

Automotive English: An Ounce of Stitches?

You probably know that the pound is a unit of weight in the U.S. (One pound is *about* 500g.) Do you know what a pound is? It's one sixteenth (1/16) of a pound. It's not very much, so to speak. And a 'stitch' is a unit of sewing. (Sewing is putting cloth together with a needle and thread.) Each time you put a needle and thread through cloth, you make a stitch.

It's clear that an “ounce of stitches” is ridiculous. It refers to two idioms that I put together. Both of these idioms talk about the importance of doing maintenance on your car. . . or on anything else! We'll be talking about these idioms today!

Before You Start the Recording

Problems do have a tendency to become bigger with time and fixing them while they're small—or even *before* they happen—is a good idea. It's also the topic of many English sayings. Are there any sayings in your language about this? How would you translate them into English? Do any of them involve weight? Or stitches?

Start the recording now.

After You've Started the Recording

Are these sayings anything like the sayings you have in your language about the same topic? How are they different? When will you use these sayings? What are similar sayings out of your language? How do they translate into English? I'd love to know!