

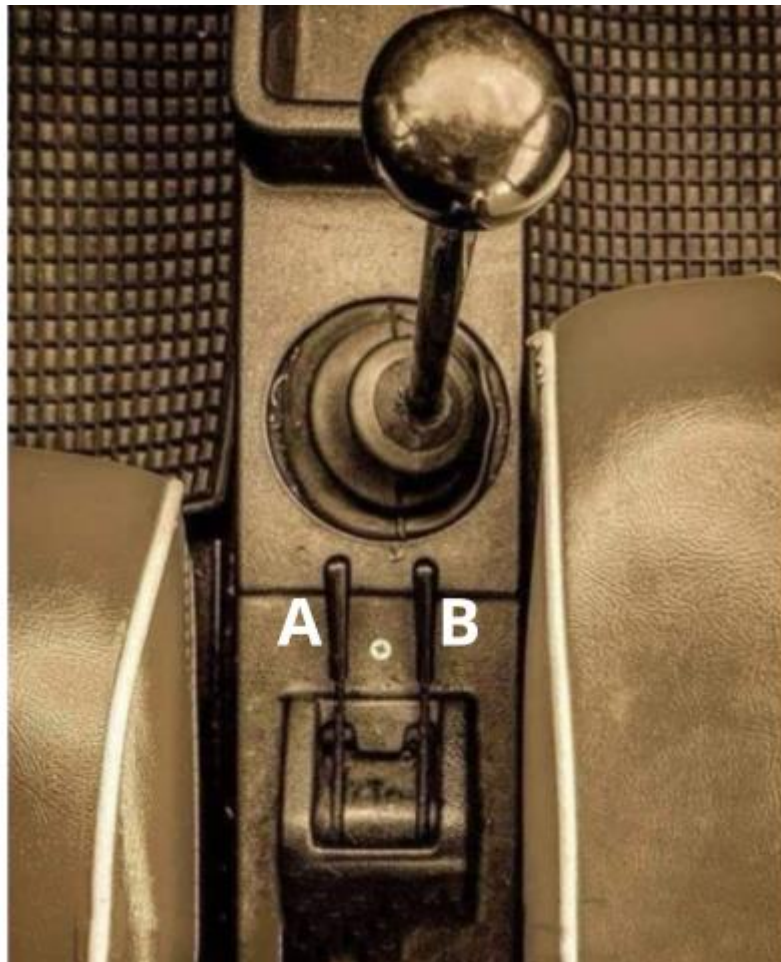
# Instructions for Using the Vintage Fiat 500

## 1. Starting the Engine

To correctly start the engine of the vintage Fiat 500, follow these steps:

1. Insert the key and turn it until the dashboard warning lights come on.
2. Fully depress the clutch pedal to disengage the engine from the transmission.
3. Make sure the gear lever is in neutral before proceeding.
4. Pull up lever A, located between the two front seats.

**Note:** If the engine is cold, it may be necessary to use the starter device (also called the choke) to enrich the air-fuel mixture. In this case, before pulling lever A, pull up lever B, then lever A. Once the engine is warm, fully lower lever A.



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## 2. Gear Shifting – Double-Clutch Technique

The vintage Fiat 500 is equipped with a non-synchronized gearbox, so the double-clutch technique is necessary to shift gears smoothly and avoid damaging the gear mechanism.

**How to perform the double-clutch technique when downshifting (e.g., from 4th to 3rd gear):**

1. Fully depress the clutch pedal and move the gear lever to neutral.

2. Release the clutch and give a short burst of throttle to raise engine RPM.
3. Press the clutch pedal again and engage the lower gear (e.g., from 3rd to 2nd).
4. Release the clutch to complete the gear shift.

This technique is essential to prevent gear grinding and preserve the vehicle's mechanical components.

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### 3. Opening and Closing the Front Hood

- **Opening** – Pull the lever located on the left under the steering wheel and simultaneously lift the hood from the center. Once lifted, use your fingers to push the safety latch and open the hood until the support mechanism engages.
  - **Closing** – Unlock the hood support with your fingers and lower the hood to about 10 centimeters from the fully closed position, then give it a firm push to latch it securely.
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### 4. Practical Tips

- Avoid frequent gear changes: Try to maintain a higher gear (such as 3rd or 4th) while driving to reduce gearbox wear.
  - Brake awareness: The Fiat 500 is equipped with drum brakes, which are less effective than modern disc brakes. Drive carefully, especially downhill or in emergency situations.
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### 5. Equipment

- Spare ignition key (in the ignition block).
  - Copy of the vehicle registration (compartment under the dashboard).
  - Copy of the insurance certificate (compartment under the dashboard).
  - Parking disc (compartment under the dashboard).
  - Warning triangle (front hood).
  - High-visibility safety vest (front hood).
  - Pair of work gloves (front hood).
  - Spare wheel (front hood).
  - Car jack (front hood).
  - Wrench set for tire replacement (front hood).
  - Fire extinguisher (front hood).
  - Storage basket (rear luggage rack).
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