

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION AND HOW CARS WORK

Car Identification Activity

Objective

Upon completion of this activity, you will be able to correctly identify an automobile by manufacturer, make, model, year, and type.

NATEF Correlations

Preparing Vehicle for Service

- Vehicle identifying information.

Tools

None


Supplies

None





Cautions

Follow all procedures and safety guidelines specified by your instructor.

Directions

Check off the boxes when completed. When you see a hand  next to the task, write the information in the activity journal. If you have any questions during the duration of this activity, stop and ask the instructor for assistance.

Procedure

- Open the driver's door and look for the vehicle certification label.
- Identify the date of manufacture.
- Identify the vehicle manufacturer.
- Look in the front windshield and find the VIN. Write down the VIN.
- Look on the outside of the vehicle. The make and model are usually identified on the rear, front, or side of the vehicle.
-  Note the make and model.
-  Identify the vehicle type (e.g., Microcar, Subcompact Car, Compact Car, Mid-size Car, Full-size Car, Sports Car, Compact SUV, Mid-size SUV, Crossover SUV, Full-size SUV, SUT, Compact Pickup, Full-size Pickup, Minivan, or Van).
- Open the hood. If unsure how to open the hood, refer to the owner's manual. A release latch should be under or near the steering column.
- Once the hood is popped, there is a safety latch on the outside.
- Locate the vehicle emission control information (VECI) sticker under the hood.
-  Look on the VECI sticker to determine the model year.
-  Look on the VECI sticker to determine the size (e.g., 1.8 L) and type (e.g., gasoline or diesel) of engine in your vehicle.

- ✍ Look at the engine design to determine the configuration (e.g., inline, opposed, or V).
- ✍ Look at the engine to try to determine the number of cylinders. Identifying the number of spark plugs may help you. **Note: Most engines have one spark plug per cylinder, but some have two.**
- Close the hood.

Activity Journal

1. What is the date of manufacture for the vehicle?
2. What company manufactured the vehicle?
3. What is the VIN for the vehicle?
4. What is the make and model of the vehicle?
5. What is the vehicle's type?
6. What is the model year according to VECI sticker?
7. What is the engine size and type?
8. What is the engine configuration?
9. How many cylinders does the engine have?