

MOT Changes Factsheet

When will the MOT Test change?

20th May 2018

What will be different?

- New defect categories: Dangerous, Major, and Minor
- Advisory comments will still be shown as well
- The test certificate will look different
- Additional items will be checked in the test
- Most cars over 40 years old will not need an MOT test

What do the new categories mean?

Item category	MOT pass/ fail	Meaning	Action needed
Dangerous	Fail	A serious and immediate risk to road safety or the environment.	Repair immediately. Do not drive the vehicle.
Major	Fail	Safety or the environment may be affected.	Repair immediately.
Minor	Pass	No significant impact on safety or the environment.	Repair as soon as possible.
Advisory	Pass	Could become an impact on safety or the environment.	Monitor and repair when necessary.
Pass	Pass	Meets the minimum legal standard.	N/A

What new items are tested?

- Headlamp washers, if fitted, (vehicles used from 1/9/2009)
- Reverse lights, (vehicles used from 1/9/2009)
- Daytime running lights (vehicles used from 1/3/2018)
- Brake fluid contamination
- Tyre pressures (visual check)
- Brake pad warning light must not be illuminated
- Brake pads and discs must be present
- For diesel cars, any signs the DPF has been tampered with or visible exhaust smoke of any colour will mean an automatic test fail

Will the test fees go up?

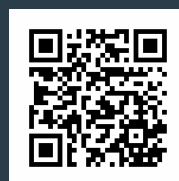
The maximum test fee (currently £54.85 for a car) will not change.

My car is 40 years old in June. Will it need an MOT?

- It will need a valid MOT until June to be used on a public road, so if the MOT runs out before 20th May, it will need to be re-tested
- Cars over 40 years old can still be submitted for an MOT test, but it is not mandatory

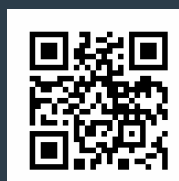
Can I still check the MOT history of a car?

Yes. Go to www.gov.uk/check-mot-history



Can I get an MOT reminder?

Yes. Go to www.gov.uk/mot-reminder



Would you like more information?

Read more from IAM RoadSmart's Head of Technical Policy and Advice by [clicking here](#).

[Find out more](#) about IAM RoadSmart, the UK's largest independent road safety charity.