

MODEL T SAFETY CHECKLIST

Steering

- Steering wheel has minimal to no play
- Acceptable wear and minimal to no play in:
 - Radius rod (wish bone) to crankcase
 - Ball arm (pitman arm) to steering gear connecting rod (drag link)
 - Steering gear connecting rod (tie rod) to yoke ball
 - Spindle bolts (king pins)
 - Spindle connecting rod bolts
- Cotter keys (or lock washers, if holes not drilled) installed:
 - Radius rod (wish bone) to front axle [2 required]
 - Steering gear bracket to frame [3 required]
 - Ball arm (pitman arm) to steering post [1 required]
 - Steering gear connecting rod (tie rod) to yoke ball [2 required]
 - Steering gear connecting rod (tie rod) to steering gear ball [2 required]
 - Spindle connecting rod to spindles [2 (1 per spindle)]
 - Spindle bolts (king pins) [2 (1 per spindle)]
 - Spindle arms [2 (1 per spindle)]
 - Front spring hangers (shackles) [4 (2 per side)]
 - Front spring to frame [2 or 4 required, depending on year]
 - Yoke ball [1 required]
- Safety-wire crankcase studs holding radius rod ball cap
- Grease in steering gear case and steering gear bracket
(also check gear post and pinion gears for wear)
- Check for play in steering gear case to steering column (check rivets/
taper pins)

Brakes

- Brake pedal (and, reverse pedal) should bottom out
before reaching floorboards
- Both rear wheels should lock up under hard braking
- Auxiliary brakes are highly recommended for stock cars
and should be installed if car has an auxiliary transmission

Emergency Brakes

- Hand brake sets securely before limit of its travel (check pawl and spring) ..
- Both rear wheels should lock
- Cotter keys (or lock washers, if holes not drilled) installed:
 - Control shaft assembly to frame [4 required]
 - Brake shoe bolt [2 (1 per side)]
 - Brake rods [4 (1 per end)]

Engine/Power Train

- Oil leaks - within acceptable limits
- Gasoline leaks - none, when parked (in-line shutoff valve recommended).
- Cotter pins installed:
 - Carburetor rod [2 (1 per end)]
 - Choke/carburetor adjustment rod [1 at carburetor]
 - Commutator rod [2 (1 per end)]
 - Crankcase arm to frame [4 (2 per side)]
 - Low speed connector [2 (1 per end)]
 - Universal ball cap [2 (top bolts)] - bottom two cap screws safety-wired together
 - Fan bolt (on earlier cars)

Wheels

- Spokes (and felloes on earlier cars) should be tight
- Front wheel bearings - no play, good condition and greased.....
- All wheels tight and axle/spindle nuts cotter-keyed
- Lug nuts tight on demountable rims
- Check tires for wear, weather cracks, rim cuts, etc.

Rear Axle

- No oil leaks at outer seals
- Differential gearcase oil level
- Cotter keys (or lock washers, if holes not drilled) installed:
 - Rear spring to frame [4 required]
 - Rear spring hangers (shackles) [4 (2 per side)]
 - Rear spring perches to wheel flanges (backing plates) [2 (1 per side)]...

Other

- Lights function, no shorts in electrical system
- Brake light (may not be original equipment, but recommended).....
- Safety glass
- Rear view mirror(s)
- Fire extinguisher
- First, Aid kit
- Registration and Insurance Papers

Vehicle Data

Year _____ Body Style _____ Identification # _____

Date of Inspection _____

This checklist has been designed by the Model T Ford Club of America to assist owners in inspecting their Model T Fords for possible safety-related problems. This checklist is a guide only and should not be interpreted as a guarantee of a vehicle's safety or roadworthiness.