

DASHBOARD SYMBOLS

What follows is easily the most complete list available of symbols and warnings that may appear in and on your car's instrument cluster. **Over 150 of them here**, so scroll carefully until you find an image that matches!

Don't Panic!

The very first rule of thumb when any new tell-tale is activated on your instrument panel is **Don't Panic!** Likely as not, the car is still running fine and while there may be a problem to attend to, it is best to proceed with confidence and patience.











Color is King

A symbol in *red* indicates a potentially serious problem or safety issue. It may also indicate an important reminder. *Yellow/orange* lights mean something needs to be serviced or repaired soon. If the symbol is flashing, it is important that you contact your dealer or trusted repair shop. A *green* or *blue* symbol is for information only, telling you that a system is on or operating.

We start with the most serious of the symbols and move in a rough descending order of importance. This is somewhat subjective, particularly if you are seeing something you don't recognize!

Warning Symbols – the *Truly Serious Ones*

If you see any of the following symbols on your dashboard, take no chances. Stop your vehicle immediately and call your technician.

	Brake Warning Indicators, U.S. and Canada (r)	
	Engine Coolant Temperature Indicator Symbols	
	Engine Oil Level or Oil Pressure Warning Light Symbol	
	Engine Oil Sensor and Level Indicators	
	Charging System Warning Light Symbols	

Trouble and Safety Indicators and Symbols

If you see any of these next few symbols contact your technician as soon as possible. They are sorted in what could be an order of importance.



Master Warning Light



SRS Air Bag Indicator Symbols



Side Airbag Off Indicator



Seat Belt Reminder Indicator Symbol



Second Row Safety Belt Indicator Symbol



Security and/or Immobilizer Symbols



Drivetrain or Powertrain Trouble Lights



Electronic Shift Malfunction



Transmission Warning Indicator Symbol



Transmission Temperature Warning



Power Steering Trouble Light



Parking Brake Indicators



Low Brake Fluid Indicator Symbol

ABS

Antilock Brake System Trouble Lights



Low Brake Pad Warning Light



Electronically Controlled Brake System Symbol



Electric Park Brake Fault Indicator



Automatic Shift Lock (ASL) Indicator Symbol



Tire Pressure Monitoring System Lights



Check Engine Light Symbols



Check Engine Electrical Indicator



Reduced Engine Power Indicator



Engine Fault Indicator














Lambda (Oxygen) Sensor Indicator Symbol



Check Gas Cap Indicator Symbol








Message Indicator Symbol

	Owner Manual Indicator Symbol		
	Catalytic Converter Warning Symbol		
	Low Coolant Lights		
	More Low Coolant Lights		
	Electronic Throttle Control Indicator Symbol		
	Service Reminder Indicators		
	Clogged Air Filter Indicator		

Routine Indicators and Symbols

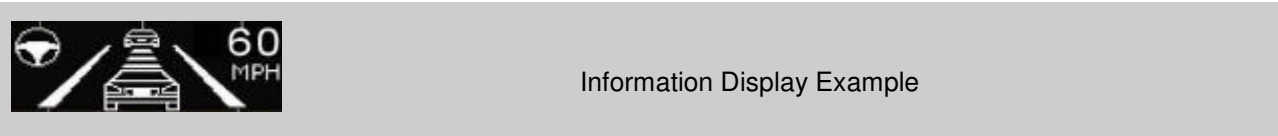
The following symbols are intended to point out routine needs for your vehicle. For instance the need to fill your windshield washer fluid or close a door. They may show up as larger images in message centers.

	Seat Belt Reminder Indicator Symbol	
	Door Ajar or Door Open Indicator	
	Fuel or Low Fuel Indicator Symbol	
	Windshield Washer Fluid Low Indicator	

Information Displays and Message Centers

In what is a very very useful trend vehicle manufacturers are using more and more information displays to inform drivers of what features are in use how they are operating and what maintenance if any may be needed. What are shown are examples only. There are simply too many possibilities and iterations.

Note that if you are seeing something new on your instrument panel that appears to be informational only check to see that a 'display' button has not been hit accidentally and thus changing what you are typically used to seeing.



Control Assist System Symbols and Indicators

The latest vehicle advances combine features old such as Anti-lock Brakes (ABS) and new like Traction Control into Assist Systems. They have their own unique symbols and indicators some of which unlike ABS use different terminologies to describe exactly the same thing.

Note that if additional lights such as the Check Engine and ABS light are on they should be addressed first. Note as well that some specialty systems will also shut down associated advanced systems. Thus for example if Low Speed Assist is in use or you have locked the differential for additional traction Stability Control will be unavailable etc.

	Traction Control Indicators	
	Low Speed and Grade Assist Indicators	
	Turn Assist Indicator	
Various Stability Control Indicators and Symbols		
	Stability Control Off Indicator(s)	
	Various Stability Control Off Text Indicators	
	Dynamic Stability Control Indicator or Electronic Stability Program	
	Brake Assist and Anti-Slip Regulation Fault Indicator	



Slip Indicator and Fault Indicator Symbols



Special and Advanced Feature Symbols and Indicators

The symbols and indicators in this next group are associated with special and advanced automotive features; what used to be accessories in many cases. The symbols generally are shown on the instrument panel in green when the systems are active. Other symbols are shown when there is a problem with the system and will be yellow or red.



Power Top Trouble Indicator Symbol



Keyless Ignition Key Detection Indicators



More Keyless Ignition Key Detection Indicators



Frost Warning or Snow Mode Indicator Symbol



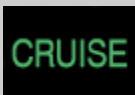
Attention Alert Indicator Symbols



Distance Warning Indicator Symbol



Easy Access Indicator Symbol



Cruise Control Indicator Light



Cruise Control Indicator Symbol



Active/Adaptive Cruise Control Indicator Symbols





Smart Cruise Control Warning Indicator Symbols



Automatic Speed Limiter (ASL) Indicator Symbol



Lane Departure Warning Symbols



Pre Collision System Indicators



Forward Alert Indicator Symbol



Blind Spot System Indicators



Park Assist Indicator Symbols



Brake Hold Indicator Symbol



Suspension Setting and Malfunction Indicators



Haul (towing) Indicators



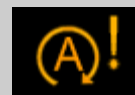
Various Fuel Economy Aid Indicator Symbols



















Start/Stop System Function Indicators



Start/Stop Trouble Indicators

















Economy Operation Indicator

	Economy Mode Indicator	
	Up Shift Light Symbols	
	Sport Mode Indicator	
Various 4-Wheel and All-Wheel Drive Feature Symbols		
	All Wheel Drive (AWD) On Mode Indicators	
	4 Wheel Drive Indicators	
	Differential Lock Indicators	 
	Rear Differential Lock Indicators	
	All-wheel Drive Disabled and Fault Indicators	
	Low Speed and Grade Assist Indicator Symbols	

Symbols and Indicators for Hybrid and Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles



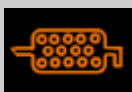



A whole new series of symbols have been created just for the new generation of hybrid vehicles. For the most part they tell a driver when a particular system is operating and/or in what mode. Remember that a flashing light likely indicates a problem that your technician should address.

	Hybrid or Plug-in Hybrid Battery Trouble Indicators	
	EV System Warning Indicator	

	High Voltage Battery Charge Level Indicator	
	Low Battery Warning Indicator	
	Power Limitation Indicator	
	Charging Indicator Symbols	
	Electric Vehicle (EV) Operation Indicator Symbol	
	Hybrid Ready Indicator Symbols	
	EV Mode Indicator Symbol	
	External Sound System Fault Indicator Symbols	

Symbols Found in Diesel-powered Vehicles

The following are symbols used only in diesel powered vehicles. They vary somewhat by manufacturer but all generally refer to starting and fuel quality and filtration.

	Glow Plug Indicator Symbol	
	Diesel Particulate Filter Warning Symbol Indicators	
	More Particulate Filter Warning Symbol Indicators	
	Water in Fuel Symbol Indicators	