

Cold Mornings and Reluctant Engines

*Practical winter automobile advice from
Rudy Hiebert, Independent Dealer for*



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Two things ensure your car is ready to go when you are:

1. Learn the right way to start a reluctant engine.
2. Know how to protect against winter freeze-ups.

Fuel-Injector Systems:

Fuel injected cars do not require pressing the accelerator. The electronic fuel pump does that automatically. If you do it inadvertently, there may be no problem but do not repeat the mistake again. For clean injectors, I recommend "P.I." -- an excellent Amsoil gasoline additive product.

Carbureted Systems:

1. Press once on the accelerator pedal to draw gas into the carburetor.
2. Turn off the car ignition and wait at least 1 minute.
3. Hold the gas pedal to the floor and crank the engine for no more than 10 seconds (this usually floods my half-ton, so I'd take this advice at your own risk).

Repeat this procedure no more than three times. Do not pump the accelerator. If the car doesn't respond, there may be battery or mechanical trouble. For a clean carb, use P.I. an excellent gasoline additive.

NOTE: Regardless of your car's system, the smell of gas means that the engine is flooded. Consult your Owner's Manual for recommended procedures.

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Cold Mornings and Reluctant Engines, continued ...

Starting steps for all cars:

- ❑ Turn off all accessories (heater, lights, wipers and radio).
- ❑ Don't "gun", "rev" or punch the gas pedal. Take it easy until the car warms up. Hard acceleration can damage a cold engine.
- ❑ Never warm up a car in a garage, closed or otherwise. Carbon dioxide exhaust fumes are fatal to occupants of the car, garage or attached structures. These fumes will find their way into your home through the garage door, although it will likely be closed.

Other cold-weather suggestions:

- ❑ Add gasoline anti-freeze to the fuel tank and keep it at least half-filled.

The fluid will protect against fuel-line freeze-up in cold weather. I recommend using Amsoil's P.I. or a gasoline stabilizer for gasoline engines and Diesel Fuel Additive Concentrate for diesel engines.

- ❑ Keep an equal mixture of antifreeze and water in the car's cooling system.

Here I suggest Amsoil's Propylene Glycol which will perform in superior ways. It is not toxic or lethal to animals or fish when ingested, unlike the common yet toxic and lethal ethylene glycol.

- ❑ Park in a garage, if possible. If possible park with the rear of the car facing the wind, protecting the engine from the extreme effect of the wind chill.

These unearthly cold temperatures put a whole new spin on a sign I saw in a field after a blizzard blew through the Winnipeg area which said, "**Chickens For Sale, Range Fed, Freezer Ready**".

Putting Amsoil 100% synthetic motor oil in your engine and Amsoil Automatic Transmission Fluid will solve extreme cold temperature starting problems. See my web site for more information on products and how to request a free catalog or initiate an opportunity to use and sell Amsoil.

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