



VEHICLE PREPARATION

When preparing for a trip, your vehicle is your number one piece of equipment. It is essential that preparation of your vehicle starts early.

If you are heading out on a remote trip your vehicle will not only be travelling longer distances, but over rough and challenging terrain. Have your vehicle serviced and have a chat to your local service centre about your intended trip. Get them to check over your belts, hoses, exhaust mountings, shock absorbers and tyres, in addition to the usual service and safety check.

Ensure your tyres are in good condition with plenty of tread, if not replace them. Good tyres at the correct pressures for the conditions will minimise your tyre problems during a trip. On longer trips in remote areas a second spare is a good idea. It might sound silly, but check you have the correct wheel changing tools and solid base plate to use under your jack to stop it sinking into soft sand. A good tyre pressure gauge and 12V compressor is essential to maintain correct tyre pressures for all road conditions.

The amount of preparation and checking of your vehicle will vary with the age, previous trips, the length of trip and remoteness. New vehicles can develop unexpected problems just as older used vehicles, have loose bolts, cracked mountings etc.

Attached is a checklist to help you prepare your vehicle for our trips, follow, add to the list and discuss with your service centre if required.

In the words of Benjamin Franklin

“BY FAILING TO PREPARE, YOU ARE PREPARING TO FAIL”