



Brake Maintenance 101:

Signs Your Brake Pads Need Changing

Your brakes are one of the most critical safety features of your vehicle. Ignoring brake maintenance can lead to dangerous situations. At BCIC, we want to help you **stay safe on the road!**

Here are some key signs that your brake pads may need to be changed.

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1. Squealing Sounds

If you hear a high-pitched squealing noise when you brake, it's time to take action. Most modern brake pads come equipped with "wear indicators," designed to alert you when they're worn down. These metal tabs will scratch against the rotor, producing that unmistakable sound, warning you that your brake pads are nearing the end of their life.

2. Clicking Noises

A clicking sound when you press or release the brake pedal could indicate loose brake pads. This might happen if the retaining mechanisms—like bolts, clips, or pins—are damaged. If your brake pads are rattling, it's essential to have them checked to prevent further issues.

3. Longer Stopping Distances

Notice that it takes longer to bring your car to a stop? This could be a sign of "brake fade," often caused by prolonged use of the brakes without a full stop. If your vehicle isn't responding like it used to, it's time for a brake inspection.

4. Car Pulls to One Side

If your car pulls to the left or right when braking, it may indicate uneven wear on your brake pads. When one side wears down faster than the other, it can create steering issues and unnecessary stress on your vehicle's components. Don't ignore this symptom—have a mechanic assess your brakes promptly.

5. Vibrating Brake Pedal

Feeling vibrations in your brake pedal? This could be due to "glazing," which happens when the adhesive that holds your brake pads together heats up and doesn't spread evenly across the rotor. This uneven wear can affect braking performance and immediate attention.



Check your brakes regularly to avoid costly repairs and ensure your safety on the road. If you notice any of these signs, consult a mechanic immediately.

At BCIC, we care about your safety and want you to **drive with confidence.**



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