

MOT test exemption for classic cars over 40 years old could change



The Ministry of Transport could make a big change that would affect classic car owners in 2025. According to the DVLA there are around 340,000 vehicles over 40 years old still with their registered keepers.

Historically, these vehicles have been exempt from the annual MOT test, as they are usually well maintained by their enthusiast owners and only driven a limited mileage. But the Department of Transport is now consulting whether cherished classic cars should have an annual MOT test.

The suggestion has been met with some support with consultation participants agreeing that a new type of check is needed specifically designed for vintage vehicles. A limited number said it should be a full MOT test particularly for vehicles that are driven regularly. Others said a less rigorous test would be OK but there was consensus that classic cars shouldn't have to pass an emissions test. But almost 40% said there was no need for new MOT safety inspections for vintage cars.

The debate over classic car inspections isn't new as the Federation of British Historical Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC) has previously said that older vehicles should be subjected to safety checks, especially after major restoration or repair, and before being allowed back on the road.



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