

Wheels: Scott writes, “After years of owning used cars, I bought my first new car three years ago. It is a compact American auto with 4 cylinders. Every 3000 miles or so I change the oil and filter (oil) and have rotated the tires twice. The car has no problems that I am aware of and I would like to keep it that way. It now has close to 30,000 miles accumulated. Can you tell me, besides changing the oil and filter, washing, and waxing, is there other type of maintenance I should be performing?”

Halderman: Many import brand vehicle manufacturers and some domestic brands recommend that the coolant and the brake fluid be replaced at 30,000 miles and some recommend that the automatic transmission fluid be changed. As usual, I tend to agree with the vehicle manufacturer’s recommendation as stated in the owner’s manual. You can always perform these services sooner than recommended but not at intervals that are longer than specified.

