

THE LADIES GUIDE TO
Stupid Car
PROBLEMS



BROUGHT TO YOU BY
SHEKNOWS[®]

The ladies guide to

IN CASE OF

An Accident

stupid car problems



HINT: It would be best for you to create an emergency bag to keep in your car at all times.

Use a duffel bag bright or neon in color, as this may also help emergency personnel in case of an accident. Write **"EMERGENCY"** on it so it stands out.

Keep an emergency contact on the inside of your glove box in case your cellphone is damaged in an accident. It would also be wise to keep your family's information in a hidden area.



If your cellphone is damaged or has stopped working, having spare change will allow you to make a call at a payphone.



Keep a copy of your car and health insurance inside of your glove box, or in an emergency bag.



Emergency Contact Name

Tow Truck Company Phone Number

Emergency Contact Relation

AAA or Mechanic Phone Number

Emergency Contact Phone Number

Secondary Emergency Contact Name

Secondary Emergency Contact Phone Number

The ladies guide to

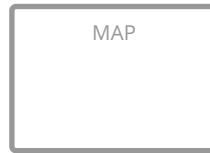
IMPORTANT ITEMS TO

Keep in your Car

stupid car problems



Place a sticker on each child's car seat with emergency contact information. Be sure to include the child's name, birthdate, address, phone number, parent/guardian information, alternative emergency contact info, doctor information and any known allergies



Google Maps isn't always your friend. Keep an up-to-date map in your car at all times.



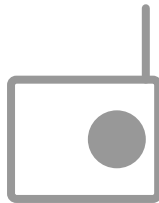
Your insurance info, contact info, emergency contact info, and medical info.



Jumper Cables



Change of Clothes (weather appropriate)



Hand-held Radio



Empty Gas Container



First-Aid Kit



Flashlight



1 Gallon of water



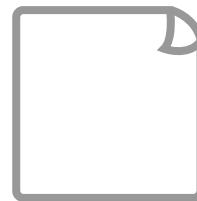
Source of nutrition (Non-Perishable)



Spare phone Charger or Battery



Ice Scraper



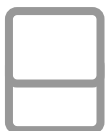
Fleece Blanket



Battery Booster



Tool Kit



Toilet Paper



Multi-tool



Flare



Tire Gauge



Knife



Air Pump



Duct Tape

The ladies guide to

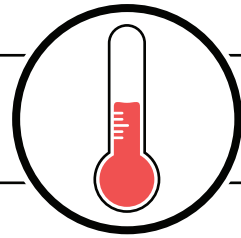
HOW TO
Pop The Hood

stupid car problems

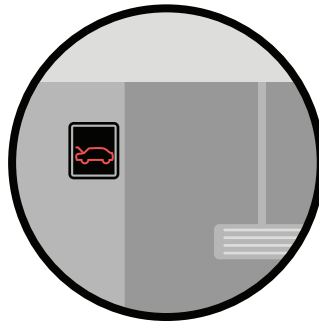


HINT: The most important aspect of getting under your car's hood is opening it.

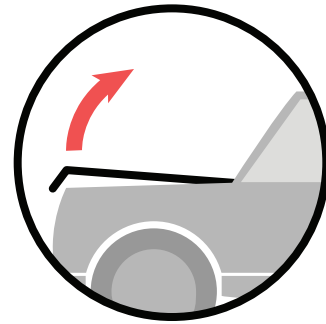
Ensure that your car is off and preferably cooled off to avoid any type of injury while opening the hood.



Pull up emergency brake as extra precaution.



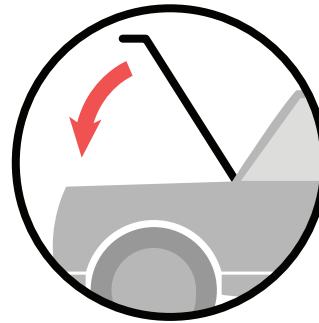
Find latch located beneath the steering wheel and pull towards you.



Go to the hood of your car and place hand beneath the hood to locate the latch. Pull latch while simultaneously lifting your car's hood.



Pop the hood using the metal rod or lever located in front or to the side. Pull up and prop using the small gap at the top of the hood.

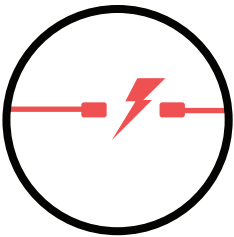


Once you are done checking underneath your hood, ensure that you place the lever back and securely close it.

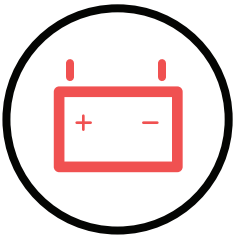
The ladies guide to
YOUR CAR
Won't Start
stupid car problems



Pop your hood and look to see if everything is in place. Refer to your Owner's Manual for a good visualization of what you should be seeing.



If the connection between your battery and starter is faulty or broken, it will cause your car not to start. When doing a visual check, also look at these wires to ensure that it is working. You can also utilize a circuit tester when the car is on to see if there is any movement.



The most common reason for a car not starting is due to the battery. Clean the battery if it looks to be corroded. If you think it may be dead, jump start it utilizing jumper cables. If it starts, take the car to a mechanic for a diagnostic test.



Most cars should give you some type of warning light if your battery goes dead. If there isn't one, it could be your ignition switch.

The ladies guide to

CHECK

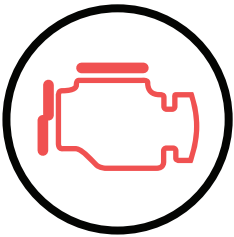
Engine Light

stupid car problems

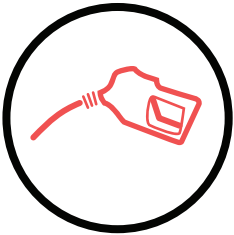


HINT: Check out this link to learn how to jump start a battery!

www.artofmanliness.com/2008/09/11/how-to-jump-start-a-car/



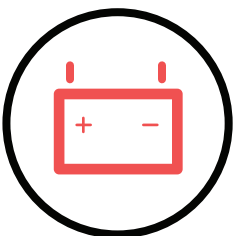
Some cars are scheduled to turn on the "Check Engine" light when it is time for a routine maintenance. If this is the case, check to see if it is time for an oil change or maintenance appointment. If you just had one and the mechanic did not reset it, you can check your manual on how to do so yourself.



Believe it or not, your check engine light will come on if your gas cap is not on or screwed on tightly. Check both to see if this cause the light to turn off.



Newer modeled cars do not need spark plugs replaced for at least 100,000 miles. But this is not to say that something cannot go wrong with them beforehand. Check your owner's manual for both location and signs of faulty plugs. Replace the spark plugs immediately if there is a problem.



Your car's computer is wired to warn you when there is a potential problem. Check to see if your battery needs to be replaced.

The ladies guide to

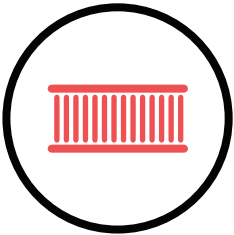
ENGINE

Hesitation

stupid car problems



HINT: There are few problems that may cause your engine to hesitate when starting. Your best bet is to go down the list and pinpoint the problem to fix it yourself or schedule an appointment to get it done.



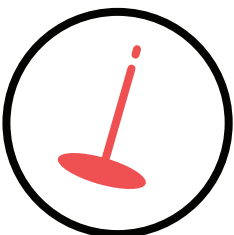
A dirty air filter can cause your engine to hesitate when starting. Lift it out of its place under the hood and check for dirt. Lift towards the sun, if you can see through it, it's clean. If not, it may be best to replace it.



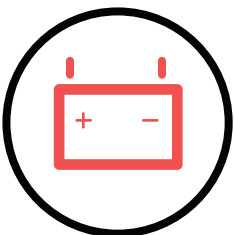
Check to ensure that the fuel injector is placed properly. If so, listen for any type of clunking or irregular sounds. If so, make an appointment with your mechanic to replace or fix.



Refer to your Owner's Manual to locate the fuel pump fuse. If it is not functioning properly or not tightly in place, this may be the source of your problem. If it is, move on to the voltage of the pump. Have someone rev your engine when the car is on to see if the needle moves. If not, there is your answer. If so, move on to clogging in the filter.



If the valves are not in place properly, this could also be the source of your problem. Check the placement and that they are as tight as they need to be.



If your car is hesitating when starting, it could be a sign of a dying battery or faulty alternator. Look for signs of both by paying attention to the radio not working, dim lights or a warning light.

The ladies guide to

— UNDERSTAND YOUR —

Car's Fluids

COOLANT
stupid car problems

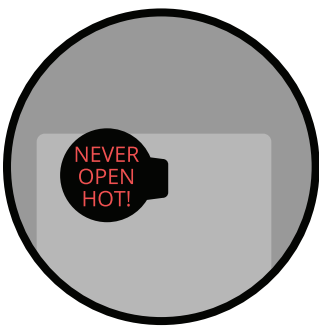


HINT: Your coolant should be colored in either blue, red, yellow or green. If it is colorless or has a "dirty" look, it would be best to get your coolant flushed out and replaced.

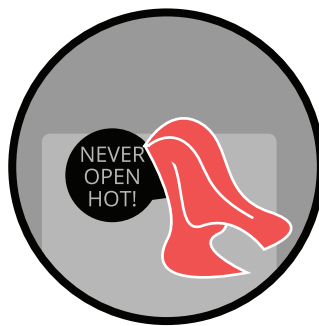
Ensure that your car is COMPLETELY cooled down prior to checking the coolant level in your car.



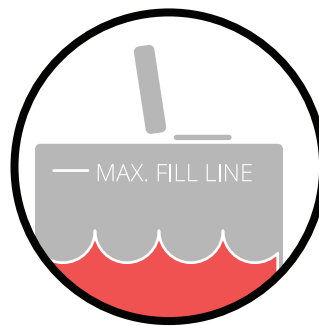
If your engine coolant has an oily or sludgy appearance, have a mechanic look at it, as it may be a sign of a larger problem.



Locate the engine coolant reservoir.



Wipe down the lid area around it, to avoid dirt or debris dropping into the container.



Open the lid and check the fluid level.



If low, purchase appropriate 50/50 mixture and add to your car.

The ladies guide to
STEERING,

— UNDERSTAND YOUR —

Car's Fluids

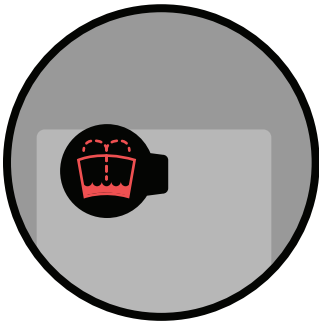
BRAKE, WIPER
stupid car problems



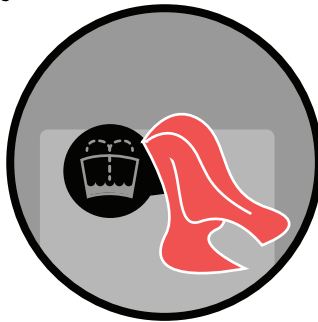
HINT: Both your power steering and brake fluid are easy to check since they are in visible containers.

HINT: If your power steering fluid is low, fill only to max line.

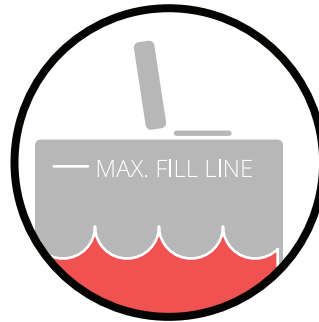
Brake fluid should not get low. If it does, you will want to have your car checked by a mechanic as it could be the cause of a larger issue.



Locate the wiper fluid reservoir. It is typically marked with a windshield on the top of the container.



Wipe down the lid area around it, to avoid dirt or debris dropping into the container.



Open the lid and check the fluid level. Fluid color is typically a blue hue.



Top off fluid amount, or if low, fill to max. fill line marked on the reservoir.

The ladies guide to

UNDERSTAND YOUR
Car's Fluids

TRANSMISSION
stupid car problems



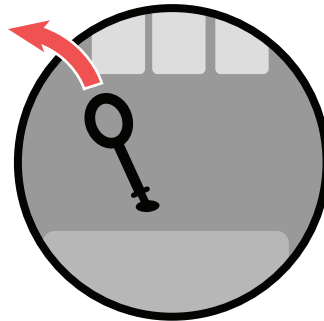
HINT: Unlike your oil, you want to check transmission fluid while the car is running.

HINT: Pay close attention for any potential problems.

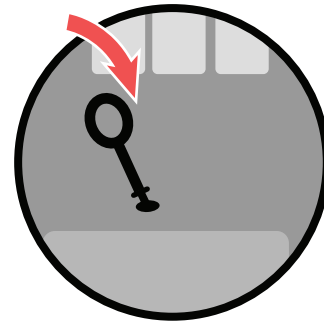
Although it only needs to be replaced every 100,000 miles, if the fluid is dark in appearance or looks burnt, it would be best to replace it sooner than later.



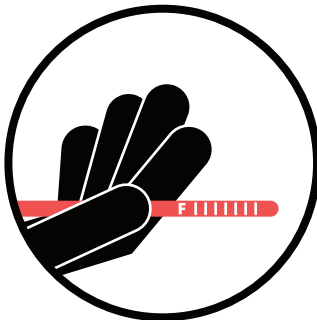
Locate the oil dipstick with the use of your owner's manual.



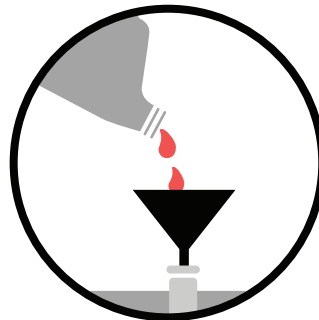
Remove the dipstick and clean off with a paper towel or spare rag.



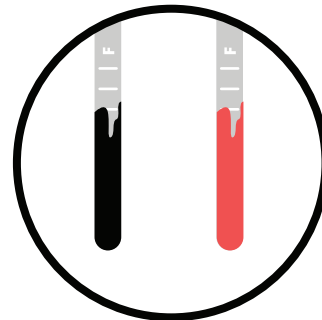
Replace dipstick by pushing it down into position.



Remove dipstick again and check the fluid's level with the markings on the dipstick.



If oil level is low, add needed amount of transmission fluid.



Pay attention to the color of the fluid. It should be a reddish hue.

The ladies guide to

UNDERSTAND YOUR

Car's Fluids

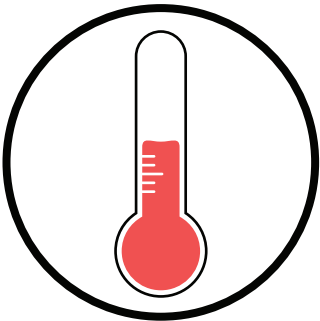
OIL
stupid car problems



HINT: If oil is dark brown or black, it is recommended that your oil be changed.

HINT: If oil has a foamy appeal or some type of addition, you may want to take your car to a mechanic.

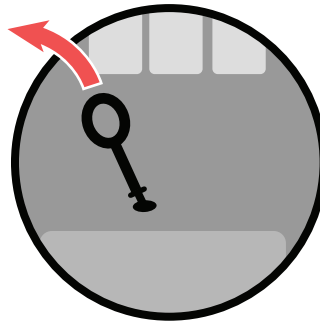
If your oil is low, ensure that you are checking it occasionally. If it continues to stay low, check for a leak or other potential problems.



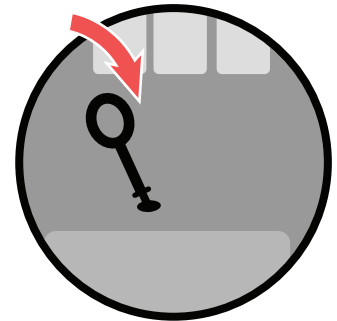
Ensure the car is cooled down.



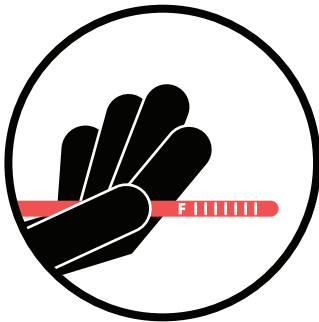
Locate the oil dipstick with the use of your owner's manual.



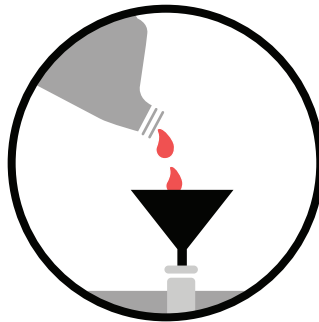
Remove the dipstick and clean off with a paper towel or spare rag.



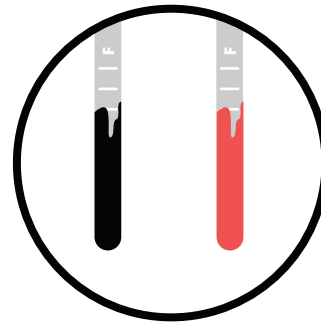
Replace dipstick by pushing it down into position.



Remove dipstick again and check the oil's level with the markings on the dipstick.



If oil level is low, add need amount of oil.



Pay attention to the color of the oil. It should be a honey colored brown.

The ladies guide to

HOW TO Change your Oil

stupid car problems



OIL



FUNNEL



GLOVES



OIL FILTER



DRAIN PAN

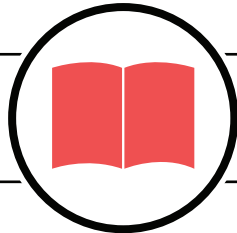


WRENCH

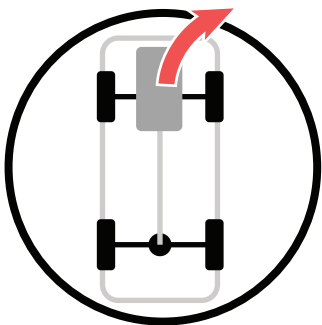
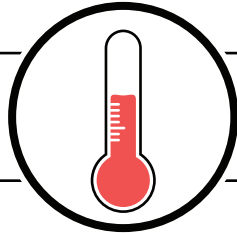


HINT: Wear scrubby clothing, as you are likely to get dirty in this process

Check your car's manual for the specific type & amount of oil you will need for your car's engine.

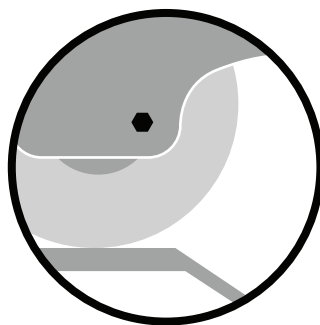


Ensure that your car's engine is warm, but not hot. Take it for a drive and let it sit for 15 minutes with the hood up.

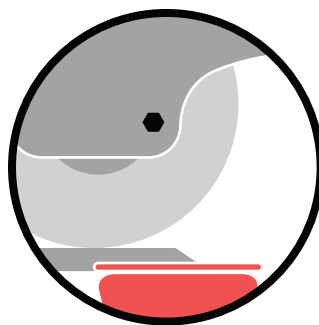


Remove the undercover.

**Not all cars will have one of these.*



Find your oil filter and drain plug



Place the drain pan to the side of your drain plug.



Remove drain plug using a wrench. Keep your hand at an angle to avoid spilling oil onto your hands.

ALMOST THERE!
Go to page 2 to finish learning how to change your oil. 

SHEKNOWS

The ladies guide to

HOW TO

Change your Oil

stupid car problems



OIL



FUNNEL



GLOVES



OIL FILTER



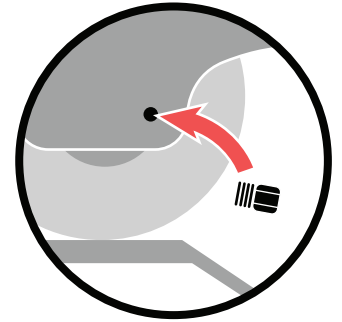
DRAIN PAN



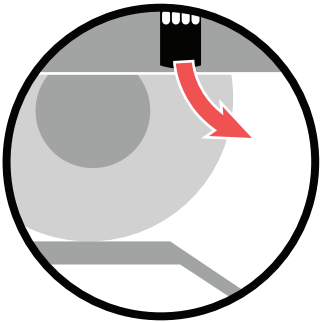
WRENCH



Allow oil to drain out completely.



Clean drain plug and replace by tightly screwing back on.



Remove the oil cap and the oil filter.



Tightly hold the filter over the drain pan and allow to drip.



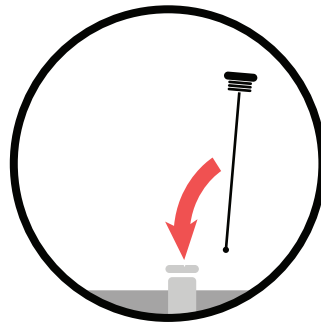
Clean the oil filter off with rags.



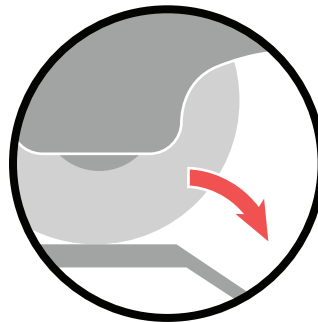
Replace oil filter by using a bit of oil to screw into place with your hands.



Add new oil using funnel. It is best to place slightly less than the recommended amount.



Replace the cap and turn your car on for 30 seconds.

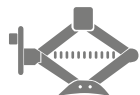


Take car off of jacks and check the oil amount.



Clean up your mess and take the used oil to a hazardous waste area.

SHEKNOWS



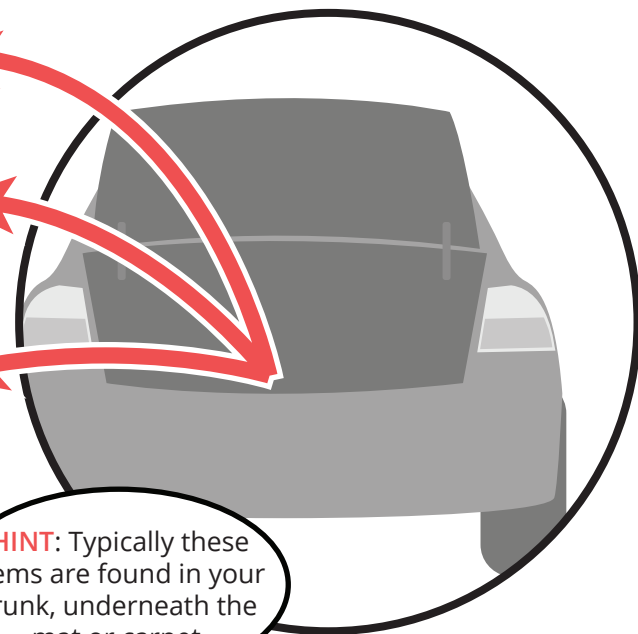
CAR JACK



TIRE IRON

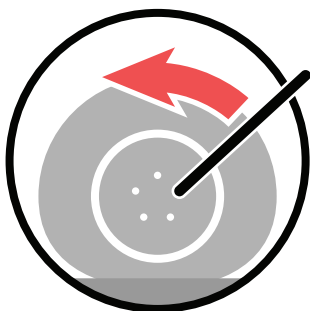
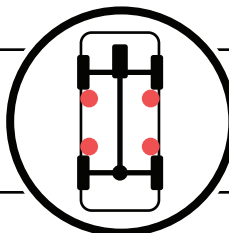


SPARE TIRE

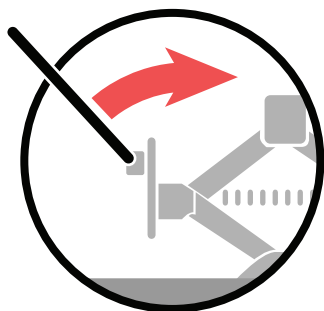


HINT: Typically these items are found in your trunk, underneath the mat or carpet.

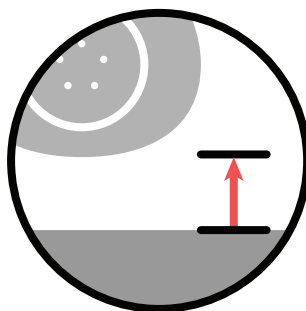
Your car is made with four jack points. The front two are located behind the front tires and the back are in front of the back tires. Find the jack point necessary for your particular tire that needs replacement.



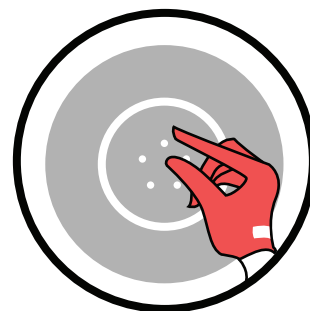
Prior to raising the car, loosen each lug nut with the tire iron. Do not remove, just loosen.



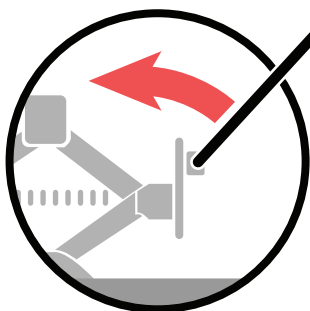
Locate and place car jack into the jack point groove. Slowly raise by turning lever clockwise.



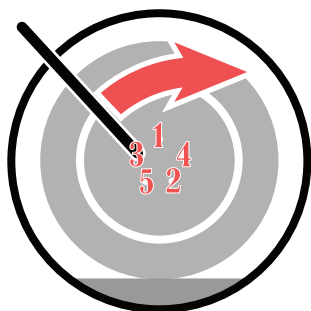
Once the car is raised to desired height, remove the lug nuts completely & pull tire towards yourself.



Add new tire on and finger tighten lug nuts.



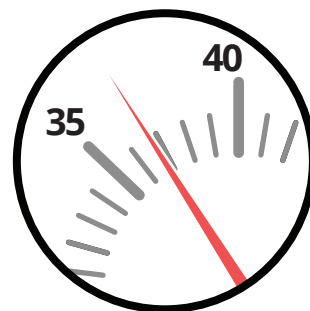
Slowly lower car by turning jack counterclockwise.



Tighten lug nuts with tire iron in a star pattern.



Replace equipment back into the trunk, as your tire may be fixable.



WARNING: Do not drive faster than 35 - 40 mph when on a spare donut, as it could easily blow out.