

1-6 Introduction

General Precautions

- Ensure that the vehicle is securely supported before working underneath it. **Chock the front wheel and apply the handbrake.**
- Whenever possible use a suitable wheel-free lift when working beneath the vehicle. If a jack is used to support the vehicle, use axle stands carefully placed at the jacking points to provide a rigid support. **Do not** use any jacking equipment under the front cross member
- Ensure that adequate ventilation is provided when volatile degreasing agents are being used.
- **Never** use volatile cleaning fluids under a vehicle standing over a pit. Many such fluids give off vapours which are heavier than air and dangerous to inhale.
- Wear protective overalls, ensure loose clothing (ties, etc.) are removed or covered when working adjacent to moving components (fan belts, etc.).
- Do not leave opened containers of oil, fuel, etc., about the work area. Always refit caps/seals to partially used containers when storing them for later use.
- Do not leave tools, equipment, spilt oil, etc., around or on the work area.

- Place a fire extinguisher close to the vehicle and disconnect the negative battery terminal. Do not use a naked flame to provide illumination, especially under the vehicle, or in the engine and luggage compartments. Do not smoke while working on the vehicle.
- Do not apply heat in an attempt to free nuts or fittings. This will damage protective coatings and there is a risk of damage to electronic equipment and brake and fuel lines from conducted heat.
- Inspect power leads of any mains electrical equipment for damage, and check that it is properly earthed.

General Precautions Against Damage

- When working in the engine compartment protect the exterior paintwork by using suitable covers over the wings and scuttle.
- To prevent soiling the interior, carry out jobs requiring access to the passenger or luggage compartments first. If a job involves access to the interior in the course of other work, prevent the transfer of oil and grease to the interior by using seat and carpet covers and wearing clean overalls and gloves.
- Always use a recommended service tool, where specified.
- Avoid spilling hydraulic fluid or battery acid on paintwork. Wash off with water immediately if this occurs.