



CAR PREP CHECKLIST

Driving on a race track will put stress on both car and driver. Cars should be checked to meet technical and safety standards before being brought to the track. Following is a checklist of typical requirements.

Technical

- Tire wear above tread markers, correct speed rating
- Lug nuts present and tight¹
- No pressed on hubcaps or beauty rings
- Wheels must have no sign of cracks or structural damage
- Over 1/2 thickness on brake pads/shoes
- Brake rotors must not have any cracks²
- Firm brake pedal
- Clean brake fluid, changed within 6 months, reservoir full
- Crack-free flexible brake lines
- Brake lights functional
- Wheel bearings tight with no play
- Minimum steering play
- Tow hook installed if available
- Gas cap secured
- No exposed electrical wires
- Sound exhaust with no leaks, Intake/exhaust sound limits met³
- Seat bolted in tight
- Battery solidly mounted with positive post covered
- No fluid leaks (oil, fuel, water)
- Catch container on radiator overflow
- Throttle has quick, positive return
- Body has no loose panels, large dents, rust or large primer areas; no inappropriate signage or add-ons
- Sunroofs must be closed or removed
- At least one rear-view mirror must be present

Safety

- Good 3, 4 or 5 point seat belts
- Good headrest
- Good door and window latches
- Open cars must have adequate roll protection⁴
- Glass headlights must be taped
- Snell 2010 or newer helmet⁵
- 2.5lb fire extinguisher recommended, metal mount bracket
- Cotton shirt and full length pants⁶
- No loose objects in car or trunk⁷
- Car must have numbers displayed on both sides, 8" tall

¹ Typical lug nut tightness is 75-95ft-lbs, check with your wheel manufacturer for specs

² Minimal hairline cracks in rotors are normal, but should not open or extend to the edge of the rotor

³ Sound limits are typically 103db at Thunderhill, 90db at Laguna Seca

⁴ Open cars include convertibles, purpose-built race cars without tops, roadsters, etc. Legal roll protection includes SCCA or NHRA approved bars as well as factory hoops pop-ups behind seats. All roll protection must meet broomstick test. Decorative bars are not approved.

⁵ Legal helmets include Snell SA2010, M2010. Helmets showing damage or missing a Snell sticker or 'shorty helmets' will not be approved

⁶ Faster cars should consider full fire-retardant driving suits; all drivers should strongly consider driving gloves and shoes.

⁷ Loose objects include handheld cameras (must have correct mount and safety strap), cell phones, radar detectors, tools, spare tire, jack, etc and cannot be in cab, trunk, glove box, etc