

How Do I Get My Model A Ready for Touring Season?

By Lynn Sondena

The following list is what I do to get my Model A ready for touring season.

- Pack the wheel bearings if it has been more than 1000 miles since the last packing.
- Check the tire pressure including the spare tire. Usually, 34 to 35 psi.
- Torque the lug nuts to 65-foot pounds.
- Check the tires for wear.
- Check the shock absorbers for oil, adjustment and connections.
- Check the following fluid levels:
 - Radiator water level
 - Crankcase oil
 - Steering box
 - Transmission
 - Rear end
- Inspect the fan belt for cracks and tightness.
- Inspect the radiator hoses for leaks and cracks.
- Check the tension of the hose clamps.
- Inspect the exhaust manifold gasket and torque the manifold nuts to 50-foot pounds.
- Inspect the tightness of the muffler clamps nuts.
- Be sure the fuel is fresh in the gas tank.
- Check for fuel leaks in the fuel system.
- Clean and set the spark plug gaps.
- Check the point gap and lubricate the distributor cam lobes.
- Clean the battery terminals and check the water level in the battery.
- Do a quick inspection of all electrical connects for corrosion and tightness.
- Check the tightness of the tie rod ends, drag link ends, and steering pitman arm bolt.
- Check the brake system to be sure they are working correctly and adjust as needed.
- Clean the horn and lubricate.
- Check the headlights, taillights and turn signals.
- Grease all zerks on the Model A.
- Wash and wax the Model A. Apply Rain-X to the windshield.

A good Model A owner would have corrected major problems during the winter months. Now go out and have fun with your Model A. It too needs fresh air and a change of scenery!

