

Master Cylinder Winter Checklist

- CHECK THE LEVEL OF BRAKE FLUID.
- ✓ TAKE NOTE OF THE LEVEL OF FLUID IN THE MASTER CYLINDER. IF THE BRAKE FLUID IS BELOW THE LOW MARK IN THE RESERVOIR, THIS COULD BE AN INDICATION OF A LEAK IN THE BRAKING SYSTEM. HAVE THIS ISSUE LOOKED AT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO RECTIFY ANY PROBLEMS.
- CHECK YOUR OTHER FLUIDS. BRAKE FLUID IS ONE OF THE SIX FLUIDS YOU CHECK EVERY MONTH AND ESPECIALLY DURING THE WINTER. THE OTHER FLUIDS ARE ENGINE OIL, TRANSMISSION FLUID IF YOU DRIVE A VEHICLE WITH AN AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, ANTIFREEZE/COOLANT, POWER STEERING FLUID, WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID.
- ✓ CHANGE YOUR BRAKE FLUID IF NECESSARY. UNLIKE ENGINE OIL, BRAKE FLUID WILL LAST MUCH LONGER. HOWEVER, SOME VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS DO RECOMMEND CHANGING THE BRAKE FLUID EVERY 2 TO 3 YEARS (24,000 TO 36,000 MILES). BRAKE FLUID WILL DETERIORATE OVER TIME AS IT BECOMES DIRTY, ABSORBS MOISTURE, AND THE CORROSION INHIBITORS IN THE BRAKE FLUID WEAR OUT.
- MAKE SURE TO FLUSH YOUR BRAKE FLUID WHENEVER ANY BRAKE SYSTEM HYDRAULIC REPAIRS ARE PERFORMED. FLUSHING THE BRAKE SYSTEM WITH NEW BRAKE FLUID WILL HELP OPTIMIZE BRAKE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE, IMPROVE BRAKE COMPONENT RELIABILITY, AND WILL HELP TO ENSURE SAFE BRAKE SYSTEM OPERATION.
- ✓ A SOFT/SPONGY BRAKE PEDAL OR LOW BRAKE FLUID LEVEL COULD INDICATE LEAKS IN THE BRAKE SYSTEM. CHECK THE MASTER CYLINDER FOR ANY FLUID LEAKAGE AROUND OR UNDERNEATH THE MASTER CYLINDER AND ESPECIALLY WHERE IT CONNECTS TO THE POWER BOOSTER. REPLACE THE MASTER CYLINDER IF YOU SEE ANY LEAKS.
- IT IS A GOOD PRACTICE TO HAVE A COMPLETE INSPECTION AND ANY NEEDED REPAIRS COMPLETED ON YOUR VEHICLE'S BRAKE SYSTEM BEFORE WINTER WEATHER SETS IN TO HELP ENSURE SAFE, OPTIMUM BRAKE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE DURING THE UPCOMING MONTHS.

NOTE: REPLACE THE BRAKE FLUID WITH THE VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS' RECOMMENDED BRAKE FLUID TYPE.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT: 800-228-9672 ASE Certified Technicians are Standing by 7 days a week.

