Stick to a regular maintenance routine, follow guidelines in your owner’s manual and get your car serviced at recommended intervals.

5 STEPS FOR CARING FOR AN OLDER CAR

1. Purchase a Proven Model
   - On your research to choose a reputable car
   - Get the best warranty and safety features you can afford
   - Negotiate routine maintenance into the cost
   - Buy used! Have a trusted mechanic check it first.

2. Get a Good Mechanic
   - Find a qualified mechanic you are to be your “go-to” for repairs
   - Have your car diagnosed and repaired at the first sign of a problem
   - Use quality, manufacturer-recommended parts.

3. Mind Your Maintenance Milestones
   - Add these preventative checks and changes to your maintenance routine as your car begins to put on the miles.
     
     **EVERY 30,000 MILES | 6 MONTHS**
     - Get a tune-up, filter and oil change
     - Check tire pressures (condition) and wheel alignment
     - Rotate tires
     - Inspect shocks for leaks, cracks, damage or wear
     
     **EVERY 60,000 MILES | 3 YEARS**
     - Change the oil
     - Neutra-l or replace rotors and drums
     - Check and change belts (accessory drive, timing, alternator, etc.)
     - Check radiator hose
     - Replace the wheel bearings
     - Flush and change fuel lines

4. Watch for Warning Signs
   - Add these preventative checks and changes to your maintenance routine as soon as you notice:
     - Uneven tire wear
     - Spinning or drifting to one side
     - Trouble steering or driving
     - Leaking fluids
     - Engine misfires or surges
     - Dashboard indicator lights on
     - Fuel consumption increases
     - Car is grinding or shaking
     - Unusual noises or odors

5. Keep it Clean
   - Regular cleaning is as important to protecting and preserving your car as regular maintenance.
     - Interior:
       - Vacuum at least once a month
       - Wipe and apply protectant to plastic and vinyl surfaces every 3 months
       - Park in the shade or use a sun screen
       - Have the car professionally detailed
     - Exterior:
       - Park under cover, if possible
       - Wash at least once a month
       - Wax whenever no longer leaves “beads” on the paint
       - Remove any snow, salt or water as soon as possible after exposure
       - Have a professional washer/protector undercoating applied

SHARE THIS INFographics with your family, friends and neighbors to help them #ThinkSafe

WEBSITE: travelers.com/tools/resources/car to learn more.

REFERENCES
- Indemnity Company in the U.S. and other countries
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  - One Tower Square
  - Hartford, CT

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