coolant meets the required specifications in the “Coolant” section on page 29. Always top off with fresh, unused coolant.

Do not fill above the MAX mark. Excess coolant is forced out of the system through the valve in the filler cap when the engine gets hot.

If a lot of coolant has been lost, wait for the engine to cool down before putting in cold coolant. Failure to do so could result in serious engine damage.

 **WARNING**

- The cooling system is under pressure. Do not unscrew the cap on the expansion tank when the engine is hot: you could be scalded by escaping vapors.
- The coolant and coolant additive can be a health hazard. Store the coolant additive in the original container in a safe place out of the reach of children - risk of poisoning.



For the environment

Drained off coolant should not be used again. Drain off the used coolant into a suitable container and bring it to your local recycling center for proper disposal.

This how-to guide for used Audi maintenance will give you the ability to make the most out of your Audi, from the comfort of your own home to unexpected driving situations. We encourage you to keep this guide in your Audi's glove compartment so it will be available for a quick reference should you ever have an unexpected driving situation.

Many of these tips - interior care, oil maintenance, tire changes - suggest contacting a certified professional at Parktown Imports. We strive to offer you the best service and expert knowledge at an affordable price. While it might not be the right time to perform some of these Audi care tips, we hope you'll take advantage of the certified experts at Parktown Imports when your Audi is in need of maintenance.

You can always find us at www.ParktownImports.com or by calling [314-965-3410](tel:314-965-3410). We'd love to hear how things are going with your Audi. Also, feel free to subscribe to our blog that provides Audi enthusiasts and owners with service help, inventory specials, and industry news.