

# Motor Vehicle Inspection

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### What is the Vehicle Inspection Program?

The program consists of a safety inspection and an exhaust emissions test. A computer controlled exhaust analyzer measures the exhaust emissions from the vehicle's tailpipe and compares the results to United States Environmental Protection Agency standards. The vehicle's safety components are visually inspected for compliance and a pass/fail certificate is issued upon completion of the inspection.

### When should your vehicle be inspected?

The City of Memphis ordinance requires an annual inspection for all vehicles registered within the city limits. Inspections can be performed up to three months prior to the registration renewal.

### What items are inspected on the vehicle?

Emissions	Emergency Brakes
Headlights	Side Glass
Windshield	Windshield Wipers
Tail Lights	Brake Lights
Turn Signals	Exhaust System
Rearview Mirrors	Tail light lens

### What Vehicles must be inspected for emissions?

- All model years of gasoline powered vehicles less than 26,000 pounds. (Gross Vehicle Weight)
- Vehicles registered in Memphis
- Registration transfers
- Government vehicles
- Federal employees' private vehicles operating in Memphis

### What vehicles are exempt from emissions inspection?

- Vehicles more than 26,000 pounds
- Electric powered vehicles
- Farm equipment vehicles

### What documentation is necessary for inspection?

Some type of vehicle documentation with the vehicle identification number (VIN) such as:

- Vehicle Insurance card
- Title
- Bill of Sale
- Registration papers
- Tag renewal papers

### What should I do after I pass inspection?

Mail or take the bottom portion of the Vehicle Inspection Report to the Shelby County Clerk's office to obtain tags and registration.

### What happens if I fail inspection?

The vehicle must be repaired and then re-inspected. The back of the Vehicle Inspection Report contains repair information on the items that may cause emissions failure. An Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) mechanic may assist you with the repairs.

**Do I have a grace period if I fail Inspection?**

The Tennessee Code Annotated 55-4-128 grants a thirty-day grace period to registered vehicle owners if their vehicle fails emissions. The grace period begins on the tag expiration date.

**How much does the inspection cost?**

There is no on-site fee for inspection.

**What happens if my vehicle is emitting smoke from the tailpipe?**

Smoking vehicles are not allowed in the inspection stations and will not be inspected. City and State air pollution laws prohibit the operation of smoking vehicles on the streets.

**Why may a vehicle be denied inspection?**

- Smoking vehicle
- Faulty exhaust system
- Overheating vehicle
- Vehicle idle out of specifications.
- No vehicle identification number.
- Pets in the vehicle
- Overheating vehicle
- Vehicle losing fluids

**Where can recreation vehicles be inspected?**

Vehicles over 9,000 lbs., this includes buses, RV's, large trucks, etc. must be inspected at 590 Washington Avenue in lane 3.

**Do motorcycles need inspection?**

Yes, motorcycles are required to have a safety inspection annually.

**What items are inspected on motorcycles?**

- Vehicle Identification Number
- Turn Signals
- Stop Lights
- Headlights
- Hand Brakes
- Foot Brakes
- muffler/exhaust