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The advantage of using your own vehicle is of course the liberty it brings with it; no timetables or weight limits for luggage. At the same time, its upkeep is also our own responsibility. Especially when spending the holidays in Europe, the car is likely to be used a lot more than at home. Distances tend to be longer during the holidays. At home where we tend to use the vehicle to go to work or do the weekly shopping. On holiday however, we drive hundreds of miles just to get to our destination. Once there you might want to do daytrips to locations 30 miles away. In addition to extra mileage, your car tends to be more heavily loaded than at home. It is important to take these factors into account before leaving. After all, no-one likes to discover the brake pads need replacing when crashing into the vehicle in front.

To avoid both accidents but also unexpected break-downs, it is therefore worthwhile to check the state of certain car parts including the brake parts and filters. Even though the latter are not so much responsible for accidents, they can cause your car to break down when not working properly. Not only will you avoid expensive reparations to your car during your holiday but your car will also run better when its filters work properly. Besides, filters are far from expensive. So no reason to neglect their upkeep as well functioning filters help saving money in the short and the long run.

On the downside though, car filters need replacing rather regularly. The fuel and air filter of a petrol car need changing about every 12 500 miles. The oil filter doesn't even last that long: it ought to be replaced about every 6000 miles, depending on the fuel your car runs on. The filters of a diesel can be used longer: about 24 500 miles. These are indications of course. It is important however not to underestimate the distances we cover during our holidays. Those few extra miles can make the difference between a safe journey and a break-down.

Apart from the three filters mentioned above, cars are equipped with a fourth filter: the pollen filter. Although not mentioned as frequently as the standard service parts, your pollen or cabin air filter does need regular checking as well. Even if a malfunctioning of this filter will not cause your car to break down, there can be rather serious consequences for your health and your passengers'.

The pollen filter makes sure the air entering the cabin no longer contains pollen, bacteria, dirt particulates or exhaust fumes. It also helps against unpleasant odours. The latter can be a nuisance of course but rarely has a negative impact on our health. Pollen, bacteria and dirt particulates are a different story altogether. They can cause headaches, nausea, allergic reactions and drowsiness. For your own welfare and your passengers' it is better, especially before taking off on a long journey, to check your pollen filter.

During the summer season this is of even greater importance as the pollen filter contributes to the functioning of an air con if present. Needless to say it is rather unpleasant to have your air con give up on you in say the south of France where it's over 30°C. Particularly if the cause is a failing pollen filter as the latter is completely clogged up with dirt and insects it has been sucking up over the last 12 500 miles.

Once ensured all service parts including filters and fluids but also the brakes are in good condition, we are ready to leave.

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Jesse Wallace writes for a digital marketing agency. This article on a [car filters](#) has been commissioned by a client of said agency. This article is not designed to promote, but should be considered professional content.

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