

LISTENING TO YOUR CAR

Understanding Dashboard Warning Lights



BRAKE SYSTEM LIGHTS

These lights could be as simple as the parking brake being engaged, or something more serious like low brake fluid or a problem with the braking system itself. If the light stays on after checking the parking brake, you should have your brakes inspected and repaired as soon as possible to ensure your vehicle can stop safely.



BATTERY LIGHT

This light shows when your battery is too dead to start the car. Or if there's some sort of long-term problem with the battery or the electrical wiring of the car. If the light stays on after it starts running, you'll want to get this checked out.



OIL PRESSURE LIGHT

Check your oil level with the dipstick and top it off if needed. If the light stays on, something else could be wrong ... time to take it to a mechanic.



TEMPERATURE LIGHT

Indicates your engine is overheating. Pull over and turn off the engine to avoid damage. Check coolant levels once the engine has cooled down (about 15 minutes) and inspect for leaks. Driving while the engine is too hot can total your engine beyond repair.



DOOR AJAR

One of your doors didn't latch, be sure to check your hood and trunk too!



AIRBAG

If this light stays on, it could be a safety risk. Have your car looked at ASAP.



TRACTION & STABILITY CONTROL

This light turns on when the traction control system is activated, helping your vehicle maintain grip. If it stays on, there could be a fault with the system. It's usually safe to drive, but have it checked out soon.



CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

This light could mean a range of issues from a loose gas cap to a serious engine problem. It's best to get a diagnostic check to pinpoint the exact issue. Ignoring it could lead to more serious problems.



WIPER FLUID

Just a warning that you're low on washer fluid, just refill it when you can!



LAMP OUT

One of your lights is out. Ask a friend to help you figure out which one while you flip them on and off.



FLAT TIRE/TPMS LIGHT

These sensors can go off in extreme temperatures. When they go off, check your tire pressure in all four tires and bring each to the correct pressure range for your car.