

Wheels: You still haven't answered Jeff's question about oil change intervals.

Halderman: For the record, the oil should be changed according to the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations. If the owner's manual states that the oil should be changed every 5,000 miles or every 6 months, whichever comes first, then this is the maximum interval. Remember the vehicle manufacturer's recommended oil change interval is the maximum interval. Could the oil be changed every 3,000 miles and every other month? Yes.

Regarding my use of Mobil 1 synthetic oil, I have used Mobil 1 since 1993 after I attended a conference on engine oil at Purdue University. Synthetic oil is superior to regular mineral oil in all aspects except price. Mobil 1 is one of many synthetic oils but is the only one used and recommended by vehicle manufacturers, such as Chevrolet, Dodge, and Honda.

While changing oil every three months would be better than every six months, I choose to use Mobil 1 and change oil in my two vehicles every spring and every fall. This is within the factory recommended intervals for my vehicles and saves me the expense and time needed to change the oil four times a year. While Mobil 1 is about 4 times more expensive than conventional oil, I believe using it gives me that little edge of protection.

