

AJSS AUTO CONSULTING LLC



Vehicle Maintenance Planner

Your complete service schedule, maintenance log, and cost tracker — keep your vehicle running longer for less money

Service Schedules

Maintenance Log

Cost Tracker

WHY THIS MATTERS

Your Maintenance Strategy Determines Your Costs

After inspecting thousands of vehicles over 15 years, the pattern is clear: well-maintained cars last 200,000+ miles and sell for significantly more. Neglected cars fail early and drain their owners. The difference is almost always a \$30–\$80 oil change and following a schedule.

3x

Higher resale value for
well-documented
maintained vehicles

\$4K+

Average cost of an engine
repair from neglected oil
changes

200K

Miles easily achievable on
most makes with proper
maintenance



Your Vehicle Information

Year / Make / Model: _____

VIN: _____

Current Mileage: _____

Engine: _____

Oil Type Required: _____

Primary Shop: _____

Standard Maintenance Intervals

SERVICE ITEM	INTERVAL	AVG COST	PRIORITY
Oil & Filter Change (conventional)	5,000 mi / 6 mo	\$35-\$65	● Critical
Oil & Filter Change (synthetic)	7,500-10,000 mi	\$65-\$100	● Critical
Tire Rotation	5,000-7,500 mi	\$20-\$50	● High
Cabin Air Filter	15,000-25,000 mi	\$20-\$50	● Medium
Engine Air Filter	15,000-30,000 mi	\$20-\$50	● Medium
Brake Inspection	12,000 mi / annually	Free-\$50	● Critical
Brake Fluid Flush	30,000 mi / 2 yrs	\$80-\$130	● High
Coolant Flush	30,000-50,000 mi	\$100-\$160	● High
Transmission Fluid (auto)	30,000-60,000 mi	\$80-\$200	● High
Spark Plugs (standard)	30,000 mi	\$100-\$200	● Medium
Spark Plugs (iridium)	60,000-100,000 mi	\$150-\$300	● Medium
Serpentine Belt	60,000-100,000 mi	\$100-\$200	● Critical
Timing Belt (if equipped)	60,000-100,000 mi	\$400-\$900	● Critical
Battery Test / Replace	Every 3-5 yrs	\$150-\$250	● High
Tire Replacement	40,000-70,000 mi	\$400-\$900 set	● Critical
Wheel Alignment	Annually or after impact	\$80-\$150	● Medium
Power Steering Fluid	50,000 mi	\$50-\$100	● Low
Differential / Transfer Case Fluid (4WD)	30,000-60,000 mi	\$80-\$200	● Medium

 **Pro Tip:** Always check your owner's manual first — manufacturer intervals override general guidelines. High-mileage vehicles (100K+) should use mileage-based intervals, not just time-based.

 **Never skip the brake inspection.** Worn pads that go unchecked destroy rotors — turning a \$150 pad job into a \$400-\$600 rotor replacement. Inspect every 12,000 miles minimum.

Maintenance Log

Record every service visit. This log increases your vehicle's resale value and protects you in warranty disputes.

DATE	MILEAGE	SERVICE DONE	COST	SHOP / NOTES

 **Keep Receipts:** File every invoice with this planner. When selling your vehicle, a complete paper trail adds \$500–\$2,000 to the negotiated price and closes deals faster.

Annual Cost Tracker

Track your total annual spend on maintenance and repairs. Most drivers underestimate true ownership cost — knowing your number is the first step to controlling it.

✓ **Planned Maintenance**

Oil Changes	\$_____
Tire Rotation	\$_____
Filters	\$_____
Brake Service	\$_____
Fluids / Flushes	\$_____
Other Scheduled	\$_____
Subtotal	\$_____

⚠ **Unplanned Repairs**

Repair #1	\$_____
Repair #2	\$_____
Repair #3	\$_____
Repair #4	\$_____
Repair #5	\$_____
Repair #6	\$_____
Subtotal	\$_____

Annual Total

\$_____

💡 **Budget Rule of Thumb:** Plan to spend 1–2% of your vehicle's current value on maintenance per year. A \$20,000 car = ~\$200–\$400/yr in routine maintenance. Anything above \$1,000 warrants an independent inspection before committing to repairs.

SEASONAL READINESS

Seasonal Inspection Checklists

Winter Prep (Oct–Nov)

- ☐ Battery load test (cold kills weak batteries)
- ☐ Antifreeze / coolant concentration check
- ☐ Tire tread depth $\geq 4/32$ " (consider winter tires)
- ☐ Wiper blades — switch to winter blades
- ☐ Brake inspection before icy conditions
- ☐ 4WD / AWD engagement test
- ☐ Emergency kit: blanket, ice scraper, jumper cables

Summer Prep (Apr–May)

- ☐ A/C system check — recharge if blowing warm
- ☐ Tire pressure (heat increases PSI — check cold)
- ☐ Coolant level and condition
- ☐ Serpentine belt condition — heat accelerates wear
- ☐ Radiator / cooling fan operation
- ☐ Wiper blades back to standard
- ☐ Check tire tread before road trips

Spring Check (Mar–Apr)

- ☐ Undercarriage wash — remove road salt
- ☐ Brake inspection — salt corrodes rotors
- ☐ Wheel alignment after winter potholes
- ☐ Swap back from winter tires if used
- ☐ Check all fluids after freeze/thaw cycles
- ☐ Inspect suspension / struts for winter damage
- ☐ Clean / inspect battery terminals for corrosion

Fall Check (Sep–Oct)

- ☐ Battery test — replace if 3+ years old
- ☐ Heating system / defroster test
- ☐ Tire tread check — don't enter winter on worn tires
- ☐ Lights check — days get shorter, visibility critical
- ☐ Brake fluid moisture test
- ☐ Windshield / seals inspection
- ☐ Emergency kit refresh



Need a Second Opinion on a Repair Estimate?

After 15 years in the industry, I've reviewed thousands of repair estimates. I'll tell you if the price is fair, what's actually necessary right now, and what can wait — in plain language with no agenda.

30-Minute Consultation — \$50

Review one estimate · Is it fair? · What can wait?

MOST POPULAR

1-Hour Deep Dive — \$125

Multiple estimates · Priority ranking · Full maintenance strategy

[Book a Consultation →](#)