

Car Care Corner

Expert Mechanics Offer Tips

(NAPSA)—While many Americans spend a great deal of money, time and energy maintaining their homes, from their lawns to their gutters, many are not paying nearly enough attention to another important investment—their cars. According to a recent Valvoline/ASE Poll of the American Mechanic, most mechanics surveyed believe their customers do not treat their vehicles with the same care as they did 20 years ago, revealing a huge need for better interior and exterior vehicle maintenance among American car owners.

Keep Your Motor Runnin'

Maintaining a car's engine life over the years is not as difficult as it may seem. The majority of the mechanics agreed that the top things a person can do to preserve engine life and keep a vehicle running great include these easy steps:

- Changing the oil regularly
- Receiving regular tune-ups
- Receiving regular cooling system maintenance
- Changing the air filter regularly

When asked if changing the oil regularly is one of the top things that a person can do to keep a vehicle running better after 75,000 miles, 62 percent of the mechanics agreed. In addition, 83 percent of the technicians agreed with bringing a higher mileage vehicle in for a check-up at least once a year, if not more often.

"The survey repeatedly found that changing the motor oil is one of the best things you can do for your car," said Sam Mitchell, president of Valvoline. "Valvoline's MaxLife® motor oil, ATF and anti-freeze are specially formulated to

Top Things A Person Can Do To Preserve Engine Life And Keep A Vehicle Running Great

- Change Oil Regularly/Frequently said 93%
- Regular Tune Ups/Plugs/Etc. said 71%
- Regular Cooling System Maintenance said 57%
- Change Air Filter Regularly said 54%

Source: Valvoline/ASE poll of the American Mechanic



help slow the aging process and help maximize the life of a vehicle."

Wash and Wax to Perfection

Maintaining a vehicle's appearance can increase its value, yet the mechanics said that less than half (49 percent) of their customers' cars appear to have the exterior properly maintained. The technicians agreed that washing and waxing on a regular basis are the two top things a person can do to make the outside of a vehicle look as good as new.

"Mechanics understand that maintaining a car's appearance adds value in the long-term, but they still believe many people skip this process based on price and time," said Chad Heath, detailing expert for Eagle One automotive appearance products. "Eagle One products such as Wet Wax-As-U-Dry and Wet Wipe & Shine are convenient because they contain simple spray-on formulas easier to use than conventional products and provide protection with every use that increases a car's resale value."

These simple car care tips are as important as having a good working relationship with your local mechanic. For more information visit www.valvoline.com.