

Don't crack your drums!

5 BRAKE INSPECTION TIPS DRIVERS FORGET

1 Don't park hot

After a long descent, let your brakes cool before setting the spring brakes. Hot drums can warp or crack. Instead, use wheel chocks and wait it out.

2 Dry brakes in wet and freezing conditions

In freezing and wet weather, lightly apply the service brakes in low gear before parking. It keeps moisture from freezing brakes to the drums.

3 Use all your senses

Look, listen, feel, and smell. Air leaks, vibration, or burning smells mean trouble. Don't ignore them during your pre-trip.

4 Respect compressed air

Exhausting air travels at high speed, carrying dirt, oil, and moisture that can cause serious injury to your eyes or face. Stay out of the direct path of brake valve exhaust ports, air dryer, and air tank drains. Always wear PPE.

5 Leave repairs to the pros

See a spring brake chamber with a caging bolt sticking out? Step away and call the shop. That spring is under pressure and should be handled by a qualified technician.

Stay sharp. Stay safe.

