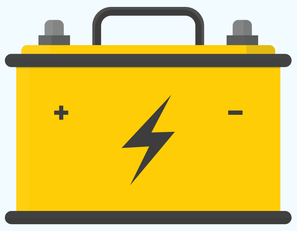
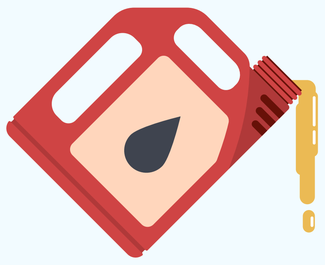
When Should You Replace These Car Parts?

Your Quick-Glance Maintenance Cheat Sheet



BATTERY
Every 4-6 years

Cold weather, heat, and how often you drive all affect battery life. Check regularly, especially after 4 years.



OIL
Every 3K-10K miles

Depends on your car and oil type. Conventional oils need changing sooner; synthetic oils and newer cars can go longer between changes.



WINDSHIELD WIPERS
Every 6-12 months

If they streak, squeak, or skip—swap them out! Many experts recommend a fresh set every 6 months.



TIRES
Every 30K-50K miles

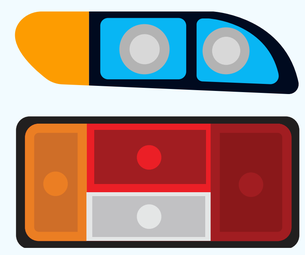
Mileage depends on driving habits, tire brand, and road conditions. Regular rotations and alignments help extend life.



SPARK PLUGS
Every 30K-100K+ miles

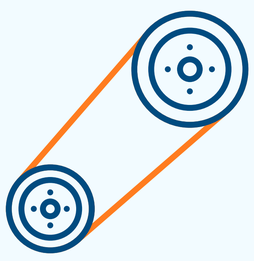
Depends on Material:

- Copper: ~30,000 miles
- Platinum/Iridium: 100,000+ miles
- Premium plugs (e.g., NGK): Up to 135,000 miles



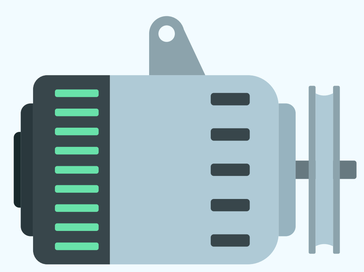
HEADLIGHTS & TAIL LIGHTS
Every 4-6 years

Bulb lifespan varies based on driving time and bulb type (halogen, LED, HID).



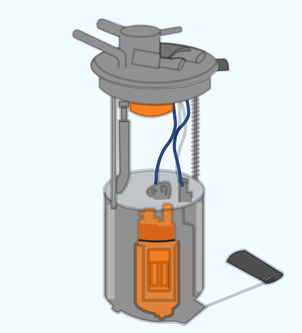
BELTS
Every 60K-100K miles

Includes serpentine and drive belts; tension and cracking should be checked regularly.



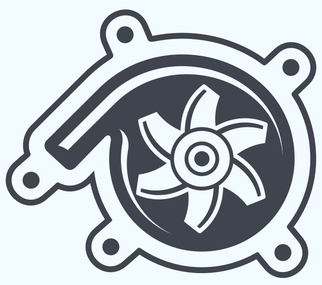
ALTERNATORS
Around 100K miles

Symptoms of a failing alternator include dim lights, dead battery, or warning light.



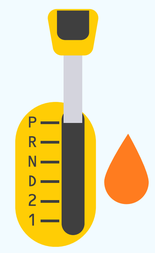
FUEL PUMPS
Every 100K-125K miles

Premature failure often caused by dirty fuel, overheating, or frequent low fuel levels.



WATER PUMPS
Every 60K-90K miles

Often replaced alongside the timing belt; coolant leaks or overheating may be warning signs.



TRANSMISSION FLUID
Every 30K-60K miles

Check type and schedule in your owner's manual; fluid condition affects shifting performance.



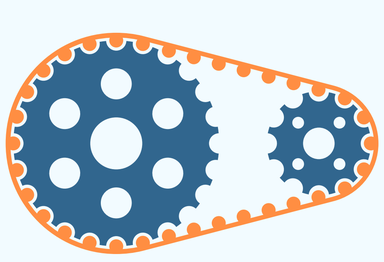
SERVICE
Every 10K-12K miles

Follow manufacturer-recommended intervals for oil, filter, and system checks.



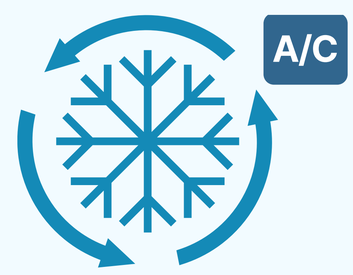
CLUTCH
Around 60K miles

Lifespan depends on driving habits and traffic conditions; slipping or rough shifts may signal wear.



TIMING BELTS
Every 60K-100K miles

Critical to engine timing; failure can cause major damage. Not all vehicles use timing belts (some use chains).



AIR CONDITIONING
Every 2 years

Includes refrigerant recharge and performance check; watch for weak airflow or odd smells.

Shop Smarter

Find the right parts fast at carparts.com™

NOTE: These figures are general guidelines. Always refer to your vehicle's owner's manual or consult a trusted mechanic for the best recommendations based on your car's year, make, and model.