CHECKING THE ENGINE OIL LEVEL

The oil consumption of an engine is influenced by many factors. Under high loads, an engine will consume more oil than usual. Diesel engines consume slightly more oil than petrol engines.



- 1. Engine oil dipstick 2.0L petrol engine.
- 2. Engine oil dipstick 2.2L diesel engine.

Prior to checking the oil level make sure that:

- The vehicle is on level ground.
- The engine oil is cold.

Note: If it is necessary to check the oil level when the engine is hot, switch off the engine and let the vehicle stand for 5 minutes to allow the oil to drain back into the sump. Do not start the engine.

The oil level can be checked as follows:

- 1. Withdraw the dipstick and wipe the blade clean with a lint-free cloth.
- Fully re-insert the dipstick and withdraw again to check the oil level. Never allow the oil level to fall below the lower mark or notch on the dipstick.

As a general guide, if the level on the dipstick:

- Is nearer to the upper mark or notch than the lower, add no oil.
- Is nearer to the lower mark or notch than the upper, add 0.5 litres (1 pint) of oil.
- Is below the lower mark or notch, add 1 litre (2 pints) of oil and re-check the level after a further 5 minutes.

TOPPING UP THE OIL

- The vehicle's warranty may be invalidated if damage is caused by using oil that does not meet the required specification.
- Failure to use an oil that meets the required specification could cause excessive engine wear, a build up of sludge and deposits, and increase pollution. It could also lead to engine failure.
- Overfilling with oil could result in severe engine damage. Oil should be added in small quantities and the level re-checked to make sure the engine is not overfilled.

Note: It is essential to use oil with the correct specifications and make sure it is suitable for the climatic conditions in which the vehicle is to be operated. See **199, LUBRICANTS AND FLUIDS**.

- 1. Remove the oil filler cap.
- 2. Add oil to maintain the level between the MIN and MAX marks or notches on the dipstick. Clean up any oil spilled during topping up.
- 3. Check the oil level again after 5 minutes.

Note: The approximate quantity of oil required to raise the level from **MIN** to **MAX** on the dipstick is 1.2 litres (2.11 pints) - petrol models or 1.5 litres (2.64 pints) - diesel models.