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Mazda 626

1999 Mazda 626 Owner's Manual

Your comprehensive guide to operating and maintaining your Mazda 626.

1. Introduction

This owner's manual contains important information regarding the operation, maintenance, and safety of your 1999 Mazda 626. Please read it thoroughly to ensure proper use and to maximize the lifespan of your vehicle. Keep this manual in your vehicle for quick reference.

The information, specifications, and illustrations in this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication. Mazda reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice.

2. Getting Started & Controls Overview

Familiarize yourself with the basic controls and dashboard layout before driving.

2.1. Dashboard Layout

The dashboard houses essential gauges, indicators, and controls. Refer to the diagram below for key components.

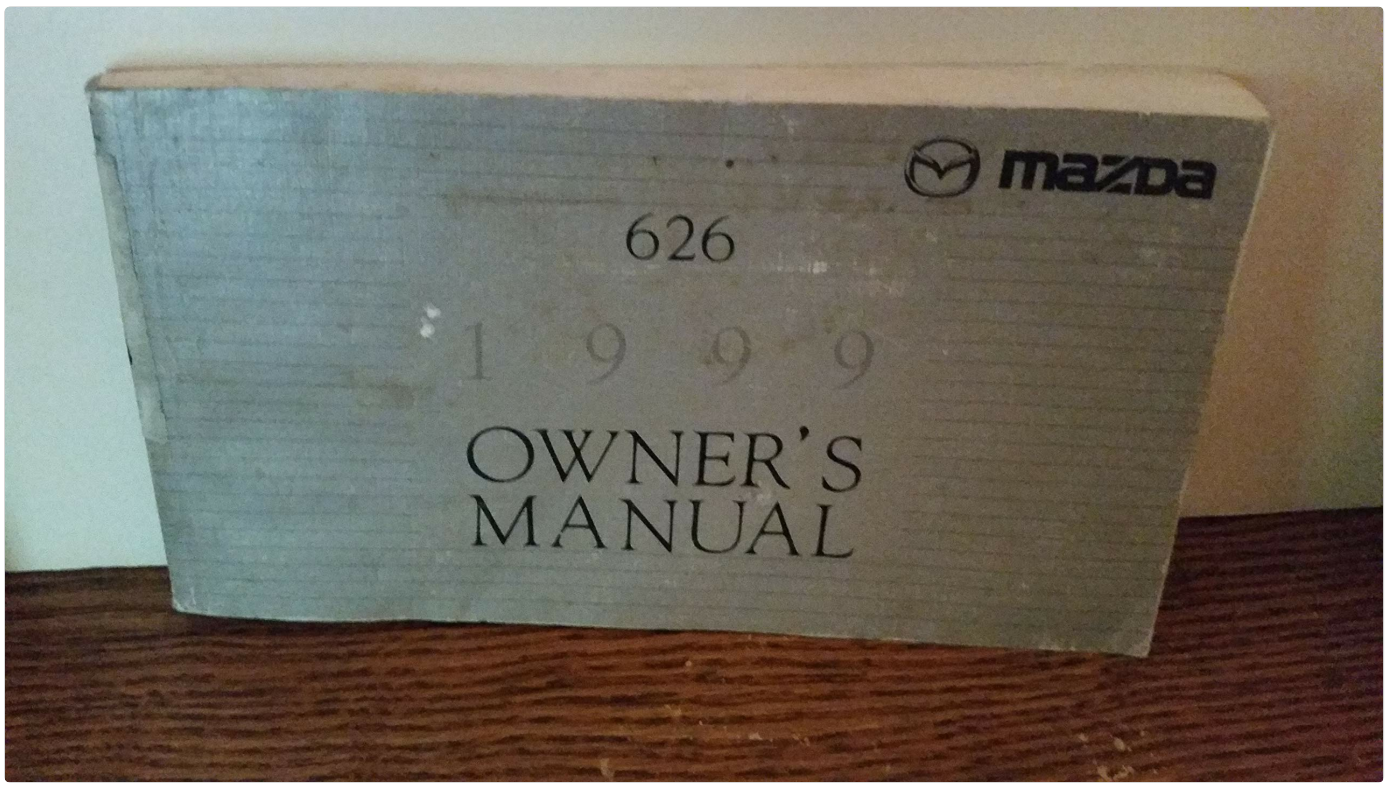


Figure 2.1: Cover of the 1999 Mazda 626 Owner's Manual. This image represents the primary reference document for all vehicle operations and maintenance procedures.

2.2. Ignition Switch

The ignition switch has several positions:

- **LOCK:** Steering wheel is locked. Key can be removed.
- **ACC (Accessory):** Allows use of electrical accessories (radio, power windows) without starting the engine.
- **ON:** All electrical systems are operational. This is the normal running position.
- **START:** Engages the starter motor to start the engine. Release key once engine starts.

3. Operating the Vehicle

3.1. Starting the Engine

1. Ensure the parking brake is engaged.
2. For automatic transmission, place the shift lever in **P** (Park) or **N** (Neutral). For manual transmission, place the shift lever in **N** (Neutral) and depress the clutch pedal.
3. Insert the key into the ignition switch.
4. Turn the key to the **START** position. Release the key once the engine starts.
5. Allow the engine to idle for a few moments before driving, especially in cold weather.

3.2. Automatic Transmission Operation

The automatic transmission features several gear positions:

- **P (Park):** Locks the transmission and prevents the vehicle from moving. Always use when parking.
- **R (Reverse):** For backing up.
- **N (Neutral):** No power is transmitted to the wheels. Use when starting the engine or when stopped for extended periods.
- **D (Drive):** For normal driving. The transmission automatically shifts through all forward gears.
- **S (Sport) / L (Low):** Depending on model, provides more aggressive shifting or holds lower gears for engine braking on hills.

3.3. Braking System

Your Mazda 626 is equipped with a hydraulic braking system. Apply steady pressure to the brake pedal to slow down or stop. The parking brake should be used when parking the vehicle to prevent it from rolling.

4. Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and safe operation of your vehicle. Refer to the separate "Maintenance Schedule" section in your physical manual for detailed intervals.

4.1. Engine Oil Check

1. Park the vehicle on a level surface and ensure the engine is warm but turned off for at least 5 minutes.
2. Locate the engine oil dipstick (usually with a yellow or orange handle).
3. Pull out the dipstick, wipe it clean with a cloth, and reinsert it fully.
4. Pull it out again and check the oil level. It should be between the "MIN" and "MAX" marks.

5. If low, add the recommended type of engine oil through the oil filler cap.

4.2. Tire Pressure

Check tire pressure regularly (at least once a month and before long trips) when tires are cold. Refer to the tire placard (usually on the driver's side door jamb) for recommended pressures. Proper tire pressure improves fuel economy and tire life.

4.3. Fluid Levels

Regularly check the levels of:

- Coolant
- Brake fluid
- Power steering fluid
- Windshield washer fluid

Top up as necessary with the specified fluids.

5. Troubleshooting

This section covers common issues you might encounter and their potential solutions.

5.1. Engine Will Not Start

- **Battery:** Check battery terminals for corrosion and ensure they are tight. If the battery is dead, jump-start the vehicle.
- **Fuel:** Ensure there is sufficient fuel in the tank.
- **Ignition:** Ensure the key is fully turned to the START position.
- **Transmission:** For automatic, ensure the shift lever is in P or N. For manual, ensure the clutch pedal is fully depressed.

5.2. Warning Lights On

If a warning light illuminates on the dashboard, consult the specific section in your full owner's manual for detailed information. Common warning lights include:

- **Check Engine Light:** Indicates an issue with the engine or emissions system. Have it checked by a qualified technician.
- **Oil Pressure Warning:** Stop the vehicle immediately and check engine oil level. Do not drive if the light remains on.
- **Brake System Warning:** Indicates a problem with the brake system. Drive carefully to a service center or have the vehicle towed.

6. Specifications

Key specifications for the 1999 Mazda 626 (may vary by trim level and region).

Category	Detail
Engine Type	2.0L I4 DOHC or 2.5L V6 DOHC (depending on model)
Fuel Type	Unleaded Gasoline
Fuel Tank Capacity	Approx. 15.9 US gallons (60 liters)

Category	Detail
Oil Capacity	Approx. 4.0 - 4.5 US quarts (3.8 - 4.3 liters) with filter
Transmission	5-speed Manual or 4-speed Automatic
Tire Size (Standard)	P195/65R15 or P205/55R16 (check door jamb for exact size)
Weight	Curb weight varies by model, approx. 2,800 - 3,100 lbs

7. Safety Information

Your safety and the safety of your passengers are paramount. Always adhere to the following safety guidelines:

7.1. Seatbelts

Always wear your seatbelt and ensure all passengers are properly restrained. Seatbelts significantly reduce the risk of injury in a collision.

7.2. Airbag System

Your vehicle is equipped with an airbag system. Airbags are designed to supplement seatbelts in frontal collisions. Always maintain a safe distance from the steering wheel and dashboard.

7.3. Child Restraints

Always use appropriate child restraint systems for infants and children, installed according to the manufacturer's instructions and local regulations. Never place a rear-facing child seat in the front passenger seat if the vehicle is equipped with a front passenger airbag.

8. Warranty and Support

For detailed information regarding your vehicle's warranty coverage, please refer to the separate Warranty Information booklet provided with your vehicle. For service and support, please contact an authorized Mazda dealership.
Important: Unauthorized modifications to your vehicle may void your warranty and could compromise safety.

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