

Brake Test Notes

Use these notes as a reminder when completing the static and rolling brake tests.

Static brake test

1. With the engine switched on press the footbrake – the pedal should feel firm.
2. Keeping your foot on the footbrake, release the handbrake.
Here you are keeping the footbrake pressed for safety.
3. Check that the brake warning light on the dashboard has gone off.
Note that if the brake warning light stays on you need to double check that the handbrake is fully released – if the light stays on after the handbrake is fully released do not drive the car and get it checked by a mechanic.
4. You have now completed the static brake test – pull on the handbrake to secure the car.

Brake servo test

This is a quick way to test that the braking system 'power assistance' is working.

1. With the engine switched off, press the footbrake firmly.
2. Keeping pressure on the footbrake, start the engine. As the engine starts you should feel the brake pedal 'give' a little as the power braking system activates.
3. You have now completed the servo-assistance test.

Rolling brake test

Note that this is not an emergency stop and should be completed at very low speed.

1. Start the engine and move off as normal – increase speed to around 5mph.
2. Holding the steering wheel gently press the brake pedal (and clutch) to stop the car. The steering wheel should remain straight with no noticeable movement to the left or right. If the wheel moves to the left or right, ensure that you are on a road that does not have a steep camber and try the test again.
3. You have now completed your rolling brake test.

Note: If you feel the steering wheel pulling to the left or right when braking during normal driving check your tyre pressures. If the car still pulls with correctly inflated tyres, consult a mechanic.