



1997-2003 Chevrolet Malibu Fluid Check

Use this guide to maintain the fluid levels in a 1997-2003 Chevrolet Malibu.

Written By: Sank Yang



INTRODUCTION

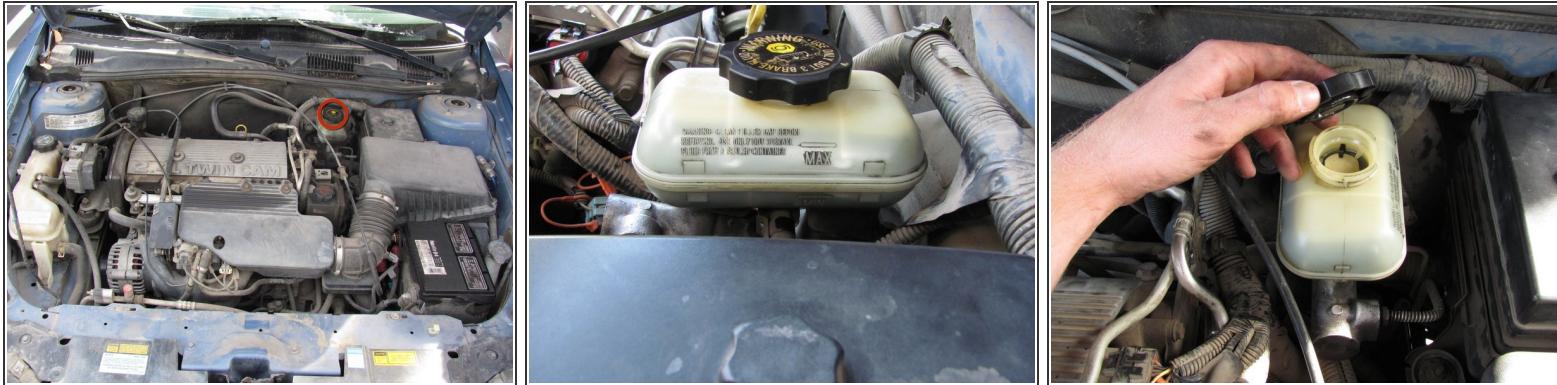
Checking the fluid levels on your car can significantly increase its life. Maintaining the correct fluid levels will prevent engine component failures.

TOOLS:

- [Fingers](#) (1)
- [Latex or nitrile gloves](#) (1)

Optional

Step 1 — Brake Fluid



⚠ Use caution while handling brake fluid. Brake fluid strips paint and dissolves plastic.

- There is a maximum fluid line on the right side of the reservoir. Remove the brake fluid cap and fill the brake fluid to the maximum level line.

Step 2 — Power Steering Fluid



⚠ Do not overfill the power steering fluid reservoir, as this can overwork the power steering pump and cause it to burn up.

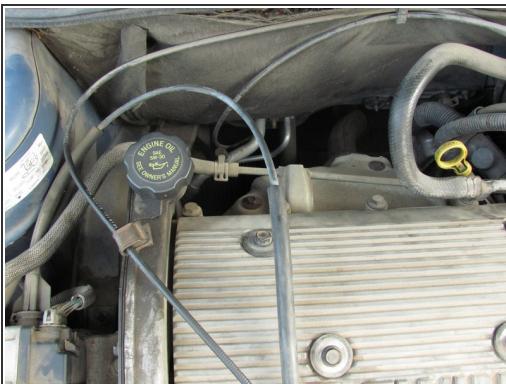
- Remove the power steering fluid cap. Check the fluid level using the dipstick attached to the cap.
- Fill the power steering fluid to the appropriate level indicated by the "H" for hot and the "C" for cold.
 - (i)** If the car has not been started then the fluid is cold. If the engine has been running for five minutes or more, then it is hot.

Step 3 — Engine Oil



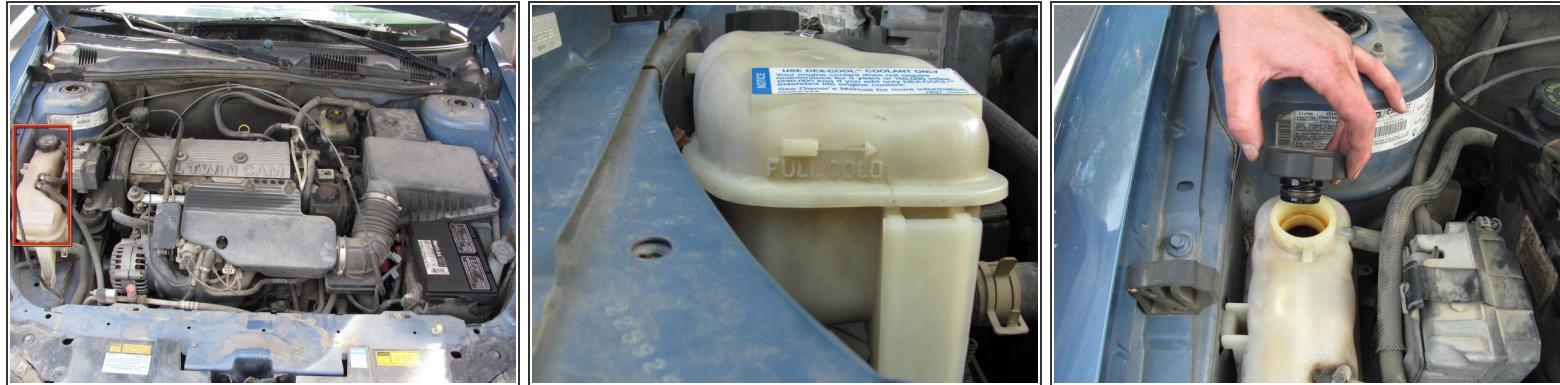
- Use the yellow handled oil dipstick to check the oil level by removing the dipstick, wiping off the oil, and re-inserting it.
- Remove the dipstick again and check the oil level. Full level is read on the right side of the dipstick.

Step 4 — Engine Oil Continued



- If the oil level is below full, add oil to the car by removing the cap labeled "Engine Oil."
- Add a small amount of oil and repeat Step 3 until the oil level is full.

Step 5 — Radiator Coolant Reservoir



⚠ Make sure the engine is cool before removing the radiator reservoir cap. Radiator coolant needs to be disposed of properly. Visit this link for more information <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/materials/recycling/coolants.htm>

- Remove the radiator reservoir cap and fill it with coolant until it reaches the full level indicator line on the front side of the reservoir.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.