

# EV Maintenance Help Sheet

In addition to cheaper running costs and being more environmentally friendly than internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, electric vehicles (EVs) are also easier and cheaper to maintain due to having fewer moving parts than ICEs.

Here at [Dawsongroup | vans](#) we're committed to removing the stress of servicing and maintaining your electric vans. To help, we've answered many of the frequently asked questions we receive about maintaining an EV fleet.

## What is different about servicing on an electric van?



### Battery and motor

Electric motors and batteries only have around 20 components which require very little maintenance or repairs.



### Tyres

The increased torque and weight of EVs means that tyre wear can occur faster than diesel or petrol vehicles.



### Suspension and steering components

Just like with the tyres, the additional weight of EVs can cause springs and shock absorbers to wear quicker.



### High voltage cables

Your EV will have high voltage electrical cables which will need a visual inspection for any damage or loose connections.



### Brake Pads

Thanks to the regenerative braking technology in most EVs, brake pads often last longer.



### Cooling system

Most cooling systems are liquid cooled and will just require a visual inspection when being serviced.



### Heating and ventilation system

As with diesel and petrol vehicles, EVs will need the cabin air filter and air-conditioning system refrigerant levels checked.

## How often does my electric van need servicing?

Due to the reasons mentioned above, EVs can be serviced less frequently than diesel or petrol vehicles. This being said, Dawsongroup vans will still service your electric van every 12 months to ensure driver safety when operating our vehicles.

## Are there any differences with an MOT for an electric van?

Like petrol or diesel vans, electric vans older than three years must pass an MOT. The only major difference for an electric van MOT is there will be no emissions test or noise test completed, as electric vehicles produce zero tailpipe emissions.

## What pre-journey checks should I complete for my electric van?



**Tyres** – make sure your tyre pressure is topped up and your tread depth is legal.



**Charging Cable** – have your charging cables somewhere easily accessible in your vehicle.



**Route Plan** – Plan your trip around your electric van's range and the location of suitable charging stations.



**Top up your liquids** – Check you have enough coolant fluid, brake fluid and washer fluid before heading off.



**Check your charge** – Check your current charge and plan in a public charging stop if needed.



**Test your brakes** – Test your brakes before leaving to make sure they do not feel spongy or unresponsive.

## How can I optimise the performance of my electric van's battery?

- 1.** Maintain between 20% - 80% charge to avoid battery degradation.
- 2.** Slow charge where possible and only use rapid charging for topping up.
- 3.** Drive smoothly and sensibly avoiding heavy braking and acceleration.
- 4.** Avoid leaving your vehicle in extreme temperatures for too long.

## Do I need to wash my electric van in a particular way?

There are no fundamental differences between cleaning an ICE van and an electric van. Before cleaning, it is always useful to know where your vehicles battery pack and charging ports are, to avoid applying high-pressure in these areas.

## What happens if my electric van breaks down?

The only major difference is that the majority of EVs cannot be towed in the same way as ICE vehicles. This is because when the wheels are in motion on an EV, kinetic energy builds up and could damage the vehicles battery. However, this is easy enough to avoid, just ensure that the tyres are not moving during a vehicle recovery.

## The solution to stress-free servicing and maintenance of your electric vans ...

When it comes to servicing and maintaining your electric vans, you can expect the same exceptional service from Dawsongroup vans as you always have. Our extensive network of mobile mechanics and workshops across the UK are all prepared for working with electric vehicles, ensuring that your fleet's uptime is maximised and that your drivers are safe and supported on the road.