

Checking Your Brake Fluid.

Before checking:

1. Remember the more you use your brakes, the more your brake pads wear making them smaller and this makes your brake fluid level reduce.
2. Brake fluid can damage paintwork, etc so ensure all spills and drips are cleaned.

Each car is slightly different when it comes to checking the brake fluid. Usually, the brake fluid reservoir is found under the bonnet and in the engine bay next to the engine, but sometimes, you need to open the bonnet and then look under plastic covers near the bottom of the windscreen. Google is your friend here as is your car's manual. It will give you a good idea as to where it would be.

Method

Find the bonnet release lever inside the car.

Passenger or driver footwell.



In this car, it is found in the passenger footwell under the glove compartment.



Pull this lever towards you and you should hear the bonnet click open. If this does not work, it may be that you have an issue with your lever.

The bonnet should appear slightly open if it has unlatched successfully.

As you can see from this picture, there is a slight opening at the opening end of the bonnet compared to usual.

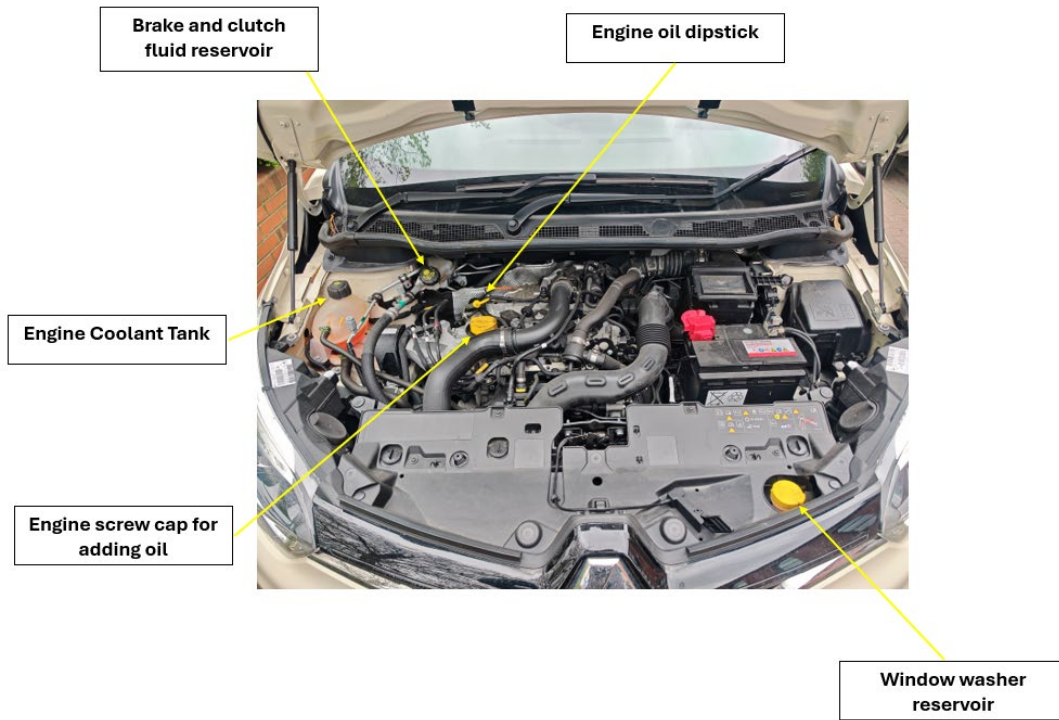
Most cars have a lever which you have to find with your fingers inside the bonnet gap and you may have to push this to the left, right or pull. Sometimes, you may have a small tab which pops out which you have to pull and then lift the bonnet.



On this Renault, the lever is here. Push it to the left and lift the bonnet. The bonnet will either stay up on its own or there will be a little prop which you will have to find and prop the bonnet up.



Under the bonnet, usually the parts which require servicing or regular checks are coloured yellow.



In the picture above, the brake reservoir is found almost above where the brake pedal is inside the car. This will be the case in most cars.

The symbol for brake fluid is the octagon shaped symbol. It has a circle which represents your brake disc and the brake pads which press against the disc to slow your car.

It also tells you which type of brake fluid you need if you need to refill it. In this case, it's DOT 4 brake fluid.



This is an easy one to check. Simply look at the side of the reservoir and it will have a minimum and maximum line. Ensure your fluid is just under the maximum line.

If you can't see where the fluid is, you can gently wiggle the reservoir so the fluid moves.

In this example, the fluid is perfectly on the maximum level.



If you need to refill, unscrew the cap and pour the right amount in. Remember to keep checking the amount you have added.

There will probably be a filter in the cap to stop any unwanted particles falling in.