

# WHAT DO THE LIGHTS ON THE DASHBOARD MEAN?



## Airbag Warning

It is normal for this light to turn on when you first start the engine. If it stays lit, however, there could be an issue.



## Automatic Shift Lock or Engine Start Indicator

Reminder to step on the brake to start the engine or to shift out of neutral into reverse or drive.



## Check Engine

It comes on when there is anything amiss with your car's motor and emissions system. Check the gas cap. If that's not the cause, then schedule an appointment.



## Battery

Warning that something could be wrong with your car's electrical system. Get to a mechanic soon to resolve this issue.



## Brake System

- Failing to release the parking brake
- Low brake fluid
- Worn brake pads
- Trouble with anti-lock brakes



## Anti-Lock Brakes

Can indicate a problem with the wheel speed sensor or other connections or wiring.



## Coolant Temperature

This means the temperature of your coolant is too high. A high coolant temperature can cause your car to overheat and break down.



## Distance Warning

You're coming too close to the car or something -- or someone -- in front of you.



## Door Open

One or more of your doors is not fully closed. This may include your trunk or rear hatch.



## Frost Warning

Temperatures outside are below freezing, ice could form on the roads, and you should use caution.



## Lamp Out

A bulb in your headlights or tail lights is out. Replace it as soon as possible.



## Low Fuel

Your fuel level is low. Get to a gas station as soon as possible so that you don't run out of gas.



## Oil Pressure Warning

Could be telling you that you need more oil, but it also could indicate:

- Leak in the engine
- Blown piston ring
- Broken oil pump



## Traction and Stability Control

When the roads are slippery, this light may blink. If it stays on, it means there's a problem with your system and you should have it checked.



## Transmission Temperature

The temperature is too high inside your gearbox. Heavy towing can cause this issue. Otherwise, your transmission fluid level is low or your transmission has worn out.



## Tire Pressure

Indicates underinflated or overinflated tires. Check your tire pressure or you won't have enough traction and you may damage your tires.



## Washer Fluid

If your washer fluid is low, you'll see this light. While you don't have to rush to get new fluid, it's still a good idea to get some as soon as possible.

## Diagnostic Tools

You can buy a tool that helps you diagnose the specific problem that's causing your dashboard lights to illuminate. Make sure that you know where to plug it in and how to read it.

