STARTING-PROBLEM DIAGNOSTICS / 01

CAPTURE THE STARTING SYMPTOM

Record observations only. Keep identifying vehicle and access information outside this worksheet.

A helpful preparation resource from PickYourPro.ai. Fill in digitally or print. Keep your completed copy private.

Vehicle A / general type or model year / no VIN or plate

Before the start attempt / lights, sounds or other observation

During the attempt / crank, click, silence or other observation

After the attempt / warning indicator, smell or other observation

Consistent or intermittent / first noticed / pattern

Conditions when observed / temperature, time parked or other context

Preparation only. Not diagnosis, repair, maintenance, recall, towing, roadside, warranty, insurance, vehicle-safety or legal advice. Keep VINs, plates, addresses, keys, access codes, account data and private records out.

STARTING-PROBLEM DIAGNOSTICS / 02

SEPARATE DIAGNOSIS, APPROVAL AND REPAIR

Ask the provider to define each boundary and deliverable before work proceeds.

Recent service, event or change / observation only

Initial diagnostic scope / charge / written deliverable

Additional diagnostic approval checkpoint / contact route

Findings format / tests and limitations to be documented

Repair proposal boundary / parts and labor only after approval

Completed-work record / operating check / vehicle-return handoff

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STARTING-PROBLEM DIAGNOSTICS / 03

CHECK PROPOSAL READINESS

Tick what is organized. These checks do not diagnose, authorize work or decide whether the vehicle is safe to operate.

- [ ] Every provider receives the same observation-only brief
- [ ] VIN, plate, address, keys and account data stay outside
- [ ] Symptoms are recorded without guessing at a failed part
- [ ] Occurrence conditions and recent events are visible
- [ ] Initial diagnostic scope and deliverable are defined
- [ ] Additional work has an approval checkpoint
- [ ] Recall checking stays with official private tools
- [ ] Findings and return-of-vehicle handoff are written

Open symptom, condition or recent-event question

Unclear diagnostic, approval or repair boundary

Missing findings, completed-work or vehicle-return detail

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STARTING-PROBLEM DIAGNOSTICS / 04

QUESTIONS FOR THE REPAIR PROVIDER

Record the answer and where it appears in the estimate, work order or supporting material.

Plan: how will observations become a diagnostic approach?

Scope: what initial work, charge and written finding are included?

Approval: what requires consent before proceeding?

Evidence: how are tests, observations and limitations documented?

Boundaries: how are warranty, recall and paid work separated?

Handoff: what completed-work and vehicle-return record is included?

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STARTING-PROBLEM DIAGNOSTICS / 05

COMPARE THE SAME DIAGNOSTIC BRIEF

Use Provider A and B. Clarify unlike diagnostic or authorization assumptions before comparing proposals.

Provider A / B / proposal dates / shared observation brief

Initial diagnostic scope, charge and deliverable - A / B

Approval checkpoints, findings and repair boundary - A / B

Completed-work record, vehicle return and exclusions - A / B

READY TO HEAR FROM PROS?

Create an account on PickYourPro.ai only if you choose, then start an Auto Repair request. Share a non-sensitive observation and diagnostic-scope brief so participating pros can compete with proposals. Compare diagnostic boundaries, written findings, approval checkpoints, later repair scope, handoff, exclusions and fit. A provider-led inspection and private vehicle-information review may be needed before a final proposal.

One request. Every pro's best offer.

Start a request

Participation varies. A provider-led inspection and private vehicle-information review may be needed before a final diagnostic or repair proposal.

Planning guide: https://www.pickyourpro.ai/services/auto-repair/starting-problems

Federal Trade Commission: Auto Repair Basics (official reference)

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Check for Recalls (official reference)

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