

YOUR VEHICLE IS TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING



Oil Pressure Warning: If this light stays lit it indicates loss of oil pressure. Immediately check oil level and pressure.



Airbag Fault: If this light stays illuminated after starting it indicates that the vehicle has found a fault in the airbag system and the computer has set a code. Professional repair of the supplemental restraint system is recommended.



Transmission Temperature: Transmission is operating at higher than optimum temperature as transmission fluid is hotter than normal. Check transmission fluid level and engine coolant level.



Coolant Temp Warning: Indicates temperature has exceeded normal limits. Check coolant level, fan operation, radiator cap, and coolant leaks.



ESP Fault: Indicates that there is a problem with the vehicle's traction control/anti-skid or electronic stability system.



Gas Cap: The check gas cap light indicates that the gas cap is not tightened properly. If not addressed, quite often the Check Engine Light will also illuminate.



Battery/Charging Alert: Indicates voltage level is below normal level and the vehicle's charging system is not functioning properly. Check battery terminals, alternator belt, and battery condition.



Lamp Out: Indicates that there is an exterior light on the vehicle that is not functioning properly.



Overdrive Light: This symbol indicates that the vehicle's overdrive system has been manually turned off. Typically the overdrive system is controlled by an on/off switch.



Check Engine or Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL): Indicates the engine computer has set a Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC). Usually requires diagnosis with a professional scan tool.



ABS Light: Indicates that the Anti-lock Brake computer has set a code and needs professional diagnosis.



Reduced Power Warning: Indicates Engine Computer has limited engine power output. The ECM has many levels of reduced power depending on what component has failed in its control system. Usually requires diagnosis with a professional scan tool.



TPMS (Tire Pressure Monitoring System): Indicates the tire pressure monitoring system has found a tire with low air pressure or a sensor with a dead battery or malfunction. Check tire pressure. Some vehicles will allow manual reset of TPMS light and others will require professional diagnosis. Refer to owner's manual.



Cruise Control: Indicates that the cruise control system is engaged while the vehicle is driving.



Brake System: Indicates one of three possible conditions: parking brake is on; problem with the braking system/brake fluid is low; or ABS problem. Check brake fluid; make sure parking brake is fully released. If this is an ABS system, problem may need a professional diagnosis.



Glow Plug (Diesel): On diesel vehicles this light indicates that the engine's glow plugs are warming up and the engine should not be started until light goes out.



Oil Change Reminder: Indicates that oil life has expired. This is monitored by the ECM; the interval can be mileage or a combination of readings taken by the ECM. The reset procedure is listed in the owner's manual. Some vehicles require the use of special tools to reset the light.



Washer Fluid Reminder: Indicates washer fluid is low. Fill washer fluid reservoir. The cap has a symbol that looks like a windshield. Some vehicles have separate reservoirs for front and rear window washers.



Security Alert: If the symbol lights momentarily it may mean the ignition switch is locked and will need the proper transponder-equipped key to re-start. If the symbol is visible when the vehicle is on, it typically means a malfunction in the security system.



Traction Control or ESP: Illuminates when the vehicle's traction control/anti-skid or electronic stability system is in use. Usually an indicator that conditions are slippery.



Door Ajar: Indicates a door (including hood and trunk) is not closed. Open and close all doors, including hood and trunk. If vehicle is left in this condition overnight, it can drain the battery.



Service Vehicle Soon: Typically indicates a lighting or other electrical problem that is controlled by the BCM (body control module). Check all lights, headlights, turn signals, brake lights, and hazard lights. This symbol may also warn driver of a traction control problem, or a communication problem between modules.



Fog Lamp: Indicates that the vehicle's front fog lamps are illuminated.

This list is by no means comprehensive as indicator lights do vary by vehicle, but these should provide a fair cross section as to what may appear on a vehicle's dash. Since automaker's images do differ, the owner's manual should always be consulted.

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