

What do they test?

Here's a tick list of what the garage will check during the MOT test.
You can check the majority of these yourself before taking your car in.

<input type="checkbox"/> Body / vehicle structure / general items:	Free from excessive corrosion or damage in specific areas. No sharp edges likely to cause injury. Towbars for security / condition / inappropriate repairs or modification. Correct operation of 13 pin electrical socket. Speedometer condition and operation. Engine mountings.
<input type="checkbox"/> Fuel System:	No leaks. Security and condition of pipes / hoses. Fuel cap fastens and seals securely. Note: the fuel cap will need to be opened. Make sure the key is available.
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaust emissions:	Vehicle meets the requirements for exhaust emissions, dependent on the age and fuel type of the vehicle.
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaust system:	Secure. Complete. Catalyst missing where one was fitted as standard. Without serious leaks and is not too noisy.
<input type="checkbox"/> Seat belts:	All the seat belts fitted are checked for type, condition, operation and security. All mandatory seat belts must be in place. Check of the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) for air bags and seat belt pre tensioners and load limiters.
<input type="checkbox"/> Seats:	Drivers seat for adjustment. All seats for security and seat backs can be secured in the upright position.
<input type="checkbox"/> Doors:	Latch securely in closed position. Front doors should open from inside and outside the vehicle. Rear doors should open from outside the vehicle. Hinges and catches for security and condition.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mirrors:	Minimum number required, condition and security.
<input type="checkbox"/> Load security:	Boot or tailgate can be secured in the closed position.

<input type="checkbox"/> Brakes:	Condition including inappropriate repairs or modifications, operation and performance (efficiency test). Note the removal of the road wheels and trims are not part of the test. Anti-lock Braking System(ABS) and Electronic Stability Control (ESC) where fitted. Check of the dashboard Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) for ABS, ESC, electronic park brake and brake fluid warning.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tyres and wheels:	Condition, security, tyre size/type and tread depth. Spare wheels and tyres are not inspected. Note: vehicles first used on or after 1 January 2012 - check of the MIL for Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS).
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration plates:	Condition, security, colour, characters correctly formed and spaced.
<input type="checkbox"/> Lights:	Condition, operation including High Intensity Discharge (HID) and Light Emitting Diode (LED) headlamps for cleaning, self leveling and security. Headlamp aim. Main beam warning light.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bonnet:	Securely latches in the closed position.
<input type="checkbox"/> Wipers/washers:	Operate to give the driver a clear view ahead.
<input type="checkbox"/> Windscreen:	Condition and driver's view of the road.
<input type="checkbox"/> Horn:	Correct operation and of suitable type.
<input type="checkbox"/> Steering and suspension:	Condition, steering oil level, operation, a check for inappropriate repairs or modification including corrosion to power steering pipes or hoses. Operation of steering lock mechanism. Check of the MIL for electronic power steering and steering lock.
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle identification number:	Present on vehicles first used on or after 1 August 1980. A single VIN is displayed except on multistage build vehicles. (e.g. van conversion, BMW/Alpina etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical:	Visible electrical wiring and battery.