variety
the children's charity

BASH

Vehicle Guide

2026

BASH VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

Age: Vehicles must be at least 25 years old (manufactured in 2001 or earlier).
Run-on Models: Run-on models (e.g. vehicles produced in 2001 but plated 2002) may be accepted at the Motoring Event Manager's discretion.
Registration: Must have current road registration and be road-worthy.

4WD VEHICLES

4WDs (30 years and older) may be accepted at the discretion of the Motoring Event Manager.

VARIETY CAR CLUB

The Variety Car Club helps owners of vintage cars save on annual registration and insurance costs. Membership to the Variety Car Club allows you to use your Bash vehicle (or any other eligible car) on the road for a limited amount of days per year with significantly reduced fees.

Variety Car Club Membership Cost:
- First year: $200 ($100 Variety Associate Membership + $100 Car Club fee).
- Renewal: $100 per year

Vehicle Registration Costs:
- 45 days: $77.80
- 90 days: $150.40
- This is a big reduction compared to the standard approx. $600-$700 registration fee.

Club Permits:
- Issued for 12 months and include special permit plates and a logbook. You must log each time you use your vehicle.
- Vehicles with club permits can be used for any personal purposes, but not for commercial use (carrying passengers or goods for hire/reward).

Please contact motoringevents@varietyvic.org.au to join the Variety Car Club.

INSURANCE

It is compulsory for all Variety Bash Vehicles to have a minimum of third-party insurance for the duration of the event.

MOBILE WORKSHOP WEEKEND

Prior to the event, all Variety Bash vehicles **must** attend one day of the Mobile Workshop Weekend for a mechanical inspection to ensure compliance with Variety Bash Vehicle compliance criteria. This is required in addition to keeping your vehicle roadworthy by law.

Standards: Your vehicle must meet or exceed the standards outlined in this document prior to the Mobile Workshop Weekend.

Booking: Bookings are essential; dates, times, and locations with be provided by Variety Victoria.

Repairs: If your vehicle needs repairs, you must:

- Present the car to a Bash mechanic within 10 days before the event (at your own cost), or
- Submit proof of completed repairs (photos/receipts) to Variety within 10 days before the event.
- Vehicles that fail to meet compliance will not be permitted on the event.

Required Paperwork:

- Proof of vehicle registration
- Proof of vehicle insurance
- Driving licenses for all crew members

MOBILE WORKSHOP ASSISTANCE

During the Variety Bash, Mobile Workshop (MW) crews are available to help if your vehicle breaks down. If it's safe, they will attempt repairs roadside or assist you in reaching the next repair location. If needed, they may tow you to a nearby repair facility or place of sanctuary.

Each Mobile Workshop has a different function or carries different equipment. Two Mobile Workshops are equipped with heavy welding gear to allow major roadside repairs to be performed. Other mobile workshops are equipped for less demanding tasks but travel closer to the front of the field to assist those who breakdown and are unable to repair the car themselves.

Requesting Mechanical Assistance:

When calling for a Mobile Workshop during the event, please follow these guidelines:

- Pinpoint your exact location using your route instructions prior to radioing for assistance.
- If possible, move your vehicle off the road, especially in dusty or low-visibility conditions.
- Attempt to identify the problem, as each Mobile Workshop carries different tools and equipment.
- Radio for assistance and always keep a crew member near the radio.
- If you are supplied petrol or spare parts you should pay the Mobile Workshop in cash, unless other arrangements are made. The Mobile Workshop Crew will probably charge you anyway, in something easily tradeable like merchandise or food.
- If your vehicle can't be fixed onsite and is easily towable, the Mobile Workshop will tow you to the nearest repair point. You are responsible for completing further repairs.
- Expect some wait time, as Mobile Workshops are often busy assisting other vehicles.
- Please remember that Mobile Workshop crews are always busy and deserve some down-time. If you can complete a minor or trivial repair yourself, please do so. Other crews are always keen to assist, but please make sure you are in a safe place to do so.

MECHANICAL MODIFICATIONS

Type	Status	Notes
Brakes	**Compulsory**	Brake lines should be protected by hose.
	Suggested	Vehicles can have original type brakes fitted or be converted to disc brakes.
Engine	**Compulsory**	The engine shall not be a later model or of a larger capacity than that permitted for that model car at the time of manufacture.
	Suggested	Where an engine may not be reconditionable due to its age, a replacement unit may be permitted by approval of the Motoring Events Manager.
Exhaust	**Compulsory**	Excessive exhaust noise will not be permitted.
	Suggested	Extractors and a sports exhaust system may be fitted, but an effective silencer should be used.
Fuel Tanks & Fuel Storage	**Suggested**	An extra fuel tank may be fitted. The tank must be vented outside of the passenger and luggage compartments and filled from outside the passenger compartments.
Fuel Range	**Compulsory**	Fuel may be carried in jerry cans. Jerry cans must be compliant with AS/NZS 2906:2001 standards. Jerry cans must be stored outside of the passenger vehicle and must be secured.

MECHANICAL MODIFICATIONS

Fuel Lines	**Compulsory**	Bash vehicles must have sufficient fuel onboard (tank & jerry cans) for a travel range of five hundred and fifty kilometres (550km) of travel.
	Compulsory	Fuel lines should be protected by hose.
High Performance	**Compulsory**	Vehicles cannot be modified for high performance. Fuel systems must remain standard i.e. fuel line size and must run through the standard mechanical pump. Carburettors must be of a similar size and same number as the original. Holley carburettors in six-cylinder engines are not to be fitted.
Radiator	**Suggested**	Make sure your radiator is cleaned out and is suitable for long distances.
Suspension	**Suggested**	Vehicles should have the original springs modified and heavy-duty shock absorbers added to increase ground clearance.
Tail Shaft	**Compulsory**	Safety strap to be fitted under front of tail shaft.
Transmission	**Suggested**	Vehicles may have column or floor gear shifts and manual or automatic transmission.
Water Reservoir	**Suggested**	A larger capacity water reservoir should be fitted to your Variety Bash vehicle for your windscreen.

INTERIOR MODIFICATIONS

Cargo Barriers	**Compulsory**	It is compulsory to have cargo barriers fitted to all station wagons and vans and be compliant with safety standard AS/NZS 4034:2001.
Fire Extinguisher	**Compulsory**	At minimum, a 1kg fire extinguisher (within its expiry date) must be securely mounted inside the cabin, bolted in place, and easily accessible to both the driver and front passenger.
Tripmeters	**Compulsory**	At a minimum, it is required that each vehicle has an operational tripmeter in their vehicle. We highly recommend fitting either a rally tripmeter or using a tripmeter smartphone app in your car.
Radio (UHF)	**Compulsory**	All vehicles must be fitted with an operating 40 or 80 channel UHF radio.
Roll Cages	**Suggested**	Roll cages are not compulsory. Where a roll cage has been fitted to a vehicle, the Variety Bash officials require either: a. An engineer's certificate; OR b. 'Approved by CAMS' certification.

INTERIOR MODIFICATIONS

Roll Cages	**Suggested**	Entrants should note that to meet current roadworthy requirements, if your vehicle is equipped with a roll cage, all seatbelts must be of the full harness type, and the roll cage itself must be fully padded.
Seat Belts	**Compulsory**	All vehicles must be equipped with seat belts for every passenger, with each belt being at least a 3-point (lap/sash) seatbelt as the minimum standard.

EXTERIOR MODIFICATIONS

Dust Light	**Compulsory**	An amber flashing light must be installed at the rear of the vehicle, positioned as high as possible for safety in dusty conditions. Please note that red or blue flashing lights are illegal under VicRoads regulations (as they are designated for emergency vehicles) and are strictly prohibited for any vehicles participating in this event.
Headlight Guards	**Compulsory**	Guards must be fitted to all headlights.
Mud Flaps	**Compulsory**	Mud flaps must be fitted for all wheels on the vehicle.
Number/ ID Sticker Panels	**Compulsory**	All Bash car vehicle identification numbers and door panels are supplied by Variety and will be available for collection at Mobile Workshop Weekend. Door Panels: Affixed to the two front doors. Black numbers displayed in space provided on the number panel. Front Car ID: Affixed to front windscreen, top left. Rear Car ID: Affixed to rear windscreen, top right.
Protection Plates - Engine/Gearbox - Petrol Tank	**Compulsory**	The sump guard should cover from the front of the engine to the rear of the gearbox (excluding the extension housing) and should be mounted so it can be easily removed. The sump guard should also have an oil drain hole. A protective plate must be fitted below the petrol tank.

EXTERIOR MODIFICATIONS

Rear Brake Light	**Compulsory**	In addition to normal brake lights, a brake light should be fitted higher on the vehicle (i.e. top of rear windscreen) for driving in dusty conditions.
Smoke Emitting Devices	**Permitted**	Entrants are permitted to fit water-based fog machines to their vehicles. These devices may only be used while the vehicle stationary.
Sponsor Stickers	**Compulsory**	Official event sponsor decals/ stickers will be provided by Variety during the Mobile Workshop Weekend. These must be displayed as specified on each Variety Bash vehicle in accordance with sponsorship agreements.
Tow Balls	**Compulsory**	Each vehicle must be equipped with a 50mm Hayman-Reece tow ball on both the front and rear. This ensures safe towing by Mobile Workshop crews when needed.
Wheels & Tyres	**Compulsory**	Each car must carry a minimum of two spare tyres and rims.
	Suggested	Original wheel size can be upgraded to accommodate larger tyres. All-Terrain or Light Commercial tyres are recommended due to their stronger construction and durability.
Windscreen	**Compulsory**	The windscreen must either be of laminated glass or have a fitted stone guard for protection.

SPARE PARTS

Note: It is compulsory to always carry a list of your spare parts in the vehicle during the event. You will also be required to provide a copy of this list to the Variety Victoria Motoring Events team prior to the event.

Type	Status	Notes
Safety Items	**Compulsory**	• High visibility vests for all crew members • First aid kit: We recommend a kit from St John Ambulance or Brenniston. See the attached list for minimum requirements. • Reflective triangle • Snatch strap (in good condition) • 20 litres of water
Tools	**Compulsory**	• Basic screwdrivers • Shifters and spanners • Side cutters and pocketknife • Race tape and electrical tape • Pliers • Adjustable spanner • Portable light • Jack & jack plate • Wheel brace • Tyre repair kit • Wet and dry shovel • Jumper leads
Fluids	**Compulsory**	• Engine oil (5L minimum) • Brake fluid • Transmission fluid • Coolant • Power steering fluid (if applicable) • Spare fuel (pre-filled in jerry cans to start event). Bash vehicles must have sufficient fuel onboard (tank & jerry cans) for a travel range of 550km.
Parts	**Compulsory**	• Globes (headlights, brake lights, dust lights) • Nuts and bolts (applicable to your car) • Spare belts (timing, fan, etc.) • Spare axle & bearings • Filters (oil, fuel and air) • Insulated wire and hoses • Cable ties • Fencing wire

VEHICLE CHECKLIST

Below is the checklist that Variety Mechanics will sign off on for each vehicle.

CHECKED BY (MECHANIC NAME) :		DATE:
CAR NO.:	MAKE:	YEAR:
CAR CAPTAIN/CREW NAME:	MODEL:	REGO NUMBER:

	FRONT OF CAR	✓	Re-check?	Notes
1	50mm tow ball fitted to front			
2	Head lamp protectors			
3	Operation of head lights stop/tail lights			
4	Operation of indicators			
5	UHF radio (must be in good working order)			
6	Speedo/trip meter (must be working)			
7	Windscreen (laminated)			
8	Operation of wipers/washers			
9	Operation of horn			
10	50mm tow ball fitted to rear			
11	Rear dust light to be mounted high			

VEHICLE CHECKLIST

	SPARES	✓	Re-check?	Notes
12	First aid kit – to Variety standard			
13	Cargo barrier – station wagons			
14	Safety triangle & x2 hi-visibility jackets			
15	Spare axles with new bearings			
16	Spare parts list			
17	Snatch strap			
18	Basic tool kit and spares			
19	Jack, wheel brace and jack plate			
	UNDER CARRIAGE	✓	**Re-check?**	**Notes**
20	Front suspension condition			
21	Rear suspension condition			
22	Steering Play			

VEHICLE CHECKLIST

23	Brake condition and operation			
24	Tyre tread depth and condition			
25	Tail shaft restraint (front of halfway)			
26	Brake lines and fuel lines to be covered with hose			
27	Sump Guard (with oil drain hole) and fuel tank guard			
28	Diff strengthening/tubes welded			

VEHICLE CHECKLIST

	MIDDLE/CABIN	✓	Re-check?	Notes
29	Roll cage padding (if roll cage fitted) – Full harness seat belts required			
30	Fire extinguisher to be fitted in cabin			
31	Seat belts for driver and all passengers – LAP/SASH MINIMUM			
	ENGINE BAY	✓	**Re-check?**	**Notes**
32	Battery to be secured (bracket over top and bolted)			
33	Two spare tyres (inflated)			
34	Extra fuel (tank or jerry can) Approved container or installation			

Additional Notes:

If your vehicle needs to be re-inspected prior to the Bash, please see attached sheet of nominated locations. Failure to do so may result in your car being dis-allowed on the event.

It is the car captain / crew members responsibility to advise the Variety office once completed. A copy of the checklist will need to be sent through to the Motoring Event Team via motoringevents@varietyvic.org.au