



HERE'S AN OVERVIEW OF THE TIPS ON BREAKING IN A NEW CAR FROM OUR EXPERTS AT [BMW.COM](https://www.bmw.com) ON [THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOUR FIRST DRIVE](#) IN YOUR NEW AUTOMOBILE:

Things you need to know about your new car:

- Service: Where do I top up the fuel, engine oil, wiper fluid, engine coolant, and AdBlue?
- Where can I find the owner's manual?
- Where can I find the spare wheel, breakdown kit, and vehicle toolkit?
- And where do I look for details about the tire pressure?
- Safety: What driver assistance systems are available and where can I find the buttons to use them?

The best way to set up your new car:

- Connect your cell phone and save it in the system.
- Save your home address in the navigation system.
- Enter your preferred climate control settings.
- Configure the driver assistance systems to suit your personal needs.

To ensure the optimum seat position:

- Set the distance from the seat to the pedals so that when you step on the brake or clutch, your knees are slightly bent.
- Select a seat height that gives you a good view of the road and the on-board instruments.
- Ensure that the backrest is as upright as possible. Make sure your head is not far from the headrest, your shoulders are in contact with the backrest, and you don't need to stretch out your arms.
- It's important that there's a distance of about 12 inches between the steering wheel and your chest. When your wrist is on the upper rim of the steering wheel, your shoulders should still be touching the backrest. Your hands should grip the steering wheel in the 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock position.
- The upper edge of the headrest should be aligned with the top of your ears while remaining as close as possible to your head without, however, restricting your view over your shoulder.
- The body of the car should be clearly visible in the wing mirror. At the same time, you should be able to see as much of your surroundings as possible, with the line of the horizon halfway down the mirror.
- Don't be afraid to continue optimizing the settings, as you'll only get an idea what needs to be changed when driving in real-life road conditions.

Things you should definitely have on board:

- Warning triangle, first aid kit, safety vest(s).
- Sunglasses.
- In winter: an ice scraper, antifreeze, jump cable, gloves, (snow chains).



The best way to break in a new car:

- For the first 1,300 miles, try keeping the revs down and run in the engine at a mid-rpm range – this would be a maximum 3,500 rpm and 90 mph with diesel models and 4,500 rpm and 100 mph in gas models. Definitely avoid driving at full throttle and towing heavy loads. Once you’ve reached the 1,300-mile mark, you can gradually increase your speed and your engine’s RPM.
- Similarly, braking – brake pads and discs will need to adjust to one other. It takes about 300 miles for the brakes to become fully effective.
- The stress limit should also be avoided for the sake of the shock absorbers and springs. For the first few miles, you should not drive your car fully loaded.
- The tires, too, will need time to settle in. This is because a release lubricant used in the manufacturing process will need to be worn away over the first 200 miles. During this period, the tires do not yet provide full grip. Defensive driving is highly recommended.

The right place to store your vehicle documentation for your new car:

- Your certificate of title should be kept in a safe or safety deposit box,
- Your vehicle registration should be kept in the car.

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