Wheels: An e-mail from Dick says, "The owner's manual calls for a drain and refill of brake fluid at 3 years, regardless of mileage. My 2004 Honda Odyssey has 21,000 miles, ABS, 4-wheel disc brakes. Is the procedure necessary and can all the fluid be removed and then replaced? What should it cost?"

Halderman: Most import brand vehicle brands recommend that the brake fluid be replaced every three years. Brake fluid absorbs moisture from the air at the rate of 2% per year, which decreases it boiling point. Braking creates heat, and if during hard braking or braking down long, steep grades, can cause the brake fluid to boil if it has absorbed moisture. The brake fluid is replaced by opening the bleeder valves at each wheel brake and drawing out the old fluid while at the same time adding new fluid to the master cylinder. Check with your local shop or dealer for pricing.

