



**MAZDA MX-5 CLUB
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**

PO Box 312 FULHAM GARDENS SA 5024
www.mx5-sa.com.au



SAFETY ISSUES

BRAKES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MX-5 brakes are above average in effectiveness but if you are too close to the car in front they will not save you from disaster.• Change brake fluid annually as it absorbs moisture from the atmosphere which lowers it's boiling point.• Fit high quality brake pads and check them regularly.• Replace under sized brake rotors as necessary.• Do not brake hard unless the car is pointed in a straight line but if you have to brake suddenly in a turn use quite a lot of finesse!!!!!!!!!!!!
TYRES & WHEELS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fit the best tyre that money can buy as it is all that you have between you and the surface of the road and there will come a time that saving a dollar will count for nil after a substandard tyre has left the car out of control.• Check tyre pressure every two weeks, they will work better and save you money.• Wheel align all 4 wheels twice a year (every 6 months) because they do go out of alignment.
SERVICE YOUR CAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replace shock absorbers every 40,000 km - they are worn out whether the owner realises it or not.• Replace suspension bushes at say 80,000 km - they deteriorate.• Change oil and filter as specified in the service book as it is very cheap insurance for the longevity of your engine - oil does get contaminated.• Check all hoses annually• Check oil and water levels at least each month, things can happen to the most reliable vehicle.• Keep windows clean at all times.• Never undo the water filler cap (expansion chamber) while the coolant is hot and under pressure as serious scalding can occur.• Do not wash engine bay as electrical connections can become corroded/contaminated• Do not own a car if you can't afford to maintain it properly
SAFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Never jack up a car on a soft surface as the jack may slip or sink.• Never work under a car without two safety stands supporting the car properly



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DRIVING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjust driving mirrors before commencing to drive.• Use mirrors all the time.• Always connect your seat belt and ensure that your passenger has connected their seat belt.• Set correct posture i.e. feet reach fire wall to operate clutch properly and adjust seat back rest such that the steering wheel is at a distance that meets your wrist with arms straight!!!!!!• Concentrate at all times when driving (some F1 drivers have even gone to the extreme of suggesting that you should not have a radio on while driving as it is a distraction).• Do not run on low fuel levels.• Watch water temperature and oil pressure gauges they could save your engine, remember they have been fitted for a good purpose.
LEARN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn how to drift slide your MX-5 like a hoon because it just might save your life someday in unexpected circumstances (most people can't do this simple safety manoeuvre).• Learn to drive smoothly and take minimum corrections in turns, if you keep jerking on the steering wheel you are making very big mistakes and your passenger will become most uncomfortable.• If lights seem dazzling in night driving learn how to focus on the left hand side of the road to protect your eyes.
ROAD SMARTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know you own capability and do not drive beyond them.• Be aware of other cars all around you at all times.• Don't speed up if someone wants to pass you.• Leave enough space between your car and the one in front such that people behind can safely pass you if you are in their way.• Anticipate danger - if you can't do not drive on public roads• Swerving to avoid contact with an animal, person or inanimate object is a natural instinctive reaction that can lead to a secondary accident. Split second thinking is required what ever action is taken.