

Safety Check Questions Car + Trailer test (B+E)

**Q1: 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, check level against high/low markings.

**Q2: Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working?**

Applying the indicators or hazard warning switch and checking functioning of all indicators.

**Q3: Tell me the main safety factors involved in loading this vehicle?**

The weight must not exceed the gross weight of the trailer. The load should be distributed evenly throughout the trailer. Heavy items should be loaded as low as possible so that they are mainly over the axles. Bulkier, lighter items should be distributed to give a suitable 'nose weight' at the towing coupling. The nose weight should never exceed the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

**Q4: Tell me the main safety factors involved in securing a load on this vehicle?**

Any load must be carried so that it does not endanger other road users. It must be securely stowed within the size and weight limits for the vehicle. The load needs to be secure so that it cannot move or fall from the vehicle when cornering or braking.

**Q5: Show me how you would check that your vehicle & trailer doors are secure?**

Physical checks should be made to ensure that windows, roof light and all doors, including cargo doors, are properly closed. You may use the vehicle warning system to show the vehicle's doors are closed securely. Physically check the trailer doors.

**Q6: 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?**

No cuts and bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across the central 3/4 of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.

**Q7: Show me how you would check that the horn is working?**

Check is carried out by using control.

**Q8: Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level?**

Identify high/low level markings on header tank and describe how to top up to correct level.

**Q9: Show me how you would check the parking brake for excessive wear?**

Depress the footbrake then release and apply parking brake so it secures itself and is not at the end of the working travel.

**Q10: Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers?**

Operate control to wash and wipe windscreen.

**Q11: Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively, this should include both front and rear screens.**

Set all relevant controls

**Q12: Show me how you would switch on the rear fog lights and explain when you would use them?**

Operate switch (turn on dipped headlights and ignition). Check warning light is on (Amber). To be used when visibility is seriously reduced to less than 100 metres

**Q13: Show me how you switch your headlights from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car?**

Operate switch (with ignition on), check with main beam warning light (Blue).

**Q14: Tell me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this vehicle?**

Operate brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors or ask someone to help.

**Q15: 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 eye or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable.

**Q16: Show me how you check the windscreen wipers for wear?**

Pull up wiper arm from window and inspect for perished or broken blades

**Q17: Show me how you check the power steering system is working correctly?**

Try to turn steering wheel slightly from side to side and feel resistance, then start engine and repeat the trying to turn steering wheel from side to side, this time with no resistance.