

English translation of Japanese Automobile Federation Q&A

Q: What if fluid is leaking?

A: The source of a leak (oil or cooling water) can be determined to some extent from the location and type of liquid.

Cars use a lot of fluid (liquid such as oil). As a precursor to breakdowns and troubles, they leak

Since there is a possibility of leaking, it is possible to judge the failure location to some extent from the location of the leak and the type of liquid.

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For FR (rear-wheel drive) and 4WD (four-wheel drive) vehicles, if it is near the center of the rear wheel axle, the differential gear

It can be said that there is a high probability of gear oil leakage. If it is almost directly under the shift lever, gear oil for manual transmission cars and automatic transmission cars

If so, there is a possibility of trouble with automatic transmission fluid?

FF (front-wheel drive) vehicles can open the hood, the engine is located on the right, and if the leak trace is on the left, fluid leakage from the transmission is suspicious. Of course, the reverse is also true. In FF/FR/4WD vehicles, if there is a leak directly under the engine compartment, it is an engine oil is likely. However, directly under the engine compartment, power steering fluid, brake fluid, clutch fluid and coolant might also leak. Therefore, it is also important to expand the confirmation work to a wider area.

Types of leaking liquid can be divided into two main types: The coolant has a smooth water-like feel. Cold

It is generally colored red or green so that you can see that it is water. Oil systems include brake full A clutch fluid, ATF, and power steering fluid, which open the engine room and explain how to handle the vehicle. You can look at each gauge or reservoir tank listed in the book and check it by color and smell. either way

If there is a leak, it must be inspected at a maintenance shop.

By the way, when air conditioner is used in the summer, water will drip under the car body, but this is drainage due to the air conditioner dehumidifying the inside of the car, so there is no need to worry.

EVs (electric vehicles) and PHVs (plug-in hybrid vehicles) are safe because they are designed to prevent the outflow of electrolyte (no large amount of electrolyte) from the

battery even if a collision occurs. Still, in the unlikely event that the electrolyte (transparent color and aromatic odor) leaks, keep the fire away from it because it is flammable, and ventilate sufficiently. Because the electrolyte is a hazardous chemical, it should never be touched with your hands. Keep safely away and ask JAF to rescue.