Daily Safety Checks

Check the following items each day before operation. The time required is minimal, and habitual performance of these checks will help ensure safe, reliable operation.

If any irregularities are found during these checks, refer to the MAINTENANCE AND ADJUSTMENT chapter, see your dealer, or refer to the Service Manual for the action required to return the vehicle to a safe operating condition.

**WARNING**

Failure to perform these checks every day before operation may result in serious damage or an accident.

Do not start or run the engine in a closed area such as a garage. Exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide; a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Breathing exhaust gas leads to carbon monoxide poisoning, asphyxiation, and death.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fuel</th>
<th>Enough fuel in tank, no leaks.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engine Oil</td>
<td>Oil level between H and L lines or FULL and ADD lines (when engine is cold), no leaks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission Case Oil</td>
<td>Oil level between H and L lines, no leaks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires</td>
<td>Air Pressure (when cold):</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Front</th>
<th>Rear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40 kPa (0.4 kg/cm², 6 psi)</td>
<td>80 kPa (0.8 kg/cm², 12 psi)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check for cuts, cracks, damage, or excessive wear.
Check for any imbedded stones or other foreign particles in tread.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Throttle</th>
<th>Throttle pedal free play 10 ~ 15 mm (0.4 ~ 0.6 in.). Throttle pedal operates smoothly and returns to rest position when released.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steering</td>
<td>Steering wheel free play 5 ~ 15 mm (0.2 ~ 0.6 in.). Action smooth without excessive play, rough spots, or strange noises.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brakes ................................................................. Check for braking effectiveness (while test running).
Brake fluid level between level lines, no leaks.
Parking brake lever travel: 6 ~ 10 clicks.

Electrical Equipment ................................. All lights work. Check for dirt on or damage to lights.

Battery ............................................................... Electrolyte level between level lines in each cell.
Starting the Engine

<table>
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<td>Never run the vehicle in a closed area, such as a garage. Exhaust gases contain carbon monoxide: a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Breathing exhaust gas leads to carbon monoxide poisoning, asphyxiation, and death.</td>
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- Wear the seat belt.
- Apply the parking brake.
- Put the gear shift lever in the N(neutral) position.
- Put the ignition switch key in the switch.
- When the engine is cold (same as outside temperature), pull the choke knob all the way out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>When the engine is already warm or the weather is hot (35°C, 95°F or more), do not use the choke.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Leaving the throttle open part way (pressing lightly on the throttle pedal), turn the ignition switch key to the START position to activate the electric starter. Repeat until the engine starts.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not operate the electric starter continuously for more than 5 seconds, or the starter may overheat and the battery power will drop temporarily. Wait 15 seconds between each operation of the starter to let it cool and the battery power recover.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When the weather is cold (5°C, 40°F or less), open the throttle fully (press on the throttle pedal all the way) with the choke knob pulled out, and then start the engine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the engine is flooded, push the choke knob all the way in. Then crank the engine over with the throttle fully open (throttle pedal fully depressed) until the engine starts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The vehicle is equipped with a starter lockout switch. This switch prevents the electric starter from operating when the gear shift lever is in the F(forward) or R(reverse) position.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Gradually return the choke knob to the OFF position a little at a time as necessary to keep the engine running properly during warm-up.
- When the engine is warmed up enough to idle without using the choke, return the choke to the OFF position.
NOTE

If you drive the vehicle before the engine is warmed up, return the choke to the OFF position as soon as you start moving.

Jump Starting

If your vehicle battery is "run down," it should be removed and charged. If this is not practical, a 12 volt booster battery and jumper cables may be used to start the engine.

⚠️WARNING

Battery acid generates hydrogen gas which is flammable and explosive under certain conditions. It is present within a battery at all times, even in a discharged condition. Keep all flames and sparks (cigarettes) away from the battery. Wear eye protection when working with a battery. In the event of battery acid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing, wash the affected areas immediately with water for at least five minutes. Seek medical attention.

Connecting Jumper Cables

- Make sure the ignition switch is turned "OFF."
- Connect a jumper cable from the positive (+) terminal of the booster battery to the positive (+) terminal of the vehicle battery.
A. Vehicle Battery Positive (+) Terminal
B. From Booster Battery Positive (+) Terminal
C. Unpainted Metal Surface
D. From Booster Battery Negative (-) Terminal

- Connect another jumper cable from the negative (-) terminal of the booster battery to an unpainted metal surface on your vehicle. Do not use the negative (-) terminal of the battery.

**WARNING**

Do not make this last connection at the carburetor or battery. Take care that you do not touch the positive and negative cables together, and do not lean over the battery when making this last connection. Do not jump start a frozen battery. It could explode. Do not reverse polarity by connecting positive (+) to negative (-), or a battery explosion and serious damage to the electrical system may occur.

- Follow the standard engine starting procedure.

**CAUTION**

Do not operate the starter continuously for more than 5 seconds, or the starter may overheat and the battery power will drop temporarily. Wait 15 seconds between each operation of the starter to let it cool and the battery power recover.

- After the engine starts, disconnect the jumper cables. Disconnect the negative (-) cable from the vehicle first.
Moving Off

- Depress the brake pedal.
- Put the gear shift lever into the F(forward) position.
- Release the parking brake.
- Gradually increase engine speed by pressing on the throttle pedal.

NOTE

Practice starting and stopping (using the brakes) until you are familiar with the controls.

Braking

NOTE

- When the throttle lever is released completely and the engine speed drops near an idle, the vehicle has no engine braking. This is caused by the vehicle's automatic transmission which releases the engine at very low speed to prevent it from stalling. Use the hand and foot brakes to control the vehicle's speed.

- Release the throttle pedal completely.
- Press on the brake pedal evenly and firmly.

WARNING

When carrying cargo or towing a trailer, remember that load weight will increase braking distances. Failure to allow for increased braking distance may result in accident and injury.
Stopping the Engine
- Release the throttle pedal completely.
- Put the gear shift lever into the N (neutral) position.
- Apply the parking brake to help prevent the vehicle from rolling.
- Turn the ignition switch key to the OFF position.

Parking the Mule
- Stop the vehicle on a level surface.

CAUTION
Avoid parking on steeply inclined surfaces.

- When the engine has stopped, apply the parking brake to help prevent the vehicle from rolling.

A. Parking Brake Lever
**WARNING**

Be sure to apply the parking brake before leaving the vehicle. If the vehicle should move, it might be damaged or cause injury.

- Remove the ignition switch key to prevent unauthorized use.
- When parking inside a garage or other structure, be sure the structure is well ventilated and the vehicle is not close to any source of flame or sparks. This includes any appliance with a pilot light.

**WARNING**

Gasoline is extremely flammable and can be explosive under certain conditions.

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**Reversing Gears**

- Release the throttle pedal, and stop the vehicle.
- When you want to operate the vehicle in reverse, stop the vehicle completely, allowing the engine to slow to idling speed, and move the gear shift lever to the R(reverse) position.

![Diagram of gear shift lever]

A. Gear Shift Lever  
B. F(Forward) Position  
C. N(Neutral) Position  
D. R(Reverse) Position

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**CAUTION**

Do not shift from F(forward) to R(reverse) and vice versa when the vehicle is moving or with the engine running above idling speed, or the transmission could be damaged.
Shifting the Differential

**NOTE**
○ Do not operate the differential shift lever if the vehicle is moving faster than 8 km/h (5 mph).

**Shifting to Locked-Axle Mode**
○ Pull up the differential shift lever all the way. Don’t force it. Hold steady pressure on the lever, and it will slip up into the detent.

**Shifting to Differential (Unlocked-Axle) Mode**
○ Lift the differential shift lever out of the detent and push it down all the way.

**NOTE**
○ When the shift lever is moved, the differential may not immediately lock or unlock until the vehicle has rolled a short distance.

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A. Differential Shift Lever  
B. Differential (Unlocked-Axle) Mode Position (UN-LOCK)  
C. Locked-Axle Mode Position (LOCK)