

In-Car Activity

Knowing your Vehicle

Spend some time in your car with the Owner's Manual and get familiar with the location and function of these important Controls and Devices.

VEHICLE CONTROLS:

1. Steering Wheel
2. Shift Lever
3. Cruise Control* (optional)
4. Accelerator Pedal
5. Brake Pedal
6. Clutch Pedal* (manual transmission)
7. Parking Brake

COMMUNICATION, COMFORT, AND MECHANICAL DEVICES:

1. Horn

The horn is usually located on the steering wheel. The purpose of the horn is to make others aware of your presence or to change another's behavior. Quick taps can be used to convey a message without sounding aggressive. A prolonged blast of the horn sends out a warning to other roadway users but should be used sparingly. NEVER use the horn to chastise another driver.

2. Turn Signal Lever

This lever is located on the left side of the steering column. Move the lever up to signal a right turn and down to signal a left turn. If the steering wheel is turned enough, the indicator will stop flashing when the wheel is straightened. However, you may need to manually cancel the signal light by moving the lever back to the neutral position. ALWAYS signal as soon as you decide to turn or change lanes.

3. Hazard-Flasher Control

The switch may be located on the steering column or on the instrument panel. The Hazard-Flasher is used to bring attention to the vehicle, and is often used to indicate a mechanical problem to other drivers. When the hazard flasher is on, both front and rear turn-signal lights flash at the same time. Hazard Flashers can also be used in adverse conditions such as fog or extreme weather to make the vehicle more visible.

4. Door Locks

Door Locks can be manually operated or electric. When electric, there is usually a master control on the driver's side armrest.

5. Window Controls

The windows can be manually operated or electric. When electric there is usually a master control on the driver's side armrest. NEVER driver with the window partially opened. In the event of a side-on collision, a partially opened window can act as a blade causing severe injury.

6. Sun Visor

Located above the windshield can be pulled down or to the side to help cut glare. NEVER ride with the visor angled toward you as it could cause injury during a crash.

7. Headlight/High-Low Beam Switch

The headlight switch controls power to the parking lights, taillights, side marker lights and license plate lights. The switch may be located on the left side of the instrument panel, on the same lever as the turn indicator, or on a separate lever. High and low beams are often controlled by moving the lever forward or backward. In many vehicles, a separate switch controls the dome light and dashboard light intensity

8. Windshield Wipers and Washer

One switch/lever usually controls both functions, (as well as the rear windshield wipers, and wiper speed settings). It is often located on a lever to the right side of the steering column but may be located on the signal lever.

8. Heater, Defroster, Air Conditioner

9. Seat and Steering Position Adjustment Lever(s)

10. Hood; Trunk; Fuel-Door; Parking-Brake Release Levers