

Winterizing Your Porsche

Properly preparing your vehicle for storage over the winter season is part of essential maintenance to keep your Porsche in top running condition. Below are some of our top recommendations.

Change your oil and filter. Over time, even if you have only driven your Porsche less than 300 miles, oil can become more acidic and accumulate moisture and condensation from heat cycles. By changing your oil before storage, this ensures that the moisture, condensation and contaminants are removed and will not harm or corrode your engine's internals.

Fuel maintenance. For this step, we strongly advise filling your tank with fresh fuel. If possible, use race fuel as it is a better fuel and does not contain any ethanol (please note: leaded race fuel cannot be used in cars with oxygen sensors and catalytic converters. These vehicles must use unleaded race fuel). Keeping the tank full will prevent any condensation from accumulating at the top of the tank and causing rust. If you do not use race fuel, you can use a fuel additive. This helps to prevent the fuel from breaking down over the course of storage.

Install a battery tender. This allows the battery to stay fully charged throughout the winter months, so when the warmer spring weather arrives, your Porsche is ready to go. The difference between a battery tender and a battery charger is that the tender does not automatically shut off once the battery has reached a fully charged state (and subsequently allow the battery to discharge after a time); instead, it switches to a safe float voltage level that keeps the battery at an optimum charge without causing damage. According to Battery Tender's official website, this method can extend the useful life of the battery by at least 50%. We also recommend installing a gel battery, as these generally last longer than traditional acid batteries and do not cause the corrosion issues associated with water/acid batteries.



Bleed the brakes every 2 years. This point is important for any vehicle, not just ones that are going to be stored throughout the winter. Every year, brake fluid absorbs 1% of moisture, which can lead to rust and corrosion of the metal brake lines, calipers and pistons. Rubber brake lines can also swell as a result. It is important to keep the brake fluid moisture content under 2%; therefore, it is recommended by most car manufacturers to flush your brake system every two years.

Use a good quality car cover. Car covers are only as good as they are maintained. If your old car cover is dusty and dirty, keep in mind that these contaminants can easily scratch your Porsche's paint. Utilize a good-quality cotton cover, and keep it in dry, clean storage when not in use. We also recommend placing a few cotton balls soaked in peppermint oil in the car. We have found this helps to deter pesky mice from making a new home in your car.

