

Wheels: An e-mail from Allyson asks, “My teenage daughter recently had the oil changed in the handed-down 1994 Toyota Camry she is currently driving. The technician told her the seals on the axle were broken and no grease was on the axle. He advised her to get it repaired by said it wasn’t urgent. What can you tell me about this? How soon do we have to have it repaired? Will it be expensive?”

Halderman: I think what the technician meant by the statement that there was no grease on the axle was referring to the front-wheel-drive axle shaft boots that hold grease used to lubricate the constant velocity joints (CV joints). Either one of these should be corrected as soon as possible to avoid additional expense. Will it be expensive? If the CV joints are worn, the cost could be expensive, but if only the boots need to be replaced, the cost could be \$100 or less per boot. I suggest you get another opinion from an experienced service technician and an estimate of the cost.

