Auto repair release form

Authorization to inspect, diagnose and repair

I authorize **[Shop Name]** to inspect, diagnose and carry out the repairs or services described on the repair order or estimate for the vehicle identified in this form.

The authorized work may include:

- Inspecting the vehicle and running diagnostic tests
- Removing and refitting parts where needed to find a fault
- Carrying out the repairs, maintenance or services I approve
- Supplying parts, fluids and materials needed for the approved work
- Moving the vehicle within the shop premises and parking areas

I confirm that I am the owner of the vehicle, or that I am authorized by the owner to approve inspection, repairs and payment on their behalf.

The shop may refuse or stop work it reasonably believes would be unsafe, unlawful or outside its capability, and will tell me if it does so.

Diagnosis and inspection

I understand that diagnosing a fault can take time and may require partial disassembly of the vehicle. Diagnostic time is charged at **[Diagnostic Rate]** unless the shop agrees otherwise in writing.

A diagnosis is the shop's professional assessment based on the symptoms, tests and information available at the time. Some faults are intermittent or have more than one cause, and further work may be needed if the original problem returns or a second fault is found.

If I decline the recommended repairs after diagnosis, I agree to pay for diagnostic time already carried out and for reassembling the vehicle where parts were removed.

Estimates and approval of charges

The shop will give me a written or electronic estimate before starting chargeable repair work, unless I waive that estimate in this form.

I understand that:

- An estimate is based on the information available when it is prepared
- Parts prices, availability and labor time may change once work begins
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Taxes, shop supplies, environmental and disposal fees may be added where shown on the estimate or repair order

- Work I approve verbally, by phone, text or email is treated as approved in writing for the purposes of this form

The shop will not exceed the approved estimate by more than **[Allowed Overage, e.g. 10% or $100]** without first contacting me for approval, unless applicable law requires a different limit.

Additional work over the estimate

If the shop finds further faults or needs to carry out work not covered by the estimate, it will contact me using the details in this form, explain the additional work and cost, and wait for my approval before proceeding.

If the shop cannot reach me within a reasonable time, it may stop work and store the vehicle until I respond. Delays caused by waiting for approval do not make the shop responsible for rental cars, travel or other costs.

I may decline additional work. Where I decline work the shop considers necessary for safety, it may note this on the invoice and ask me to acknowledge that the recommended repair was declined.

Parts and materials

Unless I request otherwise, the shop may use new original-equipment parts, new aftermarket parts, remanufactured or rebuilt parts, or used parts, as shown on the estimate or invoice.

I understand that:

- Aftermarket, remanufactured and used parts may differ in appearance, fit or warranty from original-equipment parts
- Parts warranties are provided by the shop or the manufacturer as stated on the invoice
- Special-order and electrical parts may not be returnable once ordered or installed
- Customer-supplied parts are fitted at my own risk and are not covered by the shop's parts warranty

Replaced parts will be returned to me if I request them before work begins, except for parts that must be returned to a supplier under a warranty or core-exchange program, or that must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Test drives and vehicle movement

I authorize the shop's employees to operate the vehicle on public roads for test drives, diagnosis and road testing, and to move it within the premises and between work areas.

Test drives will be carried out by authorized staff with a valid driving license, for as long as is reasonably needed to diagnose the fault or confirm the repair.

I confirm that the vehicle is registered and insured as required by law. I understand that my vehicle insurance may be primary during test drives, depending on my policy and the shop's insurance.

Pre-existing damage and vehicle condition

I understand that the shop is not responsible for damage, wear or faults that existed before the vehicle was left with the shop, including:

- Body damage, scratches, dents, chips and paint defects
- Worn, corroded, seized or previously damaged parts
- Rust, brittle hoses, perished seals and aged wiring that may fail during normal handling
- Faults caused by previous repairs, modifications or accidents
- Warning lights, fault codes or problems unrelated to the approved work

Older or high-mileage vehicles may have parts that break or fail during removal or adjustment. Where this happens despite reasonable care, I agree to pay for the parts and labor needed to replace them, after the shop has explained the cost.

The shop may photograph the vehicle at drop-off to record its condition.

Personal items and valuables

I agree to remove valuables, cash, documents, electronics and personal belongings from the vehicle before leaving it with the shop.

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the shop is not responsible for loss of or damage to personal items left in the vehicle, unless caused by liability that cannot legally be excluded.

Child seats, roof racks, tool boxes and accessories may be removed or moved where needed to carry out the work.

Payment and mechanic's lien

Payment for all approved work, parts, diagnostic time and applicable fees is due when the vehicle is collected, unless the shop has agreed other terms in writing.

I understand that the shop may have a **mechanic's lien** or similar legal right over the vehicle for the value of authorized repairs and storage, and may keep the vehicle until the amount owed is paid, as allowed by applicable law.

Unpaid amounts may be subject to collection costs and other remedies permitted by law.

Pickup, storage fees and abandoned vehicles

The shop will contact me when the work is complete. I agree to collect the vehicle within **[Number]** days of that notice.

After that period, storage fees of **[Storage Fee per Day]** may apply, unless applicable law sets a different amount or notice requirement.

If the vehicle is not collected and charges remain unpaid for an extended period, the shop may take the steps allowed by applicable law for unclaimed or abandoned vehicles, which may include sale or disposal after required notices.

The shop is not responsible for weather, theft or vandalism affecting a vehicle left beyond the collection period, except where caused by its negligence or where liability cannot legally be excluded.

Warranty on workmanship

Any warranty on labor or parts is limited to the terms stated on the final invoice. Warranties may not apply where the vehicle has been misused, modified, repaired by someone else, or used for racing, off-road or commercial purposes not disclosed to the shop.

I agree to report any problem with the work promptly and give the shop a reasonable opportunity to inspect and correct it.

Liability release

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, I release **[Shop Name]** and its owners, managers, technicians, employees and representatives from claims arising solely from:

- Pre-existing damage, wear or faults described in this form
- Parts that fail during removal or adjustment despite reasonable care
- Loss of or damage to personal items left in the vehicle
- Delays caused by parts availability, suppliers or waiting for my approval
- Information I concealed or provided inaccurately about the vehicle or its history
- Repairs I declined after being told they were recommended

This release does not exclude or limit liability that cannot legally be excluded or limited.

It does not apply to fraud, intentional misconduct, gross negligence, unauthorized work, violations of mandatory consumer protection laws or any other liability that applicable law prohibits the shop from waiving.

Privacy and recordkeeping

I understand that the shop may collect and retain information where reasonably necessary to:

- Identify me and the vehicle
- Prepare estimates, repair orders and invoices
- Contact me about approvals, progress and collection
- Keep service and warranty records
- Respond to complaints, insurance claims or legal claims
- Meet tax, licensing and legal obligations

Information will be handled according to the shop's privacy notice and applicable data-protection laws.

Final declaration

By completing and signing this form, I confirm that:

- I am the vehicle owner or authorized to act for the owner.
- The information I have provided is complete and accurate.
- I authorize the inspection, diagnosis and approved repairs described above.
- I understand how estimates, additional work and approvals are handled.
- I authorize test drives by shop staff.
- I understand the terms on parts, pre-existing damage and personal items.
- I agree to pay for authorized work and understand that the shop may hold the vehicle until payment is made where the law allows.
- I understand the collection period and storage fees.
- I had an opportunity to ask questions before signing.
- I understand that this form does not remove rights or protections that cannot legally be waived.

Customer and vehicle completion

Contact details

First name *

Last name *

Phone

Email *

Vehicle make, model and year *

License plate or VIN *

Mileage at drop-off

Problem description or work requested *

Preferred parts *

- ◯ Original-equipment parts only
- ◯ Shop may use aftermarket or used parts where shown on the estimate

Return of replaced parts *

- ◯ Return replaced parts to me
- ◯ Shop may dispose of replaced parts

How should we contact you for approvals

- ☐ Phone call
- ☐ Text message
- ☐ Email

Drop-off date *

☐ I have read, understood and agree to the Auto Repair Release Form and Repair Authorization above. I confirm that I am the vehicle owner or authorized to act for the owner, and that I authorize the inspection, diagnosis, test drives and approved repairs described in this form. *

Signature *