Congratulations on your selection of this Lexus. In Lexus vehicles we have invested all our engineering and design resources; all the know–how we have gained in over 60 years of making automobiles; the highest motivation of our most talented employees; and our tradition of incessant striving toward ever greater quality.

This Owner’s Manual explains the features of your new Lexus. Please read it and follow the instructions carefully so that you can enjoy many years of safe motoring.

When it comes to service, remember that your Lexus dealer knows your vehicle best and is interested in your complete satisfaction. Your Lexus dealer will provide quality maintenance and any other assistance you may require.

If there is not a Lexus dealer near you, or you need emergency assistance for any reason, please call the following number:

**U.S. OWNERS**
- When traveling in the U.S. mainland or Canada:
  - Lexus Roadside Assistance  1–800–25–LEXUS (Toll–Free)
    (1–800–255–3987)
- HAWAII:
  - Lexus Customer Service Assistance  1–800–25–LEXUS (Toll–Free)
    (1–800–255–3987)

**CANADIAN OWNERS**
- When traveling in Canada or the U.S. mainland:
  - Lexus Roadside Assistance/Customer Service  1–800–26–LEXUS (Toll–Free)
    (1–800–265–3987)

Please leave this Owner’s Manual in this vehicle at the time of resale. The next owner will need this information also.

All information and specifications in this manual are current at the time of printing. However, because of the Lexus policy of continual product improvement, we reserve the right to make changes at any time without notice.

Please note that this manual applies to all models and explains all equipment, including options. Therefore, you may find some explanations for equipment not installed on your vehicle.

**TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION**

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02 Prod. (OM48442U)
New vehicle warranty

Your new vehicle is covered by the following Lexus limited warranties:

- New vehicle warranty
- Emission control systems warranty
- Others

For further information, please refer to the “Owner’s Guide”, “Owner’s Manual Supplement” or “Warranty Booklet”.

Your responsibility for maintenance

It is the owner’s responsibility to make sure the specified maintenance is performed. Section 5 of this Owner’s Manual gives details of these maintenance requirements. Included in Section 6 is general maintenance. For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.

Accessories, spare parts and modification of your Lexus

A wide variety of non–genuine spare parts and accessories for Lexus vehicles are currently available in the market. You should know that Toyota does not warrant these products and is not responsible for their performance, repair or replacement, or for any damage they may cause to, or adverse effect they may have on, your Lexus vehicle.

This vehicle should not be modified with non–genuine Lexus products. Modification with non–genuine Lexus products could affect its performance, safety or durability, and may even violate governmental regulations. In addition, damage or performance problems resulting from the modification may not be covered under warranty.

Spark ignition system of your Lexus

The spark ignition system in your Lexus meets all requirements of the Canadian Interference–Causing Equipment Standard.

Installation of a mobile two–way radio system

As the installation of a mobile two–way radio system in your vehicle could affect electronic systems such as the multiport fuel injection system/sequential multiport fuel injection system, cruise control system, anti–lock brake system, SRS airbag system and seat belt pretensioner system, be sure to check with your Lexus dealer for precautionary measures or special instructions regarding installation.
Scrapping of your Lexus

The SRS airbag and seat belt pretensioner devices in your Lexus contain explosive chemicals. If the vehicle is scrapped with the airbags and seat belt pretensioners left as they are, this may cause an accident such as fire. Be sure to have the system of the SRS airbag and seat belt pretensioner removed and disposed of by a qualified service shop or by your Lexus dealer before you scrap your vehicle.

On–pavement and off–road driving tips

This vehicle belongs to the utility vehicle class. Utility vehicles have a significantly higher rollover rate than other types of vehicles. This vehicle will handle and maneuver differently from an ordinary passenger car because it is designed for off–road use also. In addition, this vehicle has a higher ground clearance and center of gravity than that of an ordinary passenger car. This vehicle design feature causes this type of vehicle to be more likely to rollover. Failure to operate this vehicle correctly may result in loss of control, accidents or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury. Be sure to read “Off–road vehicle precautions” on page 220 and “Off–road driving precautions” on page 223.
HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL
The contents of this manual are explained briefly on this page to help you make the best use of the manual. Please read this page and the rest of the Owner’s Manual carefully to make sure you fully understand the operation of your vehicle.

This will help you enjoy safe and comfortable driving.

TABLE OF CONTENTS
The table of contents and the pictorial index provide easy reference to the appropriate pages.

BASIC OPERATION – QUICK REFERENCE
Operation of basic equipment is briefly explained in an easily understandable way for quick reference.

SECTION 1 – INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS
The vehicle’s equipment is divided into the 7 groups listed below. Use of the equipment is explained, including any points you should pay particular attention to.
1. Keys and doors
2. Switches
3. Gauges, meters and service reminder indicators
4. Interior equipment
5. Exterior equipment
6. Comfort adjustment
7. Theft deterrent

SECTION 2 – AIR CONDITIONING AND AUDIO
The features of the vehicle’s air conditioning and audio are explained in detail. Be sure to read this section so that you can make full use of them.

SECTION 3 – STARTING AND DRIVING
Starting the engine, driving, stopping, operation of features affecting vehicle handling, hints on vehicle safety and safe driving techniques are all explained. Please read everything in this section, and remember – drive safely!

SECTION 4 – IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY
This section explains what to do in the event of an urgent situation such as the engine not starting or getting a flat tire, etc. If such a problem occurs, check the contents of this Owner’s Manual and follow the instructions given.

SECTION 5 – MAINTENANCE
This section explains the importance of regular maintenance. Regular and periodic inspection and maintenance of your Lexus will help to keep your vehicle in its best condition.

SECTION 6 – SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS
Simple maintenance procedure and service data are provided here for your reference should you wish to perform inspection and maintenance yourself.
INDEX
The page number is listed for each item in the Owner’s Manual so that you can rapidly find the item and page you are searching for.

GAS STATION INFORMATION
The information you need to know for appropriate servicing at the gas station is provided here.

QUICK INDEX
This is designed so that you can quickly find the needed information when an urgent situation arises.

Safety symbol
In this manual, you will also see a circle with a slash through it. This means “Do not”, “Do not do this”, or “Do not let this happen”.

Safety and vehicle damage warnings
In this manual you will see CAUTION and NOTICE warnings. These are used in the following ways:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This is a warning against anything which may cause injury to people if the warning is ignored. You are informed about what you must or must not do in order to reduce the risk of injury to yourself and others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This is a warning against anything which may cause damage to the vehicle or its equipment if the warning is ignored. You are informed about what you must or must not do in order to avoid or reduce the risk of damage to your Lexus and its equipment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your Lexus Owner’s Manual provides you with a considerable amount of information. To use this information most effectively, please take the time to familiarize yourself with the contents and use of the manual.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Door lock switch and power window switches</td>
<td>21, 33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Side vent</td>
<td>163</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Instrument panel light control</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Headlight, turn signal and fog light switch</td>
<td>26, 28, 29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wiper and washer switch</td>
<td>30, 31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ignition switch</td>
<td>193</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Emergency flasher switch</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Automatic air conditioning controls</td>
<td>154</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Multi-display</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cruise information display</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Outside temperature display</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clock</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Audio system</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Automatic air conditioning controls</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Car audio</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>Front passenger’s seat belt reminder light</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Glove box/CD automatic changer</td>
<td>64/178</td>
<td>Seat heater switches</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cigarette lighter</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Driving pattern selector switch</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Traction control system off switch</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>Automatic transmission selector lever</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Driving position memory switch</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>Cruise control switch</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Parking brake</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>Hood lock release lever</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Security indicator light</td>
<td>12, 150</td>
<td>Auxiliary box</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Power rear view mirror control switches</td>
<td>98</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
INSTRUMENT CLUSTER (Two-wheel drive models sold in U. S. A.)
For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
INSTRUMENT CLUSTER (Four-wheel drive models sold in U. S. A.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vehicle skid control system warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Slip indicator light</td>
<td>209, 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Engine coolant temperature gauge</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Turn signal indicator light</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Headlight indicator light</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Automatic transmission indicator lights</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ODO/TRIP knob</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Odometer and trip meter</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Headlight high beam indicator light</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tachometer</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cruise control indicator light</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rear light failure warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Anti-lock brake system warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Malfunction indicator lamp</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Low washer fluid warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Automatic transmission fluid temperature warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Discharge warning light</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Low engine oil pressure warning light</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>SRS warning light</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Brake system warning light</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Driver’s seat belt reminder light</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Open door warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Snow mode indicator light</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Automatic headlight leveling system warning light</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Overdrive off indicator light</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Low fuel level warning light</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Fuel gauge</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
INSTRUMENT CLUSTER (Two–wheel drive models sold in Canada)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vehicle skid control system warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Traction control system OFF indicator light</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Slip indicator light</td>
<td>207, 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Engine coolant temperature gauge</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Turn signal indicator light</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tail light indicator light</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Automatic transmission indicator lights</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>ODO/TRIP knob</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Odometer and trip meter</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Headlight high beam indicator light</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tachometer</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cruise control indicator light</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Rear light failure warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Anti–lock brake system warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Malfunction indicator lamp</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Low washer fluid warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Automatic transmission fluid temperature warning light</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Discharge warning light</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Low engine oil pressure warning light</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>SRS warning light</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Brake system warning light</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Driver’s seat belt reminder light</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Open door warning light</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Snow mode indicator light</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Automatic headlight leveling system warning light</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Overdrive off indicator light</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Low fuel level warning light</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Fuel gauge</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
INSTRUMENT CLUSTER (Four-wheel drive models sold in Canada)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vehicle skid control system warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Slip indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Engine coolant temperature gauge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Turn signal indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tail light indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Automatic transmission indicator lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ODO/TRIP knob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Odometer and trip meter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Headlight high beam indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tachometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cruise control indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Rear light failure warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Anti-lock brake system warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Malfunction indicator lamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Low washer fluid warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Automatic transmission fluid temperature warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Discharge warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Low engine oil pressure warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>SRS warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Brake system warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Driver’s seat belt reminder light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Open door warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Snow mode indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Automatic headlight leveling system warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Overdrive off indicator light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Low fuel level warning light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Fuel gauge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
SEAT AND STEERING WHEEL

1. Tilt steering adjustment lever .................................. 96
2. Seat position, seat cushion angle and height control switch .................................. 87, 89
3. Seatback angle control switch .... 88
4. Lumbar support control switch ... 89

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
# EXTERIOR VIEW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Rear window defogger</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Back door</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Fuel filler door</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Moon roof</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Wiper and washer</td>
<td>30, 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Outside rear view mirror</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Side door</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Tire and wheel</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Headlights</td>
<td>26, 322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Hood</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information, refer to the description given in each section.
2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
BASIC OPERATION

QUICK REFERENCE

Quick reference

Driver’s seat .................................................. 2
Tilt steering wheel ........................................... 2
Automatic transmission .................................... 3
Headlight and turn signal switch ............................ 4
Wiper switch .................................................. 5
1. DRIVER'S SEAT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Illustration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seat position</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Seat position" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat cushion angle</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Seat cushion angle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seat cushion height</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Seat cushion height" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seatback angle</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Seatback angle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumbar support</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Lumbar support" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head restraint height</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Head restraint height" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head restraint angle</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Head restraint angle" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. TILT STEERING WHEEL

To tilt the steering wheel up or down to the desired angle:
1. Pull the lever up while holding the steering wheel.
2. Up or down the steering wheel to the desired angle.
3. Release the lever.
3. AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

**Lock release button (To prevent misshifting)**

- Parking, engine starting and key removal position
- Reverse position
- Neutral position
- Normal driving position (with overdrive on)
- Stronger engine braking
- Maximum engine braking

With the brake pedal depressed, shift while holding the lock release button in. (The ignition switch must be in “ON” position.)

Shift while holding the lock release button in.

Shift normally.

**Overdrive switch**

For selecting either a three-speed or four-speed transmission

“O/D OFF” indicator light on the instrument cluster

Note: When the cruise control is being used, even if you downshift the transmission by pushing and releasing the overdrive switch, engine braking will not be enabled because the cruise control is not cancelled. For ways to decrease the vehicle speed, see page 205.
4. HEADLIGHT AND TURN SIGNAL SWITCH

• HEADLIGHT SWITCH
  With the ignition OFF
  - Parking, tail, license plate, side marker and instrument panel lights turn on.
  - Headlights also turn on.
  - Automatic light control
  With the engine started and parking brake released
  - Parking, tail, license plate, side marker and instrument panel lights turn on.
  - Headlights turn on at full intensity.
  - Automatic light control

• TURN SIGNAL SWITCH
  - High beam
  - Headlight flasher
  - Right or left turn
  - Lane change (Right or left)
## 5. WIPER SWITCH

### Front

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intermittent operation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Low speed operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>High speed operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Washer on</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Rear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wiper on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(Intermittent operation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wiper on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Normal operation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Washer also on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Washer on</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02' Prod. (OM48442U)
INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Keys and doors

Keys ................................................................. 8
Engine immobiliser system ................................ 12
Wireless remote control .................................... 13
Side doors .......................................................... 20
Back door ......................................................... 22
1 Master keys (black) – These keys work in every lock. For your Lexus dealer to make you a new key with built-in transponder chip, your dealer will need it.

2 Sub key (gray) – This key will not open the glove box.

3 Key number plate – Keep the plate in a safe place such as your wallet, not in the vehicle.

A transponder chip for engine immobiliser system has been placed in the head of the master and sub keys. These chips are needed to enable the system to function correctly, so be careful not to lose these keys. If you make your own duplicate key, you will not be able to cancel the system or start the engine.

To protect items locked in the glove box when using valet parking, leave the sub key with the attendant.

Since the doors can be locked without a key, you should always carry a spare master key in case you accidentally lock your keys inside the vehicle.

If you should lose your keys or if you need additional keys, duplicates can be made by a Lexus dealer using the key number.

We recommend writing down the key number and storing it in a safe place.
Flat key

As a transponder chip is built in its key case, you can start the engine with this key.

The flat key works in every lock.

A transponder chip for engine immobiliser system has been placed in the key case of the flat key. This chip is needed to enable the system to function correctly, so be careful not to lose this key. If you make your own duplicate key, you will not be able to cancel the system or start the engine.

Insert your flat key plate in its key case as shown. We recommend that you always carry this with you for emergency use. Do not leave it in your vehicle.

Starting the engine using a flat key

1. Remove the key plate from the key case.
2. Insert the key plate into the ignition switch. The indicator light keeps flashing.
3. Bring the key case closer to the ignition switch within 10 seconds as indicated by the arrow head. The indicator light goes out. This means the engine immobiliser system is automatically canceled. (For details, see “Engine immobiliser system” on page 12.) You can put the key case away then. You cannot cancel the engine immobiliser system if 10 seconds have past after you inserted the key plate. You need to remove the key plate from the ignition switch and try it again from the step 2.
4. Start the engine within 60 seconds after the security indicator light goes out. You cannot start the engine if 60 seconds have past after the security indicator went off. You need to remove the key plate from the ignition switch and try it again from the step 2.
NOTICE

- Do not let the key case become bent as the key plate may fall out or become bent also.
- The flat key is designed for emergency use only. So do not use it regularly instead of other master keys.

When using a key containing a transponder chip, observe the following precautions:

- When starting the engine, do not use the key with a key ring resting on the key grip and do not press the key ring against the key grip. Otherwise the engine may not start, or may stop soon after it starts.
When starting the engine, do not use the key with other transponder keys around (including the flat key and keys of other vehicles) and do not press other key plates against the key grip. Otherwise the engine may not start, or may stop soon after it starts. If this happens, remove the key once and then insert it again after taking off other transponder keys (including the flat key and keys of other vehicles) from the ring or while gripping or covering them with your hand to start the engine.

- Do not bend the key grip or flat key.
- Do not cover the key grip or flat key with any material that cuts off electromagnetic waves.
- Do not knock the key or flat key hard against other objects.
- Do not leave the key or flat key exposed to high temperatures for a long period, such as on the dashboard and hood under the direct sunlight.
- Do not put the key or flat key in water or wash it in an ultrasonic washer.
- Do not use the key or flat key with electromagnetic materials.
ENGINE IMMOBILISER SYSTEM

The engine immobiliser system is a theft prevention system. When you insert the key in the ignition switch, the transponder chip in the key’s head transmits an electronic code to the vehicle. The engine will start, only when the electronic code in the chip corresponds to the registered ID code for the vehicle.

The system is automatically set when the key is removed from the ignition switch. At this time, the security indicator light flashes. When you insert the key in the ignition switch, the security indicator light goes out and the system is canceled automatically, which enables the engine to start.

For your Lexus dealer to make you a new key with built-in transponder chip, your dealer will need your key number and master key or the flat key. However, there is a limit to the number of additional keys your Lexus dealer can make for you.

The transponder chip of the flat key is in its key case. You can cancel the engine immobiliser system using the flat key. (For details, see “Flat key” on page 9.)

If you make your own duplicate key, you will not be able to cancel the system or start the engine.

For vehicles sold in U.S.A.

\[\text{FCC ID: NI4TMIM-3}\]

\[\text{CAUTION}\]

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment.

Ceived, including interference that may cause undesired operation.
For vehicles sold in Canada

This device complies with RSS–210 of Industry Canada.
Operation is subject to the following two conditions:
(1) This device may not cause interference, and (2)
this device must accept any interference, including
interference that may cause undesired operation of
the device.

WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROL*

1 Locking the doors
2 Unlocking the doors
3 Indicator light
4 Sounding an alarm

NOTE: *This feature can be set inoperative as vehicle theft
deterrent measure in case of the loss of the wireless remote
control key. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

When you operate any button on the key, push it slowly and
surely. At this time, the indicator light on the key grip flashes
once.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
The operational range of the wireless remote control is approximately 1 meter (3 ft.). The effective range may vary with different conditions. To activate the wireless remote control without fail, do it approximately 1 meter (3 ft.) from your Lexus.

In the following cases, the battery in the key may be discharged. If this is a case, replace it using a special screwdriver.

- The remote control does not work.
- The operational range of wireless remote control becomes extremely short.
- The indicator light on the key is dimmed or does not come on.

For the replacement of the battery, see “Replacing the battery” on page 18. You can also have the battery of the key replaced by your Lexus dealer.

If you lose the wireless key, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to avoid the possibility of theft, or an accident.

You can use up to 4 wireless remote control keys for the same vehicle. Contact your Lexus dealer for detailed information.

The wireless remote control key is an electronic component. Observe the following instructions in order not to cause damage to the key.

- Do not leave the wireless remote control key on places where the temperature becomes high such as on the dashboard.
- Do not disassemble it.
- Avoid knocking it hard against other objects or dropping it.
- Avoid putting it in water.
Locking/Unlocking the doors

When you push the “LOCK” button on the key briefly, all the side doors and back door can be locked from outside the vehicle.

At this time, you can hear one beep* and the turn signal lights flash.** However, when you push the “LOCK” button with any door not closed securely, the buzzer sounds for 10 seconds.***

To stop the buzzer, close all the side doors and back door securely or push the “UNLOCK” button. If the key is in the ignition switch, locking cannot be done.

Make sure all the doors are locked when you leave the vehicle. Push the “LOCK” button once again. If they were already locked, the turn signal lights will flash.

NOTE: *The beep volume can be changed. **The turn signal lights can be set not to flash. ***The buzzer can be set not to sound if a door is not closed securely. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

When you push the “UNLOCK” button, the driver’s door is unlocked. Pushing that button once again within 3 seconds from the first push, all other side doors and back door are also unlocked.*

NOTE: *The 2–step unlocking function can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

At this time, two beeps sound.* Together with the activation of unlocking, the interior light comes on for 15 seconds if the interior light switch is in “DOOR” position.** However, this function does not work when the ignition key is in the “ON” position. For further information, see “Interior lights” on page 57.

You have 30 seconds to open a door after using the wireless remote unlock feature.*** If a door is not opened by then, all the doors will be automatically locked again.

Even if the “LOCK” or “UNLOCK” button is kept pressed in, the locking or unlocking operation is not repeated. Release the button and then push again.

NOTE: *The beep volume can be changed. **The interior light can be set not to come on or the duration of lighting can be changed. ***The time before automatic re–locking can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.
**Sounding an alarm**

When you push the “PANIC” button for about 1 second, an alarm sounds to deter any person trying to break into or damage your vehicle.

If you want to stop the alarm, push any button.

This function does not work when the ignition key is in the “ON” position.

*NOTE: The alarm can be set not to sound. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.*

---

**Operating the windows and moon roof**

The windows and moon roof can be opened using a wireless key from outside the vehicle.

*NOTE: The windows can be set inoperative. The moon roof can be set to slide open, tilt up or inoperative. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.*

Push the “UNLOCK” button until the windows and moon roof start to move. A beep sounds just before opening. When you release the button, the windows and moon roof stop opening.
This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio / TV technician for help.

FCC ID: NI4TMRX–1
MADE IN JAPAN

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:
(1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02 Prod. (OM48442U)
For vehicles sold in Canada

This device complies with RSS–210 of Industry Canada.
Operation is subject to the following two conditions:
(1) This device may not cause interference, and (2)
this device must accept any interference, including
interference that may cause undesired operation of
the device.

Replacing the battery

For replacement, use a CR1616 lithium battery or equivalent
and a special screwdriver.

⚠️ CAUTION

Special care should be taken that small children do not
swallow the removed battery or components.

NOTICE

- When replacing the battery, be careful not lose the
  components.
- Replace only with the same or equivalent type
  recommended by a Lexus dealer.
- Dispose of used batteries according to the local laws.
1. Remove the screw, and then the cover while pushing it in the arrow direction.

2. Remove the module from the key frame.

3. Remove the lid of the module.

4. Take out the discharged battery and put a new battery with the positive side up.

---

**NOTICE**

- Make sure the positive side and negative side of the battery should be faced correctly.
- Replace only with the same or equivalent type recommended by the manufacturer.
- Dispose of used batteries according to the local laws.
- Be careful not to bend the electrode of the battery insertion and that dust or oils do not adhere to the inside of the module.
- Take care not to lose the screws.

5. Install the lid.

6. Install the module into the key frame and secure the cover with the screw.

7. When pushing any switch on the wireless key, make sure the indicator light comes on.
SIDE DOORS

Locking with key

Turn the key towards the front of the vehicle to lock and towards the back to unlock.

All the side doors and back door lock and unlock simultaneously with either front door. In the driver’s door lock, turning the key once will unlock the driver’s door and twice in succession will unlock all the side doors and back door simultaneously.* In the passenger’s door lock, turning the key once will unlock all the side doors and back door simultaneously.

NOTE: *The 2–step unlocking function can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

The windows and moon roof can be opened and closed from outside the vehicle using the key. For details, see “Power window switches” on page 33 and “Moon roof” on page 80.

Locking with inside lock knob

Push the knob forward to lock and pull the knob backward to unlock.

When locked, the door cannot be opened with either the outside or inside door handle.

Closing the door with the lock button pushed in will also lock the door. Be careful not to lock your keys in the vehicle. When the key is in the ignition switch and any side door is opened, the lock knob cannot be moved in the lock position.
CAUTION

Before driving, make sure the doors are closed and locked, especially when small children are in the vehicle. Along with the proper use of seat belts, locking the doors helps prevent the driver and passengers from being thrown out from the vehicle during an accident. It also helps prevent the doors from being opened unintentionally.

Locking with power door lock switch

To lock all the doors simultaneously, push the power door lock switch down on the front side. Pushing down on the rear side will unlock them.

The same switch is also located on the front passenger’s side.

Locking with rear door child–protector

Whenever small children are in the vehicle, lock the rear door so that it does not open from the inside. To do this, turn the knob to the “LOCK” position as shown and then close the door.
BACK DOOR

Locking and unlocking with key

1. Lock  2. Unlock  3. Open

Insert the key into the keyhole and turn it.
To lock: Turn the key clockwise.
To unlock: Turn the key counterclockwise.

The back door can be locked and unlocked together with the side doors by means of the power door lock system. (For instructions, see “Locking with power door lock switch” on page 21.)

When closing the back door, use the inside handle for easier reach to the back door.

To close the back door, lower it and press down on it. After closing the back door, try pulling it up to make sure it is securely closed.

See “Luggage stowage precautions” on page 75 for precautions to observe in loading luggage.

⚠️ CAUTION

- Keep the back door closed while driving. This not only keeps the luggage from being thrown out but also prevents exhaust gases from entering the vehicle.
- If the open back door hides the rear stop and tail lights or rear turn signal lights while you are parked, other road users must be warned of the presence of your vehicle by a warning triangle or other device.
**NOTICE**

To prevent damage to the back door dampers, do not apply any force, paint or let any other foreign matter on them.
INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Switches

Headlight switch .................................................. 26
Headlight dimmer and turn signal switch ....................... 28
Fog light switch .................................................. 29
Windshield wiper and washer switch ........................... 30
Rear window wiper and washer switch ......................... 31
Rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger, and windshield wiper deicer switch .......................... 32
Power window switches ........................................ 33
Emergency flasher switch ........................................ 36
Seat heater switches ............................................ 37
To turn the lights on, twist the knob on the end of the lever.

FIRST CLICKSTOP: Only the parking, tail, license plate, side marker and instrument panel lights turn on.

SECOND CLICKSTOP: Headlights also turn on.

THIRD CLICKSTOP (“AUTO”): The headlights and all other lights automatically turn on depending on the darkness of the surroundings.*

NOTE: *The operating condition or sensitivity can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

**Vehicles sold in U.S.A.:** When the headlights are on, the headlight indicator lights up in the instrument cluster.

**Vehicles sold in Canada:** When the tail lights are on, the tail light indicator lights up in the instrument cluster.

Manually twist the knob to the second clickstop to turn on the headlights if they are needed immediately when entering a dark tunnel, parking structure, etc.

When the headlight switch is turned to the first or second clickstop, the brightness of the instrument cluster will be reduced slightly unless the instrument panel light control knob is turned fully on.

When the headlights are on, the headlight indicator lights up in the instrument cluster.

The automatic light control sensor is on the top of the driver’s side instrument panel.

Do not place anything on the instrument panel, and/or do not affix anything on the windshield to block this sensor.

When the headlights come on: The lights automatically turn off about 30 seconds after any of the doors is opened and closed with the ignition key turned to the “ACC” or “LOCK” position.* Additionally, the lights can be turned off immediately by pushing the “LOCK” button on the wireless remote control key with all the doors locked and the trunk lid closed.
NOTE:  *The time before turning off the lights can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.*

When only the tail lights come on: The lights automatically turn off with the driver’s door opened and the ignition key turned to the “ACC” or “LOCK” position. To turn them on again, turn the ignition key to the “ON” position, or turn the headlight switch off and then twist the knob until the first or second clickstop. If you are going to park for over one week, make sure the headlight switch is off.

**Daytime Running Light System**

The headlights turn on at reduced intensity when the parking brake is released with the engine started, even with the light switch in the “OFF” position. They will not go off until the ignition switch is turned off.

To turn on the other exterior lights and instrument panel lights, twist the knob to the first clickstop.

Twist the knob to the second clickstop to turn on the headlights to full intensity for driving at night.

When setting the knob to the third clickstop (“AUTO”), the headlights will automatically adjust to full intensity and/or turn on the other lights depending on the darkness of the surroundings. Likewise, as the surroundings become brighter, the headlights will turn to reduced intensity, ultimately turning off the other lights.

---

**NOTICE**

To prevent the battery from being discharged, do not leave the lights on longer than necessary when the engine is not running.
Automatic headlight leveling system  
(Vehicles with discharge headlight only)

As the headlight beam level is always maintained automatically at the proper level in all loading conditions, your headlights do not dazzle other road users.

If this system fails, warning light in the instrument cluster comes on. If this occurs, have your vehicle checked by Lexus dealer.

HEADLIGHT DIMMER AND TURN SIGNAL SWITCH

For high beam, push the lever forward. Pull it back for low beam. For the headlight flasher, pull it further back.

A blue light in the instrument cluster indicates high beam or headlight flasher is on.

The headlight flasher works even when the headlight switch is off.
For signaling turns, move the lever up or down in the conventional manner.

The ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

The turn signal is self-cancelling after a turn, but after a lane change, you may have to cancel it by hand. You can also signal a lane change by moving the turn signal lever partway and holding it there.

If the green light in the instrument cluster flashes faster than normal, it indicates that the front or rear turn signal bulb has burned out. If this indicator light does not come on, the fuse or the indicator light itself has probably failed.

To turn on the fog lights, turn the switch to the “ON” position. The fog lights come on only when the headlights are on low beam.
To make the washer squirt, pull the lever toward you and release it.

Also, the wipers will automatically operate a couple of times after the washer squirts even with the lever in the “OFF” position.

The low washer fluid warning light in the instrument cluster comes on when the fluid level in the tank becomes nearly empty. For information on adding washer fluid, see “Adding washer fluid” on page 320.

In cold weather, warm the windshield with the defroster before using the washer. This will help prevent icing, which could block your vision.

**NOTICE**

*Do not operate the wipers if the windshield is dry. It may scratch the glass.*
REAR WINDOW WIPER AND WASHER SWITCH

► 1 Washer on during wiping  2 Washer on
To turn the wipers on, twist the knob at the end of the lever.
The ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

There are 2 settings:

  “INT” position: Intermittent operation
  “ON” position: Low speed operation

To make the washer squirt, twist the knob downward to position 2.
To make the washer squirt while operating in “ON” position, twist the knob upward to position 1.

The knob automatically returns from these positions after you release it.

The low washer fluid warning light in the instrument cluster comes on when the fluid level in the tank becomes nearly empty. For information on adding washer fluid, see “Adding washer fluid” on page 320.

NOTICE

Do not operate the rear window wiper if the rear window is dry. It may scratch the glass.
To turn the electric rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger on, push the switch.

The ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

The thin heater wires on the inside of the rear window and the heater panels in the outside rear view mirrors will quickly clear the surface. An indicator light is on when the defogger is operating.

Vehicles sold in Canada: The windshield wiper deicers are equipped to deice the windshield wiper blades by operating simultaneously with defogger.

The system will automatically shut off when the defogger has operated about 15 minutes.

**CAUTION**

Since the mirror surfaces can get hot, do not touch them when the switch is on.

If further defrosting or defogging is desired, simply actuate the switch again. When the surface has cleared, push the switch once again to turn the defogger off. Continuous use may cause the battery to discharge, especially during stop–and–go driving. The rear window defogger is not designed to dry rain water or to melt snow.

If the outside rear view mirrors are heavily coated with ice, use a spray de–icer before operating the switch.

**NOTICE**

- When cleaning the inside of the rear window, be careful not to scratch or damage the heater wires or connectors.
- To prevent the battery from being discharged, turn the switch off when the engine is not running.
POWER WINDOW SWITCHES

1 For driver’s window
2 For front passenger’s window
3 For left rear window
4 For right rear window

To raise or lower the windows, use the switch on each door. The passengers’ windows can also be controlled by the switches on the driver’s door.

The power windows work when the ignition key is in the “ON” position.

Key off operation: Even if the ignition key is turned to the “ACC” or “LOCK” position, the window can be operated until any of the doors is opened (or for about 45 seconds).

Operating the switches

To raise or lower the window, pull the switch halfway up or push it halfway down.

Automatic operation: To fully raise or lower the window automatically, pull the switch fully up or push it fully down.

To stop the window partway, lightly push or pull the switch in the opposite direction and then release it.
Operating the window lock switch

Indicator light

With the window lock switch pressed in, only the driver’s window can be raised or lowered.

The indicator lights on the switch tell you which of the switches can be operated.

Operating the windows from outside the vehicle

(a) The windows can be opened and closed using an ignition key.*

NOTE: *This feature can be set inoperative. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

Insert the ignition key into the keyhole on the driver’s side.

To close the windows: Turn the key in the locking direction and hold it.

After the door is locked, the window begins to close. To stop in the middle, return the key.

To open the windows: Turn the key in the unlocking direction and hold it.

After the door is unlocked, the window begins to open. To stop in the middle, return the key.
(b) The windows can be opened using a wireless remote control key.  
Push and hold the “UNLOCK” button. When you release the button, the windows stop opening.

Jam protection function

During automatic raising operation, key off raising operation or raising operation using the ignition key from the outside, the window stops and is lowered if something gets caught between the window and window frame.

If the window receives a strong impact, this function may work even if nothing is caught.

⚠️ CAUTION

To avoid serious personal injury, you must do the following.
- Before you close the power windows, always make sure there is nobody around the power windows. You must also make sure the heads, hands and other parts of the bodies of all occupants are kept completely inside the vehicle. If someone’s neck, head or hands get caught in a closing window, it could result in a serious injury. When anyone closes the power windows, make sure he or she operates the windows safely.

- When small children are in the vehicle, never let them use the power window switches without supervision. Use the window lock switch to prevent them from making unexpected use of the switches.
- Never leave small children alone in the vehicle, especially with the ignition key still inserted. They could use the power window switches and get trapped in a window. Unattended children can be involved in serious accidents.
- Never try jamming any part of your body to make the jam protection function work intentionally.
- The jam protection function may not work if something gets caught just before the window fully closed.
EMERGENCY FLASHER SWITCH

To turn on the emergency flashers, push the switch. Push the switch again to turn them off.

All the turn signal lights will flash. The emergency flashers will work with the engine running or off and with or without the ignition key.

Turn on the emergency flashers to warn other drivers if you must stop your vehicle where it might be a traffic hazard.

Always pull your vehicle as far off the road as possible.

The turn signal light switch will not work when the emergency flashers are in operation.

NOTICE

To prevent the battery from being discharged, do not leave the switch on longer than necessary when the engine is not running.
SEAT HEATER SWITCHES

1. For driver’s seat
2. For front passenger’s seat
3. Low heating temperature
4. High heating temperature

To turn on the seat heater, push the switch to “LO” (low heating temperature) or “HI” (high heating temperature). At this time, the indicator light comes on. Pushing lightly on the opposite side will turn it off.

The ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

**CAUTION**

Occupants must use caution when operating the seat heater because they may experience minor burns even at low temperatures. Use extra caution for:

- Babies, small children, elderly persons, sick persons or handicapped persons
- Persons who have delicate skin
- Persons who are exhausted
- Persons who have taken alcohol or drugs which induce sleep (sleeping drug, cold remedy, etc.).

To prevent the seat from overheating, do not use the seat heater with a blanket, cushion, or other insulating objects which cover the seat.

**NOTICE**

- Do not put unevenly weighted objects on the seat and do not stick sharp objects (needles, nails, etc.) into the seat.
- When cleaning the seats, do not use organic substances (paint thinner, benzine, alcohol, gasoline, etc.). They may damage the heater and seat surface.
- To prevent the battery from being discharged, turn the switch off when the engine is not running.
SECTION 1 – 3

INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Gauges, meters and service reminder indicators

- Fuel gauge .................................................. 40
- Engine coolant temperature gauge ............................ 41
- Tachometer .................................................... 42
- Odometer and trip meter ....................................... 42
- Service reminder indicators and warning buzzers ............ 43
- Cruise information display .................................. 51
- Instrument panel light control ................................. 53
FUEL GAUGE

Low fuel level warning light

The gauge is displayed when the ignition switch is on and indicates the approximate quantity of fuel remaining in the tank.

It is a good idea to keep the tank over 1/4 full.

If the fuel level approaches “E” or the low fuel level warning light comes on, fill the fuel tank as soon as possible.

On inclines or curves, due to the movement of fuel in the tank, the fuel gauge needle may fluctuate or the low fuel level warning light may come on earlier than usual.

If the fuel tank is completely empty, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on. Fill the fuel tank immediately.

The indicator lamp goes off after driving several times. If the indicator lamp does not go off, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible.

See the inner back cover for fuel capacity and recommended fuel selection.
ENGINE COOLANT TEMPERATURE GAUGE

Normal range

The gauge indicates the engine coolant temperature when the ignition switch is on. The engine operating temperature will vary with changes in weather and engine load.

If the needle points to the red zone or higher, stop your vehicle and allow the engine to cool.

Your vehicle may overheat during severe operating conditions, such as:

- Driving up a long hill on a hot day.
- Reducing speed or stopping after high speed driving.
- Idling for a long period with the air conditioning on in stop–and–go traffic.
- Towing a trailer.

NOTICE

- Do not remove the thermostat in the engine cooling system as this may cause the engine to overheat. The thermostat is designed to control the flow of coolant to keep the temperature of the engine within the specified operating range.
- Do not continue driving with an overheated engine. See “If your vehicle overheats” on page 242.
The tachometer indicates engine speed in thousands of rpm (revolutions per minute). Use it while driving to prevent engine over-revving.

Driving with the engine running too fast causes excessive engine wear and poor fuel economy. Remember, in most cases the slower the engine speed, the greater the fuel economy.

**NOTICE**

Do not let the indicator needle get into the red zone. This may cause severe engine damage.

---

This meter displays the odometer and two trip meters. To change the mode indication, push the “ODO/TRIP” knob briefly. Each time you push the knob, the mode changes in order from the odometer to trip meter A to trip meter B, then back to the odometer, etc.

The odometer records the total distance the vehicle has been driven. The twin trip meter records two different distances independently.

For example, you can use one meter to calculate the fuel economy and the other to measure the distance on each trip.
To set the A trip meter to zero, display the A meter reading, push the knob and hold it. The same applies for the B trip meter.

The data of trip meters will be cancelled if the electrical power source is disconnected.

## SERVICE REMINDER INDICATORS AND WARNING BUZZERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF THIS INDICATOR OR BUZZER COMES ON ...</th>
<th>DO THIS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) BRAKE or <img src="https://example.com/exclamation-mark.png" alt="Exclamation Mark" /></td>
<td>If parking brake is off, stop immediately and contact Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) <img src="https://example.com/driver.png" alt="Driver" /> (Indicator and buzzer)</td>
<td>Fasten driver’s seat belt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) <img src="https://example.com/passenger.png" alt="Passenger" /> (On the center console)</td>
<td>Fasten front passenger’s seat belt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) <img src="https://example.com/child.png" alt="Child" /></td>
<td>Take vehicle to Lexus dealer immediately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) <img src="https://example.com/luggage.png" alt="Luggage" /></td>
<td>Stop and check.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IF THIS INDICATOR OR BUZZER COMES ON ...</td>
<td>DO THIS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f) [oil icon]</td>
<td>Stop and check.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g) [check icon] or [oil icon]</td>
<td>Take vehicle to Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(h) [ABS icon] or [ABS]</td>
<td>Take vehicle to Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i) [door closed icon]</td>
<td>Close all doors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(j) [phone icon]</td>
<td>Replace bulb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(k) [VSC icon]</td>
<td>Take vehicle to Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(l) [A/T Oil Temp icon]</td>
<td>Stop and check.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IF THIS INDICATOR OR BUZZER COMES ON ...</th>
<th>DO THIS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(m) [washer fluid icon]</td>
<td>Add washer fluid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(n) [fuel icon]</td>
<td>Fill up tank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(o) [gas cap icon]</td>
<td>Take vehicle to Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(p) [key icon]</td>
<td>Key reminder buzzer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remove key.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(a) Brake System Warning Light
This light comes on in the following cases when the ignition key is in the “ON” position.
- When the parking brake is applied ...
- When the brake fluid level is low ...

⚠️ CAUTION
It is dangerous to continue driving normally when the brake fluid level is low.

Have your vehicle checked at your Lexus dealer in the following case:
- The light does not come on even if the parking brake is applied when the ignition key is in the “ON” position.

⚠️ CAUTION
If the light does not turn off even after the parking brake is released while the engine is running, immediately stop your vehicle at a safe place and contact your Lexus dealer. In this case, the brakes may not work properly and your stopping distance will become longer. Depress the brake pedal firmly and bring the vehicle to an immediate stop.

(b) Driver’s Seat Belt Reminder Light and Buzzer
This light and buzzer remind you to buckle up the driver’s seat belt.

Once the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position, the reminder light flashes and buzzer sounds if the driver’s seat belt is not fastened. Unless the driver fastens the belt, the light keeps flashing and the buzzer stops after about 4 to 8 seconds.

(c) Front Passenger’s Seat Belt Reminder Light
This light reminds you to buckle up the front passenger’s seat belt.

Once the ignition key is turned to “ON” or “START”, the reminder light flashes if a passenger sits in the front passenger seat and does not fasten the seat belt. However, if a front passenger uses an additional seat cushion, the light may not flash even when the seat belt is not buckled up.

If luggage load is placed on the front passenger seat, depending on its weight and how it is placed on the seat, built–in sensors in the seat cushion may detect the pressure, causing the reminder light to come on.
(d) SRS Warning Light

The indicator comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position. It goes off after about 6 seconds. This means the SRS airbags and front seat belt pretensioners are operating properly.

The SRS warning light system monitors the airbag sensor assembly, front airbag sensors, side airbag sensors, front seat belt pretensioner assemblies, inflators, warning light, interconnecting wiring and power sources.

If either of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction somewhere in the parts monitored by the warning light system. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- When the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position, the light does not come on, remains or flashes.
- The light comes on or starts flashing while driving.

If the light stays on, it indicates that the driver and front passenger airbags fail. If the light flashes, the side airbags and/or seat belt pretensioners fail.

(e) Discharge Warning Light

This light warns that the battery is being discharged.

If it comes on while you are driving, stop the vehicle, turn off the engine, and check for the cause. Look first at the engine drive belt.

- If it is loose or broken, the generator will not charge the battery properly.
- If the belt is O.K., there is a problem somewhere in the charging system.

The engine ignition will continue to operate, however, until the battery is discharged. Turn off the air conditioning, blower, radio, etc., and drive directly to the nearest Lexus dealer or repair shop.

**NOTICE**

Do not continue driving if the engine drive belt is broken or loose.
(f) Low Engine Oil Pressure Warning Light
This light warns that the engine oil pressure is too low.
If it flickers or stays on while you are driving, pull off the road to a safe place and stop the engine immediately. Call a Lexus dealer or qualified repair shop for assistance.
The light may occasionally flicker when the engine is idling or it may come on briefly after a hard stop. There is no cause for concern if it then goes out when the engine is accelerated slightly.
The light may come on when the oil level is extremely low. It is not designed to indicate low oil level, and the oil level must be checked using the oil level dipstick.

(g) Malfunction Indicator Lamp
This lamp comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position and goes off after the engine starts. This means that the warning light system is operating properly.
If the lamp remains on, or the lamp comes on while driving, first check the followings.

- Empty fuel tank
  If the fuel tank is empty, refuel immediately.
- Loose fuel tank cap
  If the fuel tank cap is loose, securely tighten it.

These cases are temporary malfunctions. The malfunction indicator lamp will go off after taking several driving trips.
If the lamp will not go off even after the several trips, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible.

If the fuel tank is not empty or the fuel tank cap is not loose...

- There is a problem somewhere in the engine, emission control system, automatic transmission electrical system or warning light system itself.

Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

NOTICE
Do not drive the vehicle with the warning light on – even for one block. It may ruin the engine.
Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) programs

Your vehicle may not pass a state emission inspection if the malfunction indicator lamp remains on. Contact your Lexus dealer to check your vehicle’s emission control system and OBD (On–Board Diagnostics) system before taking your vehicle for the inspection.

See “Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) programs” on page 267.

(h) “ABS” Warning Light

The light comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position. If the anti–lock brake system and the brake assist system work properly, the light turns off after a few seconds. Thereafter, if either of the systems malfunctions, the light comes on again.

When the “ABS” warning light is on (and the brake system warning light is off), the anti–lock brake system, the brake assist system, the traction control system and the vehicle skid control system do not operate, but the brake system still operates conventionally.

When the “ABS” warning light is on (and the brake system warning light is off), the anti–lock brake system does not operate so that the wheels could lock up during a sudden braking or braking on slippery road surfaces.

If either of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction somewhere in the parts monitored by the warning light system. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- The light does not come on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position, or remains on.
- The light comes on while you are driving.

A warning light turning on briefly during operation does not indicate a problem.

(i) Open Door Warning Light

This light remains on until all the doors are completely closed.

(j) Rear Light Failure Warning Light

If this light comes on when the headlight switch is turned on (at the first or second clickstop), it indicates that one or more of the tail lights are burned out.

If it comes on when the brake pedal is depressed, one or more stop lights are burned out.

Have defective bulbs replaced as soon as possible.
(k) “VSC” Warning Light
This light warns that there is a problem somewhere in the vehicle skid control system or traction control system.
The light will come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON” and will go off after a few seconds.
If the light comes on while driving, the vehicle skid control system and traction control system do not work. However, as conventional braking operates when applied, there is no problem to continue your driving.
In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer:
- The warning light does not come on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light remains on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light comes on while driving.

(l) Automatic Transmission Fluid Temperature Warning Light
This light warns that the automatic transmission fluid temperature is too high.
If this light comes on while you are driving, slow down and pull off the road. Stop the vehicle at a safe place and put the selector lever in “P” and leave the engine idling until the light goes off. If the light goes off, you can start the vehicle again. If the light does not go off, call a Lexus dealer or qualified repair shop for assistance.

(m) Low Washer Fluid Warning Light
This light comes on when the fluid level in the tank becomes nearly empty. Fill the tank as soon as possible.
(n) Low Fuel Level Warning Light
This light comes on when the fuel level in the tank becomes nearly empty. Fill the tank as soon as possible.
On inclines or curves, due to the movement of fuel in the tank, the low fuel level warning light may come on earlier than usual.

(o) Automatic Headlight Leveling System Warning Light (Vehicles with discharge headlight only)
This light warns that there is a problem somewhere in the automatic headlight leveling system.
The light will come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON”, and will go off after a few seconds.
If it comes on, have your vehicle checked by your Lexus dealer.

(p) Key Reminder Buzzer
This buzzer reminds you to remove the key when you open the driver’s door with the ignition key in the “ACC” or “LOCK” position.

How to check all the service reminder indicators
(except the low fuel level warning light):
1. Apply the parking brake.
2. Open the door.
The following service reminder indicator should come on. It goes off when you close the door completely.
3. Turn the ignition key to “ON”.
The following service reminder indicators should come on.
The following service reminder indicators go off after a few seconds.

ABS or (ABS) VSC TRAC OFF

The following service reminder indicator should come on. It goes off after 6 seconds.

If any service reminder indicator or warning buzzer does not function as described above, have it checked by your Lexus dealer as soon as possible.

CRUISE INFORMATION DISPLAY

The following information is shown with the ignition switched “ON”.

(1) Driving time
(2) Average vehicle speed
(3) Average fuel consumption
(4) Momentary fuel consumption

The displayed values in the cruise information display indicate the general driving condition, so those may not show precise and actual condition.
To change the mode, push the “INFO” button briefly on the audio control panel.

When the ignition switch is turned to “ON”, the mode displayed just before the ignition switch is turned off will appear.

(1) Driving time
(Figures with “E/T”)
The elapsed time after the engine started is displayed.
When the engine is started again, the driving time is counted from 0. Up to 12 hours can be displayed. When the driving time exceeds 12 hours, recounting starts.

(2) Average vehicle speed
(Figures with “AVG MPH” or “AVG km/h”)
The average vehicle speed is calculated and displayed based on the total driving distance and the total driving time with the engine running.
The displayed value is updated every 10 seconds.
To calculate from the beginning, push the “INFO” button for more than 1 second.

(3) Average fuel consumption
(Figures with “AVG MPG” or “AVG L/100 km”)
The average fuel consumption is calculated and displayed based on the total driving distance and the total fuel consumption with the engine running.
The value is updated every 10 seconds.
To calculate from the beginning, push the “INFO” button for more than 1 second.
(4) Momentary fuel consumption
(Figures with “MPG” or “L/100 km”)

The momentary fuel consumption is calculated and displayed based on the driving distance and the fuel consumption for 2 seconds with the engine running.

The value is updated every 2 seconds.

If you are driving at low speeds just before stopping, the accurate figure may not be shown.

For the display (2), (3) or (4), “––” will appear in case the data for calculation is not appropriate.

To adjust the brightness of the instrument panel lights, turn the knob.
SECTION 1 – 4

INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Interior equipment

Vanity mirrors ................................................................. 56
Interior lights ................................................................. 57
Personal light ................................................................. 58
Ignition switch light ......................................................... 59
Clock ................................................................. 59
Outside temperature display ............................................. 61
Cigarette lighter and ashtray ............................................. 61
Power outlets ................................................................. 62
Rear console box ............................................................ 63
Glove box ................................................................. 64
Garage door opener ......................................................... 64
Cup holders ................................................................. 67
Overhead console box ..................................................... 70
Auxiliary boxes ............................................................ 71
Luggage cover ............................................................... 72
Floor mat ................................................................. 73
Tie-down hooks ............................................................ 74
Luggage stowage precautions ........................................... 75
To use the vanity mirror, swing the sun visor down and open the cover.
The vanity light comes on when you open the cover.

To block out glare from the front, swing the sun visor down.
To block out glare from the side, remove the sun visor from the hook and swing it to the side.
To block out glare coming obliquely from behind you, slide the visor backwards.
At this position, the vanity light does not come on.
INTERIOR LIGHTS

To turn on the interior light, slide the switch.

Center light:

When the switch is in the “DOOR” position and any of the side
doors or back door are opened, the light will come on. After all
the doors are closed, the light remains on for about 15 seconds
before fading out.

However, in the following cases, the light goes out immediately:

1. All the doors are closed when the ignition key is in “ACC”
or “ON” position.
2. The ignition key is turned to “ACC” or “ON” when the light
is still on.
3. All the doors are locked when the light is still on.
4. One door is closed with the lock button pushed in while the
other doors are locked.

Rear light:

When the switch is in the “DOOR” position and back door is
opened, the light will come on. The light goes out immediately
when the back door is closed.
PERSONAL LIGHT

Vehicles without moon roof

To turn on the personal light, push the switch. To turn it off, push the switch again.

Vehicles with moon roof

To turn on the personal light, push the switch. To turn it off, push the switch again.
IGNITION SWITCH LIGHT

For easy access to the ignition switch, the ignition switch light comes on when the driver’s door is unlocked.

The light remains on for about 15 seconds and goes out after all the doors are closed. However, the light goes out immediately when all the doors are locked or the ignition key is in the “ACC” or “ON” position.

CLOCK

1. 12-hour display mode
2. 24-hour display mode
3. Time setting mode (indication blinking)
4. Alarm setting mode (indication blinking)

The digital clock indicates the time with the ignition key at the “ACC” or “ON” position. The mode can be changed by pushing the “CLOCK” button on the audio control panel.

With the tail lights on, the brightness of the time indication will be reduced.

If the electrical power source has been disconnected from the clock, the time display will automatically be set to 1:00 (one o’clock).
Adjusting the time:
1. Push the “CLOCK” button to enter the time setting mode.
2. Push the “H” or “M” button to adjust the time.
3. Push the “CLOCK” button again.
To set the clock by the radio, adjust the minute to “00” at step 2, and push the “CLOCK” button by the time signal from the radio.

Setting the alarm:
1. Push the “CLOCK” button to display the alarm setting mode.
2. Input the time you want to sound an alarm by pushing “H” or “M” button.
3. Push the button indicated by the “bell” mark. The bell indicator appears.
An alarm sounds for about 20 seconds at the set time every day. To stop the alarm, push the “CLOCK” button.

To disable the alarm activation, push the button indicated by the “bell” mark at step 3, and turns off the bell indicator on the display.
OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE DISPLAY

This display shows the outside temperature when the ignition switch is on.

The displayed temperature ranges from –30°C (~–22°F) up to 50°C (122°F). If the temperature does not appear on the display or it shows “– –”, take your vehicle to your Lexus dealer.

CIGARETTE LIGHTER AND ASHTRAY

Cigarette lighter

Ashtray
To use the cigarette lighter, press it in. After it finishes heating up, it automatically pops out ready for use. To use the ashtray, push the ashtray cover.

Do not hold the cigarette lighter pressed in.

If the engine is not running, the ignition key must be in the “ACC” position to use the lighter.

When finished with your cigarette, thoroughly extinguish it in the ashtray to prevent other cigarette butts from catching fire. After using the ashtray, push it back in completely.

To remove the ashtray, just pull it up.

Use a Lexus genuine cigarette lighter or equivalent for replacement.

⚠️ CAUTION

To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or sudden stop while driving, always completely close the ashtray after use.

POWER OUTLETS

► Rear end of the console box

► In the luggage compartment

The power outlets are designed for power supply for car accessories.
The ignition key must be in the “ACC” or “ON” position for the power outlets to be used.

**NOTICE**

To prevent the fuse from being blown, do not use the electricity over the total vehicle capacity of 12V/120W (front and rear outlets together).

To prevent the battery from being discharged, do not use the power outlet longer than necessary when the engine is not running.

Close the power outlet lid when the power outlet is not in use. Inserting a foreign object other than the appropriate plug that fits the outlet, or allowing any liquid into the outlet may cause electrical failure or short circuits.

---

REAR CONSOLE BOX

For upper box

For lower box

To use the rear console box, open as shown in the illustration.
GLOVE BOX

To open the glove box door, pull the lever. To lock the glove box door, insert the master key and turn it clockwise.

With the tail lights on, the glove box light will come on when the glove box door is open.

For the compact disc changer, see page 178.

CAUTION
To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or a sudden stop, always keep the glove box door closed while driving.

GARAGE DOOR OPENER

The garage door opener (HomeLink® Universal Transceiver) is manufactured under license from HomeLink® and can be programmed to operate garage doors, gates, entry doors, door locks, home lighting systems, and security systems, etc.

(a) Programming the HomeLink®

The HomeLink® in your vehicle has 3 buttons and you can store one program for each button.

To ensure correct programming into the HomeLink®, install a new battery in the hand–held transmitter prior to programming.

The battery side of the hand–held transmitter must be pointed away from the HomeLink® during the programming process.
For Canadian users, follow the procedure in “Programming an entrance gate/Programming all devices in the Canadian market”.

1. Decide which of 3 HomeLink® buttons you want to program.

2. Place your hand–held garage transmitter 25 to 75 mm (1 to 3 in.) away from the surface of the HomeLink®.

   Keep the indicator light on the HomeLink® in view while programming.

3. Simultaneously press and hold the hand–held garage transmitter button along with the selected HomeLink® button.

4. When the indicator light on the HomeLink® changes from a slow to a rapid flash after 20 seconds, you can release both buttons.

5. Test the operation of the HomeLink® by pressing the newly programmed button. If programming a garage door opener, check to see if the garage door opens and closes.

   If the garage door does not operate, identify if your garage transmitter is of the “Rolling Code” type. Press and hold the programmed HomeLink® button. The garage door has the rolling code feature if the indicator light (on the HomeLink®) flashes rapidly and then remains lit after 2 seconds. If your garage transmitter is the “Rolling Code” type, proceed to the heading “Programming a rolling code system”.

6. Repeat steps 2 through 5 for each remaining HomeLink® button to program another device.

Programming a rolling code system

If your device is “Rolling Code” equipped, it is necessary to follow steps 1 through 4 under the heading “Programming the HomeLink®” before proceeding with the steps listed below.

1. Locate the “training” button on the ceiling mounted garage door opener motor. The exact location and color of the button may vary by brand of garage door opener. Refer to the owner’s guide supplied by the garage door opener manufacturer for the location of this “training” button.

2. Press the “training” button on the ceiling mounted garage door opener motor.

   Following this step, you have 30 seconds in which to initiate step 3 below.

3. Press and release the vehicle’s programmed HomeLink® button twice. The garage door may open. If the door does open, the programming process is complete. If the door does not open, press and release the button a third time. This third press and release will complete the programming process by opening the garage door.

   The ceiling mounted garage door opener motor should now recognize the HomeLink® unit and be able activate the garage door up/down.

4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 for each remaining HomeLink® button to program another rolling code system.
Programming an entrance gate/Programming all devices in the Canadian market
1. Decide which of the 3 HomeLink® buttons you want to program.
2. Place your hand–held gate/device transmitter 25 to 75 mm (1 to 3 in.) away from the surface of the HomeLink®.
Keep the indicator light on the HomeLink® in view while programming.
3. Press and hold the selected HomeLink® button.
4. Continuously press and release (cycle) the hand–held gate/device transmitter button every two seconds until step 5 is complete.
5. When the indicator light on the HomeLink® changes from a slow to a rapid flash after 20 seconds, you can release both buttons.
6. Test the operation of the HomeLink® by pressing the newly programmed button. Check to see if the gate/device operates correctly.
7. Repeat steps 1 through 6 for each remaining HomeLink® button to program another device.

Programming other devices
To program other devices such as home security systems, home door locks or lighting, contact your authorized Lexus dealer for assistance.

Reprogramming a button
Individual HomeLink® buttons cannot be erased, however, to reprogram a single button, follow the procedure “Programming the HomeLink®”.

(b) Operating the HomeLink®
To operate the HomeLink®, press the appropriate HomeLink® button to activate the programmed device. The HomeLink® indicator light should come on. The HomeLink® continues to send the signal for up to 20 seconds as long as the button is pressed.

(c) Erasing the entire HomeLink® memory (all three programs)
To erase all previously programmed codes at one time, press and hold down the 2 outside buttons for 20 seconds until the indicator light flashes.

If you sell your vehicle, be sure to erase the programs stored in the HomeLink® memory.

CAUTION
When programming the HomeLink® Universal Transceiver, you may be operating a garage door or other device. Make sure people and objects are out of the way of the garage door or other device to prevent potential harm or damage.
Do not use this **HomeLink** Universal Transceiver with any garage door opener that lacks the safety stop and reverse feature as required by federal safety standards. (This includes any garage door opener model manufactured before April 1, 1982.) A garage door opener which cannot detect an object (signaling the door to stop and reverse), does not meet current federal safety standards. Using a garage door opener without these features increases risk of serious injury or death.

FCC ID: CB2SAHL3  
CANADA: 279 102 1849A

This device complies with FCC Rules Part 15. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference that may be received, including interference that may cause undesired operation. **WARNING:** This transmitter has been tested and complies with FCC and DOC/MDC rules. Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the device.

**CUP HOLDERS**

*Front cup holder*

To use the cup holder, slide the rear console box. The cup holder is designed for holding cups or drink–cans securely. You can adjust the arms to 3 stages.
The cup holder can be installed as you desired using the upper and lower rear console boxes.

When the upper console is used as a cup holder, the lower console may not be used. This applies to the opposite case when the lower console is used.

**Removal**

Pull out the cup holder from the rear console box.

**Installation**

Insert the rear tabs into the cutouts of the rear console box.

**CAUTION**

Do not place anything else other than cups or drink-cans in the cup holder, as such items may be thrown about in the compartment and possibly injure people in the vehicle during sudden braking or in an accident.

To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or sudden stop while driving, keep the cup holder closed when not in use.
Rear cup holder (rear console box)

To use the cup holder, push the button of the rear console box.

The cup holder is designed for holding cups or drink-cans securely. You can adjust the arms to 3 stages.

CAUTION

Do not place anything else other than cups or drink-cans on the cup holder, as such items may be thrown about in the compartment and possibly injure people in the vehicle during sudden braking or in an accident.

To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or sudden stop while driving, keep the cup holder closed when not in use.

Rear cup holder (rear seat cushion)

To use the rear cup holder, pull the cup holder portion of the rear seat cushion.

The cup holder is designed for holding cups or drink-cans securely.

CAUTION

Do not place anything else other than cups or drink-cans on the cup holder, as such items may be thrown about in the compartment and possibly injure people in the vehicle during sudden braking or in an accident.

To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or sudden stop while driving, keep the cup holder closed when not in use.
OVERHEAD CONSOLE BOX

To use the overhead console box, open it as shown above.

CAUTION
To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or a sudden stop, always keep the overhead console box closed while driving.
As this box is designed for holding eyeglasses, do not place any object heavier than 60 g (0.13 lb.) in it. Heavier objects may cause the box to open and the contents to fly out resulting in injuries.

NOTICE
During hot weather, the interior of the vehicle becomes very hot. Do not leave anything flammable or deformable such as a lighter, glasses, etc. inside.
AUXILIARY BOXES
Your vehicle has several types of auxiliary box. To use them, open as shown in the following illustrations.

 ► On the instrument panel

 ► In the right side of luggage compartment

CAUTION
To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or a sudden stop, always keep the auxiliary box closed while driving.
To use the luggage cover:

1. Attach the front hooks of the luggage cover to the head restraint.
2. Pull out the rear luggage cover and hook it on the anchors.

**CAUTION**

Do not place anything on the luggage cover. Such items may be thrown about and possibly injure people in the vehicle during sudden braking or an accident.
Removing luggage cover

To remove the luggage cover, lift it up.

After you remove the luggage cover, place it somewhere other than the passenger compartment. This will prevent passengers from injury in the event of a sudden stop or accident.

FLOOR MAT

Use a floor mat of the correct size.

If the floor carpet and floor mat have a hole, then it is designed for use with a locking clip. Fix the floor mat with locking clip into the hole in the floor carpet.
CAUTION

Make sure the floor mat is properly placed on the floor carpet. If the floor mat slips and interferes with the movement of the pedals during driving, it may cause an accident.

TIE–DOWN HOOKS

To secure your luggage, use the tie–down hooks as shown above.

See “Luggage stowage precautions” for precautions to observe in loading luggage.
LUGGAGE STOWAGE PRECAUTIONS

When stowing luggage or cargo in the vehicle, observe the following:

- Put luggage or cargo in the luggage compartment when at all possible. Be sure all items are secured in place.
- Be careful to keep the vehicle level. Placing the weight as far forward as possible helps maintain vehicle balance.
- For better fuel economy, do not carry unnecessary weight.

**CAUTION**

To prevent luggage or packages from sliding forward during braking, do not stack anything in the luggage compartment higher than the seatbacks. Keep luggage or packages low, as close to the floor as possible.

Never allow anyone to ride in the luggage compartment. It is not designed for passengers. They should ride in their seats with their seat belts properly fastened. Otherwise, they are much more likely to suffer serious bodily injury, in the event of sudden braking or a collision.

**NOTICE**

Do not drive with objects left on top of the instrument panel. They may interfere with the driver’s field of view. Or they may move during sharp vehicle acceleration or turning, and impair the driver’s control of the vehicle. In an accident they may injure the vehicle occupants.

Do not load the vehicle beyond the vehicle capacity weight specified on the tire pressure label.
SECTION 1 – 5

INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Exterior equipment

Hood ................................................................. 78
Fuel tank cap .................................................... 79
Moon roof ......................................................... 80
1. To open the hood, pull the hood lock release lever under the instrument panel. The hood will spring up slightly.

2. Insert your fingers under the hood, push up the auxiliary catch lever and lift the hood.

Before closing the hood, check to see that you have not forgotten any tools, rags, etc. Then lower the hood and make sure it locks.

⚠️ CAUTION

Before driving, be sure that the hood is securely locked. Otherwise, the hood may open unexpectedly while driving and an accident may occur.
1. To open the fuel filler door, pull the lever up. When refueling, turn off the engine.

**CAUTION**

- Do not smoke, cause sparks or allow open flames when refuelling. The fumes are flammable.
- When opening the cap, do not remove the cap quickly. In hot weather, fuel under pressure could cause injury by spraying out of the filler neck if the cap is suddenly removed.

2. To remove the fuel tank cap, turn the cap slowly counterclockwise, then pause slightly before removing it. The removed cap can be stored on the back side of the fuel filler door.

It is not unusual to hear a slight swoosh when the cap is opened. When installing the cap, turn the cap clockwise until you hear a click.

If the cap is not tightened securely, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on. Make sure the cap is tightened securely.

The indicator lamp goes off after driving several times. If the indicator lamp does not go off, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible.
CAUTION

- Make sure the cap is tightened securely to prevent fuel spillage in case of an accident.
- Use only a genuine Lexus fuel tank cap for replacement. It is designed to regulate fuel tank pressure.

MOON ROOF

To slide open the moon roof, push the switch on the “SLIDE OPEN” side briefly. The moon roof will open and stop partway 50 mm (2.0 in.) from the fully opened position. When you push the switch again, the moon roof will open fully. To stop partway, push the same side or “TILT UP” side briefly.

As driving with the moon roof opened fully will cause wind throbs, we recommend you to drive with the moon roof partway 50 mm (2.0 in.) from the fully opened position.

To operate the moon roof, the ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

The sun shade can be opened or closed manually. However, if you open the moon roof, the sun shade will be opened with the moon roof.
To close the moon roof, push the switch on the “TILT UP” side. The moon roof will fully close. To stop partway, push the same side or “SLIDE OPEN” side briefly.

To slide open the tilted-up moon roof:
Push the switch on the “SLIDE OPEN” side to tilt down the moon roof. After releasing the switch, push the switch on the same side again.

To tilt up the rear end of the moon roof fully, push the switch on the “TILT UP” side or on the “SLIDE OPEN” side to lower it.

To tilt up the slide-opened moon roof:
Push the switch on the “TILT UP” side to close the moon roof fully. After releasing the switch, push the switch on the same side again.

Key off operation: Even if the ignition key is turned to the “ACC” or “LOCK” position with all the door closed, the moon roof can be operated until any of the doors is opened (or for about 45 seconds).
Operating the moon roof from outside the vehicle

(a) The moon roof can be closed or opened using an ignition key.*

Insert the ignition key into the key hole on the driver’s door.

To close the moon roof: Turn the key in the locking direction and hold it.

After the door is locked, the moon roof begins to close. To stop in the middle, return the key.

To open the moon roof: Turn the key in the unlocking direction and hold it.

After the door is unlocked, the moon roof begins to open. To stop in the middle, return the key.

NOTE: *This feature can be set inoperative, or sliding open or tilting up can be selected. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

(b) The moon roof can be opened using a wireless remote control key.

Push and hold the “UNLOCK” button. When you release the button, the moon roof stops opening.

Jam protection function

During closing operation, the moon roof stops and is open if something gets caught into the roof opening.

If the moon roof receives a strong impact, this function may work even if nothing is caught.

---

**CAUTION**

To avoid serious personal injury, you must do the following.

- While the vehicle is moving, always keep the heads, hands and other parts of the bodies of all occupants away from the roof opening. Otherwise, they could be seriously injured if the vehicle stops suddenly or if the vehicle is involved in an accident.

- Before you close the moon roof, always make sure there is nobody around the moon roof. You must also make sure nobody places his or her head, hands and other parts of the body in the roof opening. If someone’s neck, head or hands get caught in the closing roof, it could result in a serious injury. When anyone closes the moon roof, first make sure it is safe to do so.
• Never leave small children alone in the vehicle, especially with the ignition key still inserted. They could use the moon roof switches and get trapped in the roof opening. Unattended children can be involved in serious accidents.

• Never sit on top of the vehicle around the roof opening.

• Never try jamming any part of your body to make the jam protection function work intentionally.

• The jam protection function may not work if something gets caught just before the moon roof fully closed.
INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Comfort adjustment

Front seats ................................................................. 86
Rear seats ................................................................. 91
Armrests ................................................................. 94
Head restraints ............................................................ 95
Tilt steering wheel ....................................................... 96
Outside rear view mirrors ............................................. 97
Inside rear view mirror ................................................ 99
Seat belts ............................................................... 105
SRS airbags .............................................................. 114
Child restraint ........................................................... 126
Driving position memory system .................................. 146
FRONT SEATS

Front seat precautions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The SRS side airbags are installed in the driver and front passenger seats. Observe the following precautions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not lean against the front door when the vehicle is in use, since the side airbag inflates with considerable speed and force. Otherwise, you may be killed or seriously injured.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not modify or replace the seats or upholstery of the seats with side airbags. Such changes may disable the system, or cause the side airbags to inflate accidentally, resulting in death or serious injury. Consult your Lexus dealer if you insist on modifications of this kind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not use seat accessories which cover the parts where the side airbags should inflate. Such accessories may prevent the side airbags from activating correctly, causing death or serious injury.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seat adjustment precautions

Adjust the driver’s seat so that the foot pedals, steering wheel and instrument panel controls are within easy reach of the driver.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Do not adjust the seat while the vehicle is moving as the seat may unexpectedly move and cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• When adjusting the seat, be careful that the seat does not hit a passenger, luggage or the rear seat.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not operate the control switch in more than one dimension at a time. It may cause electrical overload.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adjusting front seats

1. Seat position control switch, seat cushion angle and height control switch
2. Seatback angle control switch
3. Lumbar support control switch

Adjusting seat position

Move the control switch in the desired direction.
Releasing the switch will stop the seat in that position. Do not place anything under the seat, as this might interfere with the seat movement.
Adjusting seatback angle

Move the control switch in the desired direction.

Releasing the switch will stop the seatback in that position.

⚠️ CAUTION

To reduce the risk of sliding under the lap belt during a collision, avoid reclining the seatback any more than needed. The seat belts provide maximum protection in a frontal or rear collision when the driver is sitting up straight and well back in the seats. If you are reclined, the lap belt may slide past your hips and apply restraint forces directly to the abdomen. In the event of a frontal collision, the more the seat is reclined, the greater the risk of personal injury.
Adjusting seat cushion angle and height (driver’s seat only)

Move the control switch in the desired direction.
Releasing the switch will stop the seat cushion in that position.

Adjusting lumbar support (driver’s seat only)

Push the control switch on either side.
The amount of lumbar support will change while the switch is pushed.
Flattening seatbacks

Before flattening seatbacks, slide the rear seats as far back as possible.

1. Push the seat position control switch forward to move the seat forward.
2. Push the seat position control switch upward to raise the seat (driver’s seat only).
3. Push the lock release button on the head restraint to remove it.

4. Move the seatback angle control switch backward to flatten the seatback.
Push the seat position control switch downward to lower the seat at the same level as the rear seat (driver's seat only).

After returning the seat to its original position, be certain to replace the head restraint.

**CAUTION**

- Do not allow passengers to ride on the flattened seat while driving; use the seat in the normal position.
- After putting back the seat, try pushing the seatback forward and rearward to make sure it is secured in place. Be certain to replace head restraint.

Hold the center of the lever and pull it up. Then slide the seat to the desired position with slight body pressure and release the lever.

When you move the seats forward and unlock the seatbacks, you can tilt the seatbacks a little rearward.
CAUTION

To reduce the risk of sliding under the lap belt during a collision, avoid reclining the seatback any more than needed. The seat belts provide maximum protection when the passengers are sitting up straight and well back in the seats. If you are reclined, the lap belt may slide past your hips and apply restraint forces directly to the abdomen. In the event of a frontal collision, the more the seat is reclined, the greater the risk of personal injury.

Folding down rear seatbacks

Before folding down rear seatbacks

Stow the rear seat belt buckles as shown above.
► **Seat belt hanger**

For the outer seat belts, use the seat belt hangers to prevent the belts from being tangled.

**NOTICE**

The seat belt buckles must be stowed before you fold down the rear seatbacks.

► **Folding down rear seatbacks**

Lower the head restraints to the lowest position, unlock the seatbacks and fold them down.

When returning the rear seats to their original position, lift up the seatbacks until they lock.
CAUTION

When returning the seatback to the upright position, observe the following precautions in order to prevent personal injury in a collision or sudden stop:

- Make sure the seat is securely locked by pushing forward and rearward on the top of the seatback. Failure to do so will prevent the seat belt from operating properly.
- Make sure the seat belts are not twisted or caught under the seat and are arranged in their proper position and are ready to use.

ARMRESTS

To use the armrests, pull them down as shown above.

NOTICE

To prevent damage to the armrests, avoid putting heavy loads on them.
HEAD RESTRAINTS

Front seats

To raise the head restraint, pull it up. To lower it, press the lock release button and push the head restraint down. To move the head restraint forward or rearward, pull or push on the top.

The head restraint is most effective when it is close to your head. Therefore, using a cushion on the seatback is not recommended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Adjust the center of the head restraint so that it is closest to the top of your ears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After adjusting the head restraint, make sure it is locked in position.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rear seats

To raise the head restraint, pull it up. To lower it, press the lock release button and push the head restraint down.

Rear center head restraint — When an occupant sits on the rear center seat, always pull up the rear center head restraint to the lock position.

The head restraint is most effective when it is close to your head. Therefore, using a cushion on the seatback is not recommended.

Do not drive with the head restraints removed.

---

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
CAUTION

- Adjust the center of the head restraint so that it is closest to the top of your ears.
- After adjusting the head restraint, make sure it is locked in position.
- Do not drive with the head restraints removed.

TILT STEERING WHEEL

To change the steering wheel angle, hold the steering wheel, pull up the lock release lever, tilt the steering wheel to the desired angle and release the lever.

When the steering wheel is in a low position, it will spring up as you release the lock release lever.

CAUTION

- Do not adjust the steering wheel while the vehicle is moving. Doing so may cause the driver to mishandle the vehicle and an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.
- After adjusting the steering wheel, try moving it up and down to make sure it is locked in position.
OUTSIDE REAR VIEW MIRRORS

Adjust the mirror so that you can just see the side of your vehicle in the mirror.

Be careful when judging the size or distance of any object seen in the outside rear view mirror on the passenger’s side. It is a convex mirror with a curved surface. Any object seen in a convex mirror will look smaller and farther away than if seen in a normal flat mirror.

When you push the rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger switch, the heater panels in the outside rear view mirrors will quickly clear the mirror surface. (See “Rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger, and windshield wiper deicer switch” on page 32.)

Some models: When the inside rear view mirror darkens in AUTO mode, the outside rear view mirrors also darken to reduce the reflection of the headlamps of the following vehicle. For details, see “Inside rear view mirror” on page 99.

CAUTION

- Do not adjust the mirror while the vehicle is moving. Doing so may cause the driver to mishandle the vehicle and an accident may occur, resulting in death or serious injuries.
- Since the mirror surfaces can get hot, do not touch them when the rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger switch is on.
Power rear view mirror control

1 Master switch
2 Control switch

To adjust the power rear view mirror, first place the master switch at “L” (left) or “R” (right), and push the control switch on the desired side.

The power rear view mirror can be adjusted when the key is in the “ACC” or “ON” position.

NOTICE
If ice should jam the mirror, do not operate the control or scrape the mirror face. Use a spray de-icer to free the mirror.

Folding rear view mirrors

To fold the rear view mirror, push backward.

The rear view mirrors can be folded backward for parking in restricted areas.

⚠️ CAUTION
Do not drive with the mirrors folded backward. Both the driver and passenger side rear view mirrors must be extended and properly adjusted before driving.
INSIDE REAR VIEW MIRROR

1 Type A  2 Day  3 Night
Adjust the mirror so that you can just see the rear of your vehicle in the mirror.

When driving at night, pull the lever toward you to reduce the glare from the headlights of vehicles behind you.

Before adjusting the mirror to the position with most clarity, push the day–night change lever forward (daylight driving position).

Remember that by reducing glare you also lose some rear view clarity.

CAUTION
Do not adjust the mirror while the vehicle is moving. Doing so may cause the driver to mishandle the vehicle and an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.

Type B
Adjust the mirror so that you can just see the rear of your vehicle in the mirror.

Pushing the switch changes the mode between AUTO and DAY.

The indicator comes on when the AUTO mode is selected.

DAY mode: The mirror surface is normal.
AUTO mode: If the mirror detects light from the headlights of the vehicle behind you, the mirror surface darkens slightly to reduce the reflected light.
When the inside rear view mirror surface changes, the outside rear view mirror surfaces will also become darker.
When the ignition key is inserted and turned on, the inside rear view mirror always turns on in the AUTO mode.
When the outside air temperature is low, it may take a little longer for the mirror to darken in response to the detection of headlights.

⚠️ CAUTION
Do not adjust the mirror while the vehicle is moving. Doing so may cause the driver to mishandle the vehicle and an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.

To ensure correct functioning of an anti-glare mirror sensor located on the back side of the mirror, do not touch or cover the sensor with your finger or a piece of cloth, etc.
Compass (Some models)

The compass indicates the direction in which the vehicle is heading. The illustration shown above indicates the vehicle is heading north.

Pushing the “AUTO” button for longer 3 seconds turns on or off the compass display.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Displays</th>
<th>Directions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Northeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Southeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Northwest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The compass may not show the correct direction in the following conditions:

- The vehicle is stopped immediately after turning.
- The compass does not adjust while the vehicle is stopped.
- The ignition switch is turned off immediately after turning.
- The vehicle is on an inclined surface.
- The vehicle is in a place where the earth’s magnetic field is subject to interference by artificial magnetic fields (underground parking, under a steel tower, between buildings, roof parking, near a crossing, near a large vehicle, etc.).
- The vehicle is magnetized. (There is a magnet or a metal object on or near the inside rear view mirror.)
- The battery has been disconnected.

The compass works to calibrate the direction automatically while the vehicle is in motion, if deviation is small.

For obtaining additional precision or for complete calibrating, see “Calibrating the compass” below.

If the direction is not indicated or the system does not operate properly, contact your Lexus dealer.
Calibrating the compass (deviation calibration)

The direction display on the compass deviates from the true direction determined by the earth’s magnetic field. The angle of deviation varies according to the geographic position of the vehicle.

To adjust for this deviation, stop the vehicle and push the button for longer than about 6 seconds until the number (1–15) appears on the display. Then push the button again, referring to the following map to select the number of the zone where the vehicle is.

**NOTICE**

*Do not put magnets or a metal object on or near the inside rear view mirror of the vehicle. Doing this may cause malfunction of the compass sensor in the mirror.*
Leaving the system after the calibration for several seconds, the direction will appear on the display. It shows the zone number is set.

**Zone number**

Calibrating the compass (circling calibration)

To rectify the compass, stop the vehicle and push the button for longer than about 9 seconds until “C” appears on the display. There is also a case that “C” appears on the display in case of a drastic change in the magnetic field.

**CAUTION**

Do not adjust the display while the vehicle is moving. Be sure to adjust the display only when the vehicle is stopped.
Drive the vehicle slowly (at 8 km/h (5 mph) or lower) in a circle until the direction is displayed. If there is not enough space to drive in a circle, drive around the block until the direction is displayed.

After driving in 1 to 3 circles in the above method, calibration is complete with the direction shown on the display.

If you want to cancel the calibration before it is complete, push the button again.

- Do not perform circling calibration of the compass in a place where the earth’s magnetic field is subject to interference by artificial magnetic fields (underground parking, under a steel tower, between buildings, roof parking, near a crossing, near a large vehicle, etc.).

- During calibration, do not operate electric systems (moon roof, power windows, etc.) as they may interfere with the calibration.

**CAUTION**

- When doing the circling calibration, be sure to secure a wide space, and watch out for people and vehicles in the neighborhood. Do not violate any local traffic rules while performing circling calibration.
- Do not adjust the display while the vehicle is moving. Be sure to adjust the display only when the vehicle is stopped.
SEAT BELTS

Seat belt precautions

Lexus strongly urges that the driver and passengers in the vehicle be properly restrained at all times with the seat belts provided. Failure to do so could increase the chance of injury and/or the severity of injury in accidents.

The seat belts provided for your vehicle are designed for people of adult size, large enough to properly wear them.

Child. Use a child restraint system appropriate for the child until the child becomes large enough to properly wear the vehicle’s seat belts. See “Child restraint” on page 126 for details.

If a child is too large for a child restraint system, the child should sit in the rear seat and must be restrained using the vehicle’s seat belt. According to accident statistics, the child is safer when properly restrained in the rear seat than in the front seat.

If a child must sit in the front seat, the seat belts should be worn properly. Do not let the child sit on your lap. It does not provide sufficient restraint. If an accident occurs and the seat belts are not worn properly, the force of the rapid inflation of the airbag may cause severe injury to the child.

Do not allow the child to stand up or kneel on either rear or front seats. An unrestrained child could suffer serious injury or death during emergency braking or a collision.

Pregnant woman. Lexus recommends the use of a seat belt. Ask your doctor for specific recommendations. The lap belt should be worn securely and as low as possible over the hips and not on the waist.

Injured person. Lexus recommends the use of a seat belt. Depending on the injury, first check with your doctor for specific recommendations.

CAUTION

Persons should ride in their seats properly wearing their seat belts whenever the vehicle is moving. Otherwise, they are much more likely to suffer serious bodily injury or death in the event of sudden braking or a collision.

When using the seat belts, observe the following:

- Use the belt for only one person at a time. Do not use a single belt for two or more people – even children.
- Avoid reclining the seatbacks too much. The seat belts provide maximum protection when the seatbacks are in the upright position. (See “Adjusting seatback angle” on page 88.)
- Be careful not to damage the belt webbing or hardware. Take care that they do not get caught or pinched in the seat or doors.
- Inspect the belt system periodically. Check for cuts, fraying, and loose parts. Damaged parts should be replaced. Do not disassemble or modify the system.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
Keep the belts clean and dry. If they need cleaning, use a mild soap solution or lukewarm water. Never use bleach, dye, or abrasive cleaners – they may severely weaken the belts. (See “Cleaning the interior” on page 330 for instructions.)

Replace the belt assembly (including bolts) if it has been used in a severe impact. The entire assembly should be replaced even if damage is not obvious.

Fastening front and rear seat belts

Adjust the seat as needed and sit up straight and well back in the seat. To fasten your belt, pull it out of the retractor and insert the tab into the buckle.

You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle.

The seat belt length automatically adjusts to your size and the seat position.

The retractor will lock the belt during a sudden stop or on impact. It also may lock if you lean forward too quickly. A slow, easy motion will allow the belt to extend, and you can move around freely.

When a passenger’s shoulder belt is completely extended and is then retracted even slightly, the belt is locked in that position and cannot be extended. This feature is used to hold the child restraint system securely. (For details, see “Child restraint” on page 126.) To free the belt again, fully retract the belt and then pull the belt out once more.
If the seat belt cannot be pulled out of the retractor, firmly pull the belt and release it. You will then be able to smoothly pull the belt out of the retractor.

**CAUTION**
- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer. Do not use the seat until the seat belt is fixed. It cannot protect an adult occupant or your child from injury.

Adjust the position of the lap and shoulder belts.

1. Position the lap belt as low as possible on your hips — not on your waist.
2. Adjust it to a snug fit by pulling the shoulder portion upward through the latch plate.
Both high–positioned lap belts and loose–fitting belts could cause serious injuries due to sliding under the lap belt during a collision or other unintended result. Keep the lap belt positioned as low on hips as possible.

For your safety, do not place the shoulder belt under your arm.

**Front seat belts only**

Adjust the shoulder anchor position to your size.

To raise the anchor position, push the anchor up. To lower the anchor position, support the anchor while you push the lock release button then slide the anchor down. After the adjustment, make sure the anchor is locked in position.

Always make sure the shoulder belt is positioned across the center of your shoulder. The belt should be kept away from your neck, but not falling off your shoulder. Failure to do so could reduce the amount of protection in an accident and cause severe injuries in a collision.
To release the belt, press the buckle release button and allow the belt to retract.

If the belt does not retract smoothly, pull it out and check for kinks or twists. Then make sure it remains untwisted as it retracts.

Seat belt extender

If your seat belts cannot be fastened securely because they are not long enough, a personalized seat belt extender is available from your Lexus dealer free of charge.

Please contact your local Lexus dealer to order the proper required length for the extender. Bring the heaviest coat you expect to wear for proper measurement and selection of length. Additional ordering information is available at your Lexus dealer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

When using the seat belt extender, observe the following precautions. Failure to follow these instructions could reduce the effectiveness of the seat belt restraint system in case of vehicle accident, increasing the chance of personal injury.

- Never use the seat belt extender if you can fasten the seat belt without it.
- Remember that the extender provided for you may not be safe when used on a different vehicle, for another person, or at a different seating position than the one originally intended.
To connect the extender to the seat belt, insert the tab into the seat belt buckle so that the “PRESS” signs on the buckle release buttons of the extender and the seat belt are both facing outward as shown.

You will hear a click when the tab locks into the buckle.

When releasing the seat belt, press on the buckle release button on the extender, not on the seat belt. This helps prevent damage to the vehicle interior and extender itself.

When not in use, remove the extender and store in the vehicle for future use.

---

**CAUTION**

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the belt is not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, immediately contact your Lexus dealer. Do not use the seat until the seat belt is fixed. It cannot protect an adult occupant or your child from injury.
Front seat belt pretensioners

The driver and front passenger’s seat belt pretensioners are designed to be activated in response to a severe frontal impact.

When the airbag sensor detects the shock of a severe frontal impact, the front seat belts are quickly drawn back in by the retractor so that the belts snugly restrain the front seat occupants.

The front seat belt pretensioners are activated even with no passenger in the front seat.

Collisions occurring at certain speeds and angles may cause the seat belt pretensioners and SRS airbags not to operate all together.

This indicator comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position. It goes off after about 6 seconds. This means the front seat belt pretensioners are operating properly.

This warning light system monitors the airbag sensor assembly, front airbag sensors, side airbag sensors, front seat belt pretensioner assemblies, inflators, warning light, interconnecting wiring and power sources. (For details, see “Service reminder indicators and warning buzzers” on page 43.)
1. Front airbag sensors
2. SRS warning light
3. Front seat belt pretensioner assemblies
4. Airbag sensor assembly

The front seat belt pretensioner system consists mainly of the above components, and their locations are shown in the illustration.

The front seat belt pretensioners are controlled by the airbag sensor assembly. The airbag sensor assembly consists of a safing sensor and airbag sensor.

When the front seat belt pretensioners are activated, an operating noise may be heard and a small amount of smoke-like gas may be released. This gas is harmless and does not indicate that a fire is occurring.

Once the front seat belt pretensioners have been activated, the seat belt retractors remain locked.

**CAUTION**

Do not modify, remove, strike or open the front seat belt pretensioner assemblies, airbag sensor or surrounding area or wiring. Doing so may cause sudden operation of the front seat belt pretensioners or disable the system, which could result in death or serious injury. Failure to follow these instructions can result in death or serious injuries. Consult your Lexus dealer about any repairs and modifications.

**NOTICE**

Do not perform any of the following changes without consulting your Lexus dealer. Such changes can interfere with proper operation of the front seat belt pretensioners in some cases.

- Installation of electronic devices such as a mobile two-way radio, cassette tape player or compact disc player
- Repairs on or near the front seat belt retractor assemblies
- Modification of the suspension system
- Modification of the front end structure
- Attachment of a grille guard (bull bar, kangaroo bar, etc.), snowplow, winches or any other equipment to the front end
This front seat belt pretensioner system has a service reminder indicator to inform the driver of operating problems. If any of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction of the pretensioners. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- When the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position, the light does not come on or flashes.
- The light flashes while driving.
- If either front seat belt does not retract or can not be pulled out due to a malfunction or activation of the relevant front seat belt pretensioner.

In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible:

- The front of the vehicle (shaded in the illustration) was involved in an accident that was not severe enough to cause the front seat belt pretensioners to operate.
- Either front seat belt pretensioner assembly or surrounding area is scratched, cracked, or otherwise damaged.
SRS AIRBAGS

The SRS (Supplemental Restraint System) airbags are designed to provide further protection for the driver and front passenger in addition to the primary safety protection provided by the seat belts.

SRS front airbags

In response to a severe frontal impact, the SRS front airbags work together with the seat belts to help reduce injury by inflating. The SRS front airbags help to reduce injuries mainly to the driver’s or front passenger’s head or chest caused by directly hitting the steering wheel or dashboard.

The front passenger airbag is activated even with no passenger in the front seat.

Be sure to wear your seat belt properly.

Your vehicle is equipped with a crash sensing and diagnostic module, which will record the use of the seat belt restraint system by the driver and front passenger when the SRS airbags are inflated.

⚠️ CAUTION

The driver or front passenger who is too close to the steering wheel or dashboard during airbag deployment can be killed or seriously injured. Lexus strongly recommends that:

- The driver sit as far back as possible from the steering wheel while still maintaining control of the vehicle.
- The front passenger sit as far back as possible from the dashboard.
- All vehicle occupants be properly restrained using the available seat belts.
SRS side airbags

In response to a severe side impact, the SRS side airbags work together with the seat belts to help reduce injury by inflating. The SRS side airbags help to reduce injuries mainly to the driver’s or front passenger’s chest.

The SRS side airbag on the passenger seat is activated even with no passenger in the front seat.

Be sure to wear your seat belt properly.

Your vehicle is equipped with a crash sensing and diagnostic module, which will record the use of the seat belt restraint system by the driver and front passenger when the SRS side airbags are inflated.

CAUTION

SRS side airbags inflate with considerable force. To avoid potential death or serious injury when they inflate, the driver and front passenger must:

• Wear their seat belts properly.
• Remain properly seated with their back upright and against the seat at all times.
The indicator comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position. It goes off after about 6 seconds. This means the SRS airbags are operating properly.

This warning light system monitors the airbag sensor assembly, front airbag sensors, side airbag sensors, front seat belt pretensioner assemblies, inflators, warning light, interconnecting wiring and power sources. (For details, see “Service reminder indicators and warning buzzers” on page 43.)

The SRS front airbag system is designed to activate in response to a severe frontal impact within the shaded area between the arrows in the illustration.

The SRS front airbags will deploy if the severity of the impact is above the designed threshold level, comparable to an approximate 25 km/h (15 mph) collision when impacting straight into a fixed barrier that does not move or deform.

If the severity of the impact is below the above threshold level, the SRS front airbags may not deploy.

However, this threshold velocity will be considerably higher if the vehicle strikes an object, such as a parked vehicle or sign pole, which can move or deform on impact, or if it is involved in an underride collision (e.g. a collision in which the nose of the vehicle “underrides”, or goes under, the bed of a truck, etc.).

It is possible that in some collisions at the lower zone of airbag sensor detection and activation, the SRS airbags and seat belt pretensioners will not operate all together.
For the safety of all occupants, always wear your seat belts properly.

1. Collision from the rear
2. Vehicle rollover

The SRS front airbags are not designed to inflate if the vehicle is involved in a rear collision, if it rolls over, or if it is involved in a low-speed frontal collision.

The SRS side airbags are designed to inflate when the passenger compartment area suffers a severe impact from the side.

1. Collision from the side at an angle
2. Collision from the side to the vehicle body other than the passenger compartment

The SRS side airbag system may not activate if the vehicle is subjected to a collision from the side at certain angles, or a collision to the side of the vehicle body other than the passenger compartment as shown in the illustration.
The SRS side airbags are not designed to inflate if the vehicle is involved in a front or rear collision, if it rolls over, or if it is involved in a low-speed side collision.

The SRS front airbags may deploy if a serious impact occurs to the underside of your vehicle. Some examples are shown in the illustration.
1 Side airbag modules (airbag and inflator)
2 Airbag module for front passenger (airbag and inflator)
3 Side airbag sensors
4 Airbag sensor assembly
5 Airbag module for driver (airbag and inflator)
6 SRS warning light
7 Front airbag sensors

The SRS airbag system consists mainly of the above components, and their locations are shown in the illustration.

The airbag sensor assembly consists of a safing sensor and airbag sensor.

In a severe frontal impact, the sensors detect deceleration and the system triggers the front airbag inflators. In a severe side impact, the side airbag sensor triggers the side airbag inflator. At this time, a chemical reaction in the inflators quickly fills the airbags with non-toxic gas to help restrain the forward or lateral motion of the occupants.

When the SRS airbag operates, it produces a fairly loud noise and release some smoke and residue along with non-toxic gas. This does not indicate a fire. This gas is normally harmless; however, for those who have delicate skin, it may cause a minor skin irritation. Be sure to wash off any residue as soon as possible to prevent any potential skin irritation.

Deployment of the airbags happens in a fraction of a second, so the airbags must inflate with considerable force. While the system is designed to reduce serious injuries, it may also cause minor burns or abrasions and swelling.

Parts of the airbag module (steering wheel hub, dashboard, front seats) may be hot for several minutes, but the airbags themselves will not be hot. The airbags are designed to inflate only once.

A crash severe enough to inflate the driver and front passenger airbags may break the windshield as the vehicle buckles. In vehicles with a front passenger airbag, the windshield may also be damaged by absorbing some of the force of the inflating airbag.
CAUTION

- The SRS airbag system is designed only as a supplement to the primary protection of the driver side and front passenger side seat belt systems. The front seat occupants can be killed or seriously injured by the inflating airbags if they do not wear the available seat belts properly. During sudden braking just before a collision, an unrestrained driver or front passenger can move forward into direct contact with or close proximity to the airbag which may then deploy during the collision. To ensure maximum protection in an accident, the driver and all passengers in the vehicle must wear their seat belts properly. Wearing a seat belt properly during an accident reduces the chances of death or serious injury or being thrown out of the vehicle. For instructions and precautions concerning the seat belt system, see “Seat belts” on page 105.

- Improperly seated and/or restrained infants and children can be killed or seriously injured by the deploying front airbags. An infant or child who is too small to use a seat belt should be properly secured using a child restraint system. Lexus strongly recommends that all infants and children be placed in the rear seat of the vehicle and properly restrained. The rear seat is the safest for infants and children. For instructions concerning the installation of a child restraint system, see “Child restraint” on page 126.

- Never put a rear–facing child restraint system on the front passenger seat because the force of the rapid inflation of the front passenger airbag can cause death or serious injury to the child.
Move seat fully back

- A forward-facing child restraint system should be allowed to be installed on the front passenger seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of the deploying front passenger airbag could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- Do not allow the child to lean against the front door or around the front door even if the child is seated in a child restraint system. It is dangerous if the side airbags inflate, because the impact could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- For instructions concerning the installation of a child restraint system, see “Child restraint” on page 126.

Do not sit on the edge of the seat or lean over the dashboard when the vehicle is in use, since the front airbags inflate with considerable speed and force. Otherwise, you may be killed or seriously injured. Sit up straight and well back in the seat, and always use your seat belt properly.
- Do not lean against the front door when the vehicle is in use, since the side airbag inflates with considerable speed and force. Otherwise, you may be killed or be seriously injured. Special care should be taken especially when you have a small child in the vehicle.

- Sit up straight and well back in the seat, distributing your weight evenly in the seat. Do not apply excessive weight to the outer side of the front seats on vehicles with side airbags.

- Do not allow a child to stand up, or to kneel on the front passenger seat, since the front airbag inflates with considerable speed and force. Otherwise, the child may be killed or seriously injured.

- Do not hold a child on your lap or in your arms. Use a child restraint system in the rear seat. For instructions concerning the installation of a child restraint system, see “Child restraint” on page 126.
Do not put objects or your pets on or in front of the dashboard or steering wheel pad that houses the front airbag system. They might restrict inflation or cause death or serious injury as they are projected rearward by the force of the deploying airbags. Likewise, the driver and front passenger should not hold objects in their arms or on their knees.

Do not attach a cup holder or any other device or object on or around the door. When the side airbag inflates, the cup holder or any other device or object will be thrown with great force, or the side airbag may not activate correctly, resulting in death or serious injury. Likewise, the driver and front passenger should not hold objects in their arms or on their knees.

Do not use seat accessories which cover the parts where the side airbags inflate. Such accessories may prevent the side airbags from activating correctly, causing death or serious injury.

Do not modify or remove any wiring. Do not modify, remove, strike or open any components, such as the steering wheel pad, steering wheel, column cover, front passenger airbag cover, front seats or airbag sensor assembly. Doing so may cause sudden SRS front airbag inflation or disable the system, which could result in death or serious injury.
Do not modify or replace the seats or upholstery of front seats with side airbags. Such changes may disable the system or cause the side airbags to inflate accidentally, resulting in death or serious injury. Failure to follow these instructions can result in death or serious injury. Consult your Lexus dealer about any repairs and modifications.

NOTICE

Do not perform any of the following changes without consulting your Lexus dealer. Such changes can interfere with proper operation of the SRS airbag system in some cases.

- Installation of electronic devices such as a mobile two-way radio, cassette tape player or compact disc player
- Modification of the suspension system
- Modification of the front end structure and side structure of the passenger compartment
- Attachment of a grille guard (bull bar, kangaroo bar, etc.), snowplow, winches or any other equipment to the front end
- Repairs made on or near the front fenders, front end structure, console, steering column, steering wheel, dashboard near the front passenger airbag or front seats

The SRS airbag system has an indicator to inform the driver of operating problems. If either of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction of the airbags. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- When the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position, the light does not come on, stays on or flashes.
- The light comes on or starts flashing while driving.

If the light stays on, it indicates that the driver and front passenger airbags fail. If the light flashes, the side airbags fail.
In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible:

- Any of the SRS airbags have been inflated.
- The front of the vehicle and portion of the doors (shaded in the illustration) were involved in an accident that was not severe enough to cause the SRS airbags to inflate.

- The surface of the seats with the side airbags or the pad section of the steering wheel or front passenger airbag cover (shaded in the illustration) is scratched, cracked, or otherwise damaged.
CHILD RESTRAINT

Child restraint precautions

Lexus strongly urges the use of child restraint systems for children small enough to use them.

The laws of all 50 states in the U.S.A. and Canada now require the use of a child restraint system.

Your vehicle conforms to SAE J1819.

If a child is too large for a child restraint system, the child should sit in the rear seat and must be restrained using the vehicle’s seat belt. See “Seat belts” on page 105 for details.

CAUTION

- For effective protection in automobile accidents and sudden stops, a child must be properly restrained, using a seat belt or child restraint system depending on the age and size of the child. Holding a child in your arms is not a substitute for a child restraint system. In an accident, the child can be crushed against the windshield, or between you and the vehicle’s interior.
- Lexus strongly urges use of a proper child restraint system which conforms to the size of the child, installed on the rear seat. According to accident statistics, the child is safer when properly restrained in the rear seat than in the front seat.

- Never put a rear–facing child restraint system on the front seat. In the event of an accident, the force of the rapid inflation of the airbag can cause death or serious injury if a rear–facing child restraint system is put on the front seat.
- Unless it is unavoidable, do not put a forward–facing child restraint system on the front seat.
- A forward–facing child restraint system should be allowed to be installed on the front passenger seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of the deploying front passenger airbag could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- Do not allow the child to lean against the front door or around the front door even if the child is seated in the child restraint system. It is dangerous if the side airbags inflate, because the impact could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- Make sure you have complied with all installation instructions provided by the child restraint manufacturer and that the system is properly secured.
Child restraint system

A child restraint system for a small child or baby must itself be properly restrained on the seat with the lap portion of the lap/shoulder belt. You must carefully consult the manufacturer’s instructions which accompany the child restraint system.

To provide proper restraint, use a child restraint system following the manufacturer’s instructions about the appropriate age and size of the child for the child restraint system.

Install the child restraint system correctly following the instructions provided by its manufacturer. General directions are also provided under the following illustrations.

The child restraint system should be installed on the rear seat. According to accident statistics, the child is safer when properly restrained in the rear seat than in the front seat.

⚠️ CAUTION

- Never put a rear–facing child restraint system on the front seat. In the event of an accident, the force of the rapid inflation of the airbag can cause death or serious injury if a rear–facing child restraint system is put on the front seat.
- Unless it is unavoidable, do not put a forward–facing child restraint system on the front seat.
- A forward–facing child restraint system should be allowed to be installed on the front passenger seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of the deploying front passenger airbag could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- Do not allow the child to lean against the front door or around the front door even if the child is seated in a child restraint system. It is dangerous if the side airbags inflate, because the impact could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- After installing the child restraint system, make sure it is secured in place according to the manufacturer’s instructions. If it is not restrained securely, it may cause death or serious injury to the child in the event of a sudden stop or accident.

When not using the child restraint system, keep it secured with the seat belt or place it somewhere other than in the passenger compartment. This will prevent it from injuring passengers in the event of a sudden stop or accident.
Types of child restraint system

Child restraint systems are classified into the following 3 types depending on the child’s age and size.

(A) Infant seat
(B) Convertible seat
(C) Booster seat

Install the child restraint system following the instructions provided by its manufacturer.

Your vehicle has anchor brackets for securing the top strap of a child restraint system.

For instructions about how to use the anchor bracket, see “Using a top strap” on page 141.

The child restraint lower anchorages approved for your vehicle may also be used. See “Installation with the child restraint lower anchorages” on page 144 for instructions.

(A) Infant seat
(B) Convertible seat
(C) Booster seat
INSTALLATION WITH 3-POINT TYPE SEAT BELT

(A) Infant seat installation

An infant seat is used in rear-facing position only.

CAUTION

Never put a rear-facing child restraint system on the front passenger seat because the force of the rapid inflation of the front passenger airbag can cause death or serious injury to the child.
If the driver’s seat position does not allow sufficient space for safe installation, install the child restraint system on the rear right seat.

When installing a child restraint system in the rear center position, align both seat cushions to the same position and align both seatbacks at the same angle. Otherwise, the child restraint system cannot be securely restrained and this may cause death or serious injuries in a collision.
1. Run the lap and shoulder belt through or around the infant seat following the instructions provided by its manufacturer and inserting the tab into the buckle taking care not to twist the belt. Keep the lap portion of the belt tight.

**CAUTION**

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the lap and shoulder portions of the belt are not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, it cannot protect your child from injury. Contact your Lexus dealer immediately. Do not use the child restraint system until the seat belt is fixed.

2. Fully extend the shoulder belt to put it in the lock mode. When the belt is then retracted even slightly, it cannot be extended.

To hold the infant seat securely, make sure the belt is in the lock mode before letting the belt retract.
3. While pressing the infant seat firmly against the seat cushion and seatback, let the shoulder belt retract as far as it will go to hold the infant seat securely.

⚠️ CAUTION

Push and pull the child restraint system in different directions to be sure it is secure. Follow all the installation instructions provided by its manufacturer.
4. To remove the infant seat, press the buckle-release button and allow the belt to retract completely. The belt will move freely again and be ready to work for an adult or older child passenger.

(A) Convertible seat installation

A convertible seat is used in forward-facing or rear-facing position depending on the child’s age and size. When installing, follow the manufacturer’s instruction about the applicable child’s age and size as well as directions for installing the child restraint system.
Never put a rear-facing child restraint system on the front passenger seat because the force of the rapid inflation of the front passenger airbag can cause death or serious injury to the child.

A forward-facing child restraint system should be allowed to be installed on the front passenger seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of the deploying front passenger airbag could cause death or serious injury to the child.

Do not allow the child to lean against the front door or around the front door even if the child is seated in a child restraint system. It is dangerous if the side airbags inflate, because the impact could cause death or serious injury to the child.
If the driver’s seat position does not allow sufficient space for safe installation, install the child restraint system on the rear right seat.

When installing a child restraint system in the rear center position, align both seat cushions to the same position and align both seatbacks at the same angle. Otherwise, the child restraint system cannot be securely restrained and this may cause death or serious injuries in a collision.
1. Run the lap and shoulder belt through or around the convertible seat following the instructions provided by its manufacturer and inserting the tab into the buckle taking care not to twist the belt. Keep the lap portion of the belt tight.

**CAUTION**

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the lap and shoulder portions of the belt are not twisted.
- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent you from properly latching the tab and buckle.
- If the seat belt does not function normally, it cannot protect your child from injury. Contact your Lexus dealer immediately. Do not use the child restraint system until the seat belt is fixed.

2. Fully extend the shoulder belt to put it in the lock mode. When the belt is then retracted slightly, it cannot be extended. To hold the convertible seat securely, make sure the belt is in the lock mode before letting the belt retract.
3. While pressing the convertible seat firmly against the seat cushion and seatback, let the shoulder belt retract as far as it will go to hold the convertible seat securely.

⚠️ CAUTION
Push and pull the child restraint system in different directions to be sure it is secure. Follow all the installation instructions provided by its manufacturer.
4. To remove the convertible seat, press the buckle–release button and allow the belt to retract completely. The belt will move freely again and be ready to work for an adult or older child passenger.

(C) Booster seat installation

A booster seat is used in forward–facing position only.
CAUTION

- A forward-facing child restraint system should be allowed to be installed on the front passenger seat only when it is unavoidable. Always move the seat as far back as possible, because the force of the deploying front passenger airbag could cause death or serious injury to the child.
- Do not allow the child to lean against the front door or around the front door even if the child is seated in a child restraint system. It is dangerous if the side airbags inflate, because the impact could cause death or serious injury to the child.

- When installing a child restraint system in the rear center position, align both seat cushions to the same position and align both seatbacks at the same angle. Otherwise, the child restraint system cannot be securely restrained and this may cause death or serious injuries in a collision.
1. Sit the child on a booster seat. Run the lap and shoulder belt through or around the booster seat and child following the instructions provided by its manufacturer and insert the tab into the buckle.

Make sure the shoulder belt is correctly across the child's shoulder and that the lap belt is positioned as low as possible on child's hips. See “Seat belts” on page 105 for details.

**CAUTION**

- Always make sure the shoulder belt is positioned across the center of child’s shoulder. The belt should be kept away from child’s neck, but not falling off child’s shoulder. Failure to do so could reduce the amount of protection in an accident and cause serious injuries in a collision.

- Both high–positioned lap belts and loose–fitting belts could cause serious injuries due to sliding under the lap belt during a collision or other unintended result. Keep the lap belt positioned as low on a child’s hips as possible.

- For child’s safety, do not place the shoulder belt under child’s arm.

- After inserting the tab, make sure the tab and buckle are locked and that the lap and shoulder portions of the belt are not twisted.

- Do not insert coins, clips, etc. in the buckle as this may prevent your child from properly latching the tab and buckle.

- If the seat belt does not function normally, it cannot protect your child from injury. Contact your Lexus dealer immediately. Do not use the child restraint system until the seat belt is fixed.
2. To remove the child restraint system, press the buckle-release button and allow the belt to retract.

Using a top strap

Follow the procedure below for a child restraint system that requires the use of a top strap.
1. Remove the head restraint and open the anchor bracket cover.

Symbol mark

Anchor brackets

Use the anchor bracket on the rear of the seatback to attach the top strap.

Anchor brackets are installed for outside rear seating positions.

This symbol mark indicates the location of user ready anchor brackets.
2. Fix the child restraint system with the seat belt.
Latch the hook onto the anchor bracket and tighten the top strap.
For instructions to install the child restraint system, see "Child restraint system" on page 127.

⚠️ CAUTION
Make sure the top strap is securely latched, and check that the child restraint system is securely by pushing and pulling it in different directions. Follow all the installation instructions provided by its manufacturer.

3. Replace the head restraint.
Be sure to close the cover when the anchor bracket is not in use.
Installation with child restraint lower anchorages

The lower anchorages for the child restraint system interfaced with the FMVSS225 specification are installed in the rear seat.

The anchorages are installed in the clearance between the seat cushion and seatback of both outside rear seats.

Child restraint system interfaced with the FMVSS225 specification can be fixed with these anchorages. In this case, it is not necessary to fix the child restraint system with a seat belt on the vehicle.
Type A:
1. Widen the clearance between the seat cushion and seatback a little and confirm the position of the lower anchorages below the tag in the seatback.
2. Latch the hooks of lower straps onto the anchorages and tighten the lower straps.

Type B:
1. Widen the clearance between the seat cushion and seatback a little and confirm the position of the lower anchorages below the tag in the seatback.
2. Latch the buckles onto the anchorages.

If your child restraint system has a top strap, it should be anchored. (For the installation of the top strap, see “Using a top strap” on page 141.)

For the installation details, refer to the instruction manual equipped with each product.
**CAUTION**

- When using the lower anchorages for the child restraint system, be sure that there are no irregular objects around the anchorages or that the seat belt is not caught.
- Push and pull the child restraint system in different directions to be sure it is secure. Follow all the installation instructions provided by its manufacturer.
- When using the lower anchorages for a child restraint system, ensure that the seat is moved to the rear–most position, with the seatback close to the child restraint system.
- After securing the child restraint system, never slide or recline the seat.
- Do not install a child restraint system on the rear seat if it interferes with the lock mechanism of the front seats. This can cause death or serious injury to the child and front passenger in case of sudden braking or a collision.

---

**DRIVING POSITION MEMORY SYSTEM**

The microcomputer can memorize the position of the driver’s seat. Two different driving position profiles can be entered into the computer’s memory.

Recording a driving position in the computer’s memory can only be done when the ignition key is in the “ON” position and the selector lever is in the “P” position.

**Setting the driving position**

1. Adjust the driver’s seat to the desired position.
2. While pushing the “SET” button, push button “1” or “2” until the signal beeps.

The beep sound means that the positions are recorded in the computer’s memory.

By repeating these two steps and pressing the remaining button, the driving position for another driver can be recorded.
To set a new memorized position, select the desired position and perform step 2. The previous memory will be erased and the new position will be set.

To make only slight changes to an already memorized position, the easiest way is to first activate the memorized position, then make the desired changes and perform step 2 above.

Recalling the memorized position

When you push button “1” or “2”, the driving position will be automatically adjusted to the position recorded for that button.

Conditions for memorized position activation

- Ignition key “ON” and selector lever in “P” position. However, if the brake pedal is being depressed, the seat position will not change.
- Key not in ignition switch and within 30 seconds of opening driver’s door.

If any driving position memory switch is pushed while one of the memorized driving position profiles is being activated, the operation will stop.

To activate the system, push the desired button (“1” or “2”) again.

The driving position memory control system cannot be operated while the vehicle is moving.

If the vehicle’s battery is disconnected, the computer’s memory will be erased and the memorized positions will have to be set again.

⚠️ CAUTION

- Do not start the vehicle while the adjustments are being made.
- Take care not to select the wrong button, or the seat could strike the rear passenger or hit your body against the steering wheel. If this happens, you can stop the movement by pressing another driving position memory switch, or depressing the brake pedal.
INSTRUMENTS AND CONTROLS

Theft deterrent

Theft deterrent system ........................................... 150
Theft prevention labels ............................................. 152
To deter theft of the vehicle, this system is designed to sound an alarm if any of the doors or hood is forcibly unlocked or the battery terminal is disconnected and then reconnected while the vehicle is locked.

The alarm blows the horn intermittently and flashes the headlights, tail lights and other exterior lights.

**Security indicator light**

**Setting the system**

1. Turn the ignition key to the “LOCK” position and remove it.

The engine immobiliser system causes the indicator light to flash.

2. Close and lock all the doors and hood using an ignition key or wireless remote control.

If you lock them with wireless remote control, the turn signals flash once.*

   NOTE: *The turn signals can be set not to flash. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

The flashing indicator light will remain on when all the doors and hood are closed and locked.

3. After 30 seconds, the indicator starts flashing and the system is set.
Cancelling the system
When you unlock any door using an ignition key or wireless remote control, the system is cancelled.
If you unlock any door with wireless remote control, the turn signals flash twice.*

NOTE: *The turn signals can be set not to flash. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.

Activating the system
The alarm sounds for 60 seconds if any of the following are operated:
- Unlocking any door without using an ignition key or wireless remote control.
- Opening the hood forcibly.
- Reconnecting the battery.
If any door is unlocked and the ignition key is not in the ignition switch during the alarm sounding, the door is automatically locked.

To stop the alarm: Use either of the following methods.
- Unlock the door using an ignition key or wireless remote control.
- Turn the ignition switch on.

Testing the system
1. Open all the windows.
2. Set the system as described above.
The front doors should be locked with the ignition key or wireless remote control. Be sure to wait until the indicator light starts flashing.
3. Unlock one of the doors from the inside.
The system should activate the alarm.
4. Unlock any of the doors with a key or the wireless remote control to cancel the system.
5. Repeat this operation for the other doors and hood.
When testing the hood, also check that the system is activated when the battery terminal is disconnected and then reconnected.
If the system does not work properly, have it checked by your Lexus dealer.

NOTICE
Disconnecting the battery may result in the erasure of information you have set in the computer memory. After reconnecting the battery, check that the memorized data has been retained. If it has been erased, input it into the computer once more.
Your new vehicle carries theft prevention labels which are approximately 56 mm (2.20 in.) by 16 mm (0.63 in.).

The purpose of these labels is to reduce the incidence of vehicle thefts by facilitating the tracing and recovery of parts from stolen vehicles. The label is designed so that once it is applied to a surface, any attempt to remove it will result in destroying the integrity of the label. Transferring these labels intact from one part to another will be impossible.

NOTICE

You should not attempt to remove the theft prevention labels as it may violate certain state or federal laws.
Air conditioning

Automatic air conditioning controls .......................... 154

For vehicles equipped with Navigation System, please refer to the separate “Navigation System Owner’s Manual”.
You can adjust the brightness of the display. See page 170 for details.

The automatic air conditioning automatically maintains the set temperature.

This air conditioning features automatic fan speed and air flow control which automatically selects the most suitable fan speed and air flow to control the temperature. The ignition key must be in the “ON” position.

NOTICE
To prevent the battery from being discharged, do not leave the air conditioning on longer than necessary when the engine is not running.
1 Temperature display
   (in degrees Fahrenheit or Centigrade)
2 Fan speed display
3 Air flow display
4 Automatic control button
5 Temperature selector knob
6 OFF button
7 Front windshield button
8 Air intake control button
9 Air conditioning on–off button
10 Fan speed control knob
11 Air flow control button
Air flow selection
(a) Climate control

SETTING OPERATION – automatic control

1. Push the “AUTO” button.

An indicator light will illuminate to show that the automatic operation mode has been selected.

Air flow quantity, switching of the diffusers, on–off of the air conditioning and switching of the air intake between RECIRCULATED AIR and OUTSIDE AIR are automatically adjusted. The operation status is shown by each indicator.

When one of the manual control buttons is depressed while operating in automatic mode, the mode relevant to the depressed button is set. Other conditions continue to be adjusted automatically.

Push the “OFF” button to turn the air conditioning system off.

2. Turn the temperature selector knob until the desired temperature is displayed.

The temperature selector knob is used to set the desired passenger compartment temperature. The temperature of air delivered to the passenger compartment will be controlled automatically according to the setting. The figures on the panel indicate degrees Fahrenheit or Centigrade.

When you adjust the temperature selector knob to maximum cooling, the “MAX. COLD” will appear on the display and the air intake mode will be automatically changed to RECIRCULATE AIR mode.
SETTING OPERATION – manual control

When one of the manual control buttons is depressed while operating in automatic mode, the mode relevant to the depressed button is set. Other conditions continue to be adjusted automatically.

If manual air flow selection is desired –

The outlets from which air is delivered can be selected manually by pushing the “MODE” button. The function of each mode is as follows:

1. **Panel** – Air flows mainly from the instrument panel vents.
2. **Bi–level** – Air flows from both the floor vents and the instrument panel vents.
3. **Floor** – Air flows mainly from the floor vents. Unheated air is also delivered through the side vents during heating.
4. **Floor/Windshield** – Air flows mainly from the floor vents and windshield vents. Unheated air is also delivered through the side vents during heating.

If quick heating or cooling is desired –

Turn the temperature selector knob until “MAX. HOT” or “MAX. COLD” appears on the display.

When the “MAX. COLD” is selected, the air intake is automatically set to RECIRCULATED AIR mode.

If manual fan speed control is desired –

The fan speed can be set to your desired speed by turning the fan speed control button. The higher the fan speed is, the more air is delivered. Pushing the “OFF” button turns off the fan.

To remove exterior windshield frost, use the high speed setting.
If manual switching of air intake is desired –

The air intake control button is used to switch the air intake between the OUTSIDE AIR mode and RECIRCULATED AIR mode. The indicator on the switch shows which mode is selected.

- **With the indicator on** – For RECIRCULATED AIR mode
- **With the indicator off** – For OUTSIDE AIR mode

For normal use, it is best to keep the setting to OUTSIDE AIR mode. If RECIRCULATED AIR mode is used during heating, the windows will fog up more easily.

If the engine coolant temperature becomes extremely high, the RECIRCULATED AIR mode is automatically selected. This is not a malfunction. When the engine coolant temperature is lowered, the previous mode resumes.

To prevent fogging up of the windshield, the air intake mode may change automatically to OUTSIDE AIR mode depending on the condition of the air conditioning system.

If manual on–off of the air conditioning is desired –

Push the “A/C” button to turn the air conditioning on and push it again to turn the air conditioning off.

The air conditioning does not work if the outside temperature is lowered down to around 0°C (32°F).

If the system is used for ventilation, heating in dry weather or removing frost or exterior fog on the windshield, turn the air conditioning off once it is no longer required. This will improve fuel economy. The air conditioning can be used for year–round automatic temperature control including cooling and dehumidifying operation.

If the air conditioning compressor does not operate, the indicator of the “A/C” button will blink. If the indicator of the “A/C” button blinks even when the “A/C” button is pushed again, have the compressor checked by your nearest Lexus dealer.
(b) Windshield defogging and defrosting

To remove interior fog on the windshield –
Push the windshield air flow button.

To remove frost or exterior fog on the windshield –
1. Turn the temperature selector knob at the maximum temperature.
2. Push the windshield air flow button.
3. Turn the fan speed control knob to obtain a maximum air flow.
4. Leave the air conditioning on–off button off.

When the windshield air flow button is pushed, air flows mainly from the windshield vents and the OUTSIDE AIR mode is automatically set. This setting clears the front view more quickly.

If you want to return the setting to RECIRCULATED AIR mode, push the air intake control button once again.

Pushing the windshield air flow button turns on the defroster–linked air conditioning. This is to clean up the front view more quickly.

Pushing the windshield air flow button once again returns the air flow mode to the last one used.

**CAUTION**
Do not use the windshield air flow button during cooled air operation in extremely humid weather. The difference between the temperature of the outside air and that of the windshield could cause the outer surface of the windshield to fog up blocking your vision.
(c) Air filter

The air filter may clog after long use which will reduce the air flow. However, you can inspect the filter easily.

When you inspect and replace the air filter, be sure to turn off the fan.

1. Open the glove box and remove the two covers.

2. Take out the filter case.

3. Remove the filter from the filter case.

4. Inspect the filter on the surface.
If it is just moderately dusty, it may be cleaned by blowing compressed air from the lower surface. Do not wash or oil the filter.

If it is dirty, it should be replaced. To maintain the air conditioning efficiency, replace the air filter according to the maintenance schedule. (For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.)

(d) Operating tips

- Make sure the air inlet grilles in front of the windshield are not blocked by leaves or other obstructions.
- If air flow control is not satisfactory, check the dashboard vents. (See “Side vents” and “Rear vents”.)
- To help cool down the interior after parking in the hot sun, drive for the first few minutes with the windows open. After the excess heat has blown away, close the windows.
- When driving on dusty roads, close all windows. If dust thrown up by the vehicle is still drawn into the vehicle after closing the windows, it is recommended that the air intake control button be left to the OUTSIDE AIR mode and the fan speed control button be pressed to anywhere except the “OFF” button.
- If following another vehicle on a dusty road, or driving in windy and dusty conditions, it is recommended that the air intake control button be temporarily pressed in to the RECIRCULATED AIR mode, which will close off the outside passage and prevent outside air and dust from entering the vehicle interior.

**INFORMATION**

The air filter should be installed properly in position. The use of air conditioning with the air filter removed may cause deteriorated dustproof performance and then affect air conditioning performance.
Side vents

The side vents may be opened or closed as shown.

Rear vents

The rear vents may be opened or closed as shown.
For vehicles equipped with Navigation System, please refer to the separate "Navigation System Owner’s Manual".
The “CD” button works only when your Lexus is equipped with a compact disc changer.
1 Function buttons
1 – 6: Station selector buttons
(See page 173 for details.)
SCAN: Scan tuning
(See page 174 for details.)
P·SCAN: Preset scan tuning
(See page 174 for details.)

2 Display of functions in TAPE mode
◄■►: Side change
(See page 176 for details.)
[ ]: DOLBY NR
(See page 175 for details.)
[ ]: Rewinding or Fast forwarding
[ ]: (See page 176 for details.)
RPT: Automatic repeat
(See page 176 for details.)
SKIP: Automatic skip of blank portions of tape
(See page 176 for details.)

3 Display of functions in compact disc mode
▼ ▲: Disc selection
(See page 180 for details.)
[ ]: Reversing or Fast forwarding
[ ]: (See page 182 for details.)
RPT: Automatic repeat
(See page 182 for details.)

RAND: Random access
(See page 183 for details.)
SCAN: Scan selection
(See page 181 for details.)
D·SCAN: Disc scan selection
(See page 181 for details.)

4 Turning the system on and adjusting the volume
(See page 168 for details.)

5 Stopping and ejecting a cassette tape
(See page 175 for details.)

6 Radio mode:
Frequency tuning
(See page 172 or 174 for details.)
Tape mode:
Direct access to a desired program
(See page 177 for details.)

7 Mode selectors
(See page 169 for details.)

8 Cassette tape slot
(See page 175 for details.)

9 Brightness button:
Adjusting brightness of display
(See page 170 for details.)

10 Mute button
(See page 168 for details.)

11 Sound control knob
(See page 170 for details.)
Using your audio system: some basics

This section describes some of the basic features of the Lexus audio system. Some information may not pertain to your system.

Your audio system works when the ignition key is in the “ACC” or “ON” position.

**NOTICE**

*To prevent the battery from being discharged, do not leave the car audio on longer than necessary when the engine is not running.*

(a) Turning the system on and off

Push this knob to turn the audio system on and off. Turn this knob to adjust the volume.

The system turns on in the last mode used.

Push the “MUTE” button to decrease the volume momentarily.

To return to its original volume, push the same button again.

When the audio system is turned on, the mute is always off regardless of the previous mode.
Push the “AM”, “FM1/2”, “TAPE” or “CD” button to turn on that mode. The selected mode turns on directly.

Push these buttons if you want to switch from one mode to another.

If the tape or disc is not set, the cassette player or compact disc player does not turn on.

You can turn off the cassette player by ejecting the cassette tape. If the audio system was previously off, then the entire audio system will be turned off when you eject the cassette tape. If another function was previously playing, it will come on again.

The applicable functions are shown in the lowest part of the display. Push the switch just below to turn on each function.
(b) Brightness buttons

The buttons adjust the brightness of the display. Each time you push the button on the "\(^{\uparrow}\)" side, the display becomes bright. Each time you push the button on the "\(^{\downarrow}\)" side, the display becomes dark.

(c) Tone and balance

How good an audio program sounds to you is largely determined by the mix of the treble, mid–range, and bass levels. In fact, different kinds of music and vocal programs usually sound better with different mixes of treble, mid–range, and bass.

A good balance of the left and right stereo channels and of the front and rear sound levels is also important.

Keep in mind that if you are listening to a stereo recording or broadcast, changing the right/left balance will increase the volume of one group of sounds while decreasing the volume of another.

Each time you push the sound control knob, the display changes as in the following. To adjust the tone and balance, turn the knob.

- **BAS**: Adjusts low–pitched tones.
- **Mid**: Adjusts mid–pitched tones.
- **TRE**: Adjusts high–pitched tones.
- **FAd**: Adjusts the sound balance between the front and rear speakers.
- **BAL**: Adjusts the sound balance between the right and left speakers.
(d) Your radio antenna
The antenna automatically extends when the radio and ignition are turned on and retracts when either is turned off.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before extending the antenna, confirm that no one is close enough to get injured.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To prevent damage to the antenna, make sure it is retracted before driving your vehicle through an automatic car wash.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When cleaning the inside of the left quarter window, be careful not to scratch or damage the wire antenna.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Putting a window tint (especially, conductive or metallic type) on the left quarter window may affect the reception of radio or mobile telephone. For the installation of the window tint, consult with your Lexus dealer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(e) Your cassette player
When you insert a cassette, the exposed tape should face to the right.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not oil any part of the cassette player, and do not insert anything except a cassette tape into the slot.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(f) Your compact disc changer

If your Lexus is equipped with a compact disc changer, it can play selected discs or continuously play all the discs set in the magazine.

**NOTICE**

Never try to disassemble or oil any part of the compact disc player. Do not insert anything other than compact discs into the magazine.

The player is intended for use with 12 cm (4.7 in.) discs only.

Radio operation

(a) Listening to the radio

Push these buttons to choose either an AM or FM station. “AM”, “FM1” or “FM2” appears on the display.
2003 RX300 from Aug. 02' Prod. (OM48442U)

(b) Presetting a station

1. Tune in the desired station.
2. Push one of the station selector buttons (1–6) and hold it until a beep is heard. This sets the station to the button and the button number (1–6) appears on the display.

Each button can store one AM station and two FM stations. To change the preset station to a different one, follow the same procedure.

The preset station memory is cancelled when the power source is interrupted by battery disconnection or a blown fuse.
(c) Selecting a station

Tune in the desired station using one of the following methods.

**Preset tuning:** Push the button (1–6) for the station you want briefly. The button number (1–6) and station frequency appear on the display.

**Manual tuning:** Push the “TUNE SEEK” button briefly. Each time you push the button, the radio will step up or down to another frequency.

**Seek tuning:** Push the “TUNE SEEK” button and hold it until you hear a beep. The radio will begin seeking up or down for a station of the nearest frequency and will stop on reception. Each time you push the button, the stations will be searched out one after another.

---

**To scan all the frequencies:** Push the “SCAN” button. “SCAN” appears on the display. The radio will find the next station up the band, stay there for a few seconds, and then scan again. To select a station, push the “SCAN” button a second time.

**To scan the preset stations:** Push the “P-SCAN” button. “P-SCAN” appears on the display. The radio will tune in the next preset station up the band, stay there for a few seconds, and then move to the next preset station. To select a station, push the “P-SCAN” button a second time.
Cassette tape player operation
(a) Playing a cassette tape

When you insert a cassette tape, the exposed tape should be to the right.

The player will automatically start when you insert a cassette tape. At this time, “TAPE” appears on the display.

If a metal or chrome equivalent cassette tape is put in the cassette player, the player will automatically adapt to it and “METAL” appears on the display.

To stop or eject the cassette tape, push the eject button.

Auto-reverse feature: After the cassette player reaches the end of a tape, it automatically reverses and begins to play the other side, regardless of whether the cassette was playing or fast forwarding.

If a cassette is already in the slot, push the “TAPE” button.

Dolby® Noise Reduction* feature: If you are listening to a tape that was recorded with Dolby B or C Noise Reduction, push the button by the double-D symbol until the appropriate symbol appears on the display.

The Dolby B NR mode reduces tape noise by about 10 dB. The Dolby C NR mode reduces tape noise by another 10 dB or about 20 dB total. For best sound reproduction, select the same NR mode that was used to record the tape.

To play a tape recorded without Dolby NR, push the button until the symbol disappears from the display.

* Dolby noise reduction manufactured under license from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation. “DOLBY” and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.
(b) Manual program selection

“Program” button: Push the “ ≫ ” button to select the other side of a cassette tape. The display indicates which side is currently selected (“.range” indicates top side, “.range” indicates bottom side).

“Rewind” button: Push the “ ◢ ◣ ” button to rewind a tape. “REW” appears on the display.

To stop rewinding, push the same button or “TAPE” button.

“Fast forward” button: Push the “ ◢ ◣ ” button to fast forward a cassette tape. “FF” appears on the display.

To stop fast forwarding, push the same button or “TAPE” button.

(c) Automatic program selection

“RPT” button: The repeat feature automatically replays the current program.

Push the “RPT” button while the program is playing. When the program ends, it will automatically be rewound and replayed. Push the button again to turn off the repeat feature.

There must be at least 4 seconds of blank space between programs for the repeat feature to work correctly.

“SKIP” button: The skip feature allows you to fast forward past long stretches of blank tape. This is especially useful at the end of cassettes.

Push the “SKIP” button. The player will automatically skip any blank portions of 15 seconds or more and play the next program. To cancel it, push the button once again.
“Automatic program selection” button: The automatic program selection feature allows you to program your cassette player to skip forward or backward to locate the song you want to hear. You can skip up to nine programs at a time.

Push this button on the right side to skip forward. “FF” and the number will appear on the display. Push the button until the number you want to skip appears on the display. After that, the player will automatically skip forward.

When the end of the tape is reached, the player automatically reverses sides and resumes normal play.

Push this button on the left side to skip backward. Push the button until “REW” and the number you want to skip appear on the display.

- If you set “REW 1”, the player will rewind to the beginning of the current program.

- When counting the number of programs you want to rewind, remember to count the current program as well. For example, if you want to rewind to a song that is two before the song you are listening to, push this button until “REW 3” appears on the display.

When the beginning of the tape is reached, the player automatically resumes normal play.

There must be at least 3 seconds of blank space between programs for this feature to work correctly.

“RPT”, “SKIP” and “Automatic program selection” features: These features may not work well with some spoken word, live or classical recordings.
Compact disc player operation

The compact disc player is an optional accessory that your vehicle is pre–wired to accept. Although your audio system has a “CD” button, your vehicle may or may not be equipped with a compact disc player. Please contact your dealer for additional details if you would like to have the optional compact disc player installed.

(a) Inserting compact discs

1. Pull the lever and open the glove box door.

2. Push this button to eject the magazine.

3. Pull out the tray while pushing the lock release button.
4. Put a disc on the tray with its label face down and push the tray back into the magazine.

5. Insert the magazine into the player as indicated by the arrow head on the magazine and close the glove box door.

When the magazine is set completely, the system will be in a “Load” cycle for approximately 20 seconds while the system searches for discs in the magazine. Upon completion of this cycle, the compact disc unit will be ready to play. If the “CD” button is pushed during the “Load” cycle, “LOAD” appears on the display until the system has completed the load cycle, after which the system will begin normal play.

**CAUTION**

To reduce the chance of injury in case of an accident or a sudden stop, always keep the glove box door closed while driving.
(b) Playing a compact disc

Push the “CD” button if the magazine is already loaded in the player.

“CD” appears on the display.

The discs set in the magazine are played continuously, starting with disc number 1. The disc number of the disc currently being played, the track number and the time from the beginning of the program appear on the display.

When play of one disc ends, the first track of the following disc starts. When play of the final disc ends, play of the first disc starts again.

The player will skip any empty disc trays.

(c) Selecting a desired disc

Push the “DISC” button to select the disc number.

Push the button several times until the desired disc number appears on the display. When you release the button, the player will start playing the selected disc from the first track.
(d) Searching for a desired track

Push the “SCAN” button.

“SCAN” will appear on the display. The compact disc player will play the next track for 10 seconds, then scan again. To select a track, push the “SCAN” button a second time. If the player reaches the end of the disc, it will continue scanning at track 1.

After all the tracks are scanned in one pass, normal play resumes.

(e) Searching for a desired disc

Push the “D·SCAN” button.

With “D·SCAN” on the display, the program at the beginning of each disc will be played for 10 seconds. To continue listening to the program of your choice, push the “D·SCAN” button a second time.

After all the discs in the magazine are scanned in one pass, the scan function is cancelled.
(f) Selecting a desired track

“TRACK” button: Use for direct access to a desired track. Push either side of the “TRACK” button several times until the desired track number appears on the display. As you release the button, the player will start playing the selected track from the beginning.

“Fast forward” button:
Push the "►►" button and hold it to fast forward the disc. When you release the button, the compact disc player will resume playing from that position.

“Reverse” button:
Push the "◄◄" button and hold it to reverse the disc. When you release the button, the compact disc player will resume playing.

(g) Repeating a track or a disc

“RPT” button: There are 2 repeat features — you can either replay a disc track or a whole compact disc.

Repeating a track: Push the “RPT” button briefly while the track is playing. “RPT” will appear on the display. When the track ends, it will automatically be replayed. This process will be continued until you push the button again to turn off the repeat feature.

Repeating a disc: Push the “RPT” button until you hear a beep. “D·RPT” will appear on the display. The player will repeat all the tracks on the disc you are listening to. When the disc ends, the player will automatically go back to the top track of the disc and replay. This process will be continued until you push the button again to turn off the repeat feature.
(h) Random playing

**“RAND” button:** There are 2 random features — you can either listen to the tracks on all the compact discs in the magazine in random order, or only listen to the tracks on a specific compact disc in random order.

**Random playing for the tracks on a disc:** Push the “RAND” button briefly. “RAND” will appear on the display and play the disc you are listening to in random order.

**Random playing for all the tracks in the magazine:** Push the “RAND” button until you hear a beep. “D·RAND” will appear on the display and the player will perform all the tracks on all the discs in the magazine in random order. To turn off the random feature, push “RAND” a second time.

When a track is skipped or the system is inoperative, push the button to reset.

(i) If the player malfunctions

If “WAIT” appears on the display, audio signals of the disc cannot be read or the system has trouble. Push the “CD” button once again.

If the player does not operate, check that the disc surface is not soiled or damaged. If the disc is O.K., the following causes are possible.

- Condensation may have occurred on the internal mechanism of the automatic changer. Open the cover to let the air circulate.
- The temperature of the player’s internal mechanism is raised because of high external temperature. Remove the magazine from the player to cool it.

If the player still does not operate, take it to your Lexus dealer.

**Car audio system operating hints**

**NOTICE**

To ensure correct audio system operations:

- **Be careful not to spill beverages over the audio system.**
- **Do not put anything other than a cassette tape or compact disc magazine into the tape slot or changer.**
- **The use of a cellular phone inside or near the vehicle may cause a noise from the speakers of the audio system which you are listening to. However, this does not indicate a malfunction.**
Radio reception

Usually, the problem with radio reception does not mean there is a problem with your radio – it is just the normal result of conditions outside the vehicle.

For example, nearby buildings and terrain can interfere with FM reception. Power lines or telephone wires can interfere with AM signals. And of course, radio signals have a limited range. The farther you are from a station, the weaker its signal will be. In addition, reception conditions change constantly as your vehicle moves.

Here are some common reception problems that probably do not indicate a problem with your radio:

FM

Fading and drifting stations – Generally, the effective range of FM is about 40 km (25 miles). Once outside this range, you may notice fading and drifting, which increase with the distance from the radio transmitter. They are often accompanied by distortion.

Multi–path – FM signals are reflective, making it possible for two signals to reach your antenna at the same time. If this happens, the signals will cancel each other out, causing a momentary flutter or loss of reception.

Static and fluttering – These occur when signals are blocked by buildings, trees, or other large objects. Increasing the bass level may reduce static and fluttering.

Station swapping – If the FM signal you are listening to is interrupted or weakened, and there is another strong station nearby on the FM band, your radio may tune in the second station until the original signal can be picked up again.

AM

Fading – AM broadcasts are reflected by the upper atmosphere – especially at night. These reflected signals can interfere with those received directly from the radio station, causing the radio station to sound alternately strong and weak.

Station interference – When a reflected signal and a signal received directly from a radio station are very nearly the same frequency, they can interfere with each other, making it difficult to hear the broadcast.

Static – AM is easily affected by external sources of electrical noise, such as high tension power lines, lightning, or electrical motors. This results in static.

Caring for your cassette player and tapes

For the best performance for your cassette player and tapes:

Clean the tape head and other parts regularly.

- A dirty tape head or tape path can decrease sound quality and tangle your cassette tapes. The easiest way to clean them is by using a cleaning tape. (A wet type is recommended.)

Use high–quality cassettes:

- Low–quality cassette tapes can cause many problems, including poor sound, inconsistent playing speed, and constant auto–reversing. They can also get stuck or tangled in the cassette player.
- Do not use a cassette if it has been damaged or tangled or if its label is peeling off.
Do not leave a cassette in the player if you are not listening to it, especially if it is hot outside.

Store cassettes in their cases and out of direct sunlight.

Avoid using cassettes with a total playing time longer than 100 minutes (50 minutes per side). The tape used in these cassettes is thin and could get stuck or tangled in the cassette player.

Caring for your compact disc player and discs

Your compact disc player is intended for use with 12 cm (4.7 in.) discs only.

Extremely high temperature can keep your compact disc player from working. On hot days, use air conditioning to cool the vehicle interior before you listen to a disc.

Bumpy roads or other vibrations may make your compact disc player skip.

If moisture gets into your compact disc player, you may not hear any sound even though your compact disc player appears to be working. Remove the magazine from the player and wait until it dries.

CAUTION

Compact disc players use an invisible laser beam which could cause hazardous radiation exposure if directed outside the unit. Be sure to operate the player correctly.

Use only compact discs marked as shown above. The following products may not be playable on your compact disc player.

- Copy-protected CD
- CD-R (CD-Recordable)
- CD-RW (CD-Read-writable)
- CD-ROM
NOTICE

To prevent damage to the player or changer, do not use special shaped, low quality or labeled discs such as those shown in the illustrations.
**Correct**

- Handle compact discs carefully, especially when you set them into the magazine. Hold them on the edge and do not bend them. Avoid getting fingerprints on them, particularly on the shiny side.

- Dirt, scrapes, warping, pin holes, or other disc damage could cause the player to skip or to repeat a section of a track. (To see a pin hole, hold the disc up to the light.)

**Wrong**

To clean a compact disc: Wipe it with a soft, lint-free cloth that has been dampened with water. Wipe in a straight line from the center to the edge of the disc (not in a circle). Do not use a conventional record cleaner or anti-static device.
SECTION 3 - 1

STARTING AND DRIVING

Starting and driving

Three-way catalytic converter .................................................. 190
Engine exhaust caution ............................................................. 191
Before starting the engine ......................................................... 192
Ignition switch with steering lock ............................................. 193
Parking brake ................................................................. 194
How to start the engine ...................................................... 195
Automatic transmission ......................................................... 196
Cruise control ................................................................. 203
Traction control system ......................................................... 206
Vehicle skid control system ..................................................... 211
Brake system ................................................................. 212
Brake pad wear limit indicators ............................................. 216
Limited-slip differentials ......................................................... 216
Types of tires ........................................................................ 217
Three-way catalytic converters are emission control devices installed in the exhaust system. It looks somewhat like a muffler, but its purpose is to reduce pollutants in the exhaust gas.

**CAUTION**

- Keep people and combustible materials away from the exhaust pipe while the engine is running. The exhaust gas is very hot.
- Do not drive, idle or park your vehicle over anything that might burn easily such as grass, leaves, paper or rags.

**NOTICE**

A large amount of unburned gases flowing into the three–way catalytic converter may cause it to overheat and create a fire hazard. To prevent this and other damage, observe the following precautions:

- Use only unleaded gasoline.
- Do not drive with an extremely low fuel level; running out of fuel could cause the engine to misfire, creating an excessive load on the three–way catalytic converter.
- Do not allow the engine to run at idle speed for more than 20 minutes.
- Avoid racing the engine.
- Do not push–start or pull–start your vehicle.
- Do not turn off the ignition while the vehicle is moving.
- Keep your engine in good running order. Malfunctions in the engine electrical system, electronic ignition system or fuel system could cause an extremely high three–way catalytic converter temperature.
- If the engine becomes difficult to start or stalls frequently, take your vehicle in for a check–up as soon as possible. Remember, your Lexus dealer knows your vehicle and its three–way catalytic converter system best.
To ensure that the three-way catalytic converter and the entire emission control system operate properly, your vehicle must receive the periodic inspections required by the Lexus Maintenance Schedule. For scheduled maintenance information, refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.

ENGINE EXHAUST CAUTION

- Avoid inhaling the engine exhaust. It contains carbon monoxide, which is a colorless and odorless gas. It can cause unconsciousness or even death.
- Make sure the exhaust system has no holes or loose connections. The system should be checked from time to time. If you hit something, or notice a change in the sound of the exhaust, have the system checked immediately.
- Do not run the engine in a garage or enclosed area except for the time needed to drive the vehicle in or out. The exhaust gases cannot escape, making this a particularly dangerous situation.
- Do not remain for a long time in a parked vehicle with the engine running. If it is unavoidable, however, do so only in an unconfined area and adjust the heating or cooling system to force outside air into the vehicle.
- Keep the back door closed while driving. An open or unsealed back door may cause exhaust gases to be drawn into the vehicle.
To allow proper operation of your vehicle’s ventilation system, keep the inlet grilles in front of the windshield clear of snow, leaves, or other obstructions.

If you smell exhaust fumes in the vehicle, drive with the windows open and the back door closed. Have the cause immediately located and corrected.

BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE

1. Check the area around the vehicle before entering it.
2. Adjust seat position, seatback angle, head restraint height and steering wheel angle.
3. Adjust the inside and outside rear view mirrors.
4. Lock all doors.
5. Fasten seat belts.

Remember to check that the service reminder indicators function when turning the key to “ON”, and check the fuel gauge to see that you have sufficient fuel.
IGNITION SWITCH WITH STEERING LOCK

“START” – Starter motor on. The key will return to the “ON” position when released.

For starting tips, see page 195.

“ON” – Engine on and all accessories on.

This is the normal driving position.

NOTICE

Do not leave the key in the “ON” position if the engine is not running. The battery will discharge and the electronic ignition system could be damaged.

“ACC” – Accessories such as the radio operate, but the engine is off.

If you leave the key in the “ACC” or “LOCK” position and open the driver’s door, a buzzer will remind you to remove the key.*

NOTE: *The volume or interval of beep sound can be changed. Ask your Lexus dealer for details.
“LOCK” – Engine is off and the steering wheel is locked. The ignition key can be removed only at this position.

You must push in the key to turn it from “ACC” to the “LOCK” position. The selector lever must be put in the “P” position before turning the key to the “LOCK” position.

Once you remove the key, the engine immobiliser system is automatically set. See “Engine immobiliser system” on page 12.

When starting the engine, the key may seem stuck at the “LOCK” position. To free it, first be sure the key is pushed all the way in, and then rock the steering wheel slightly while turning the key gently.

If, in an emergency, you must turn the engine off while the vehicle is moving, turn the key only to “ACC”.

PARKING BRAKE

To set: Hold the regular brake pedal down with your right foot. Push down the parking brake pedal with your left foot.

To release: Hold the regular brake pedal down with your right foot and push the parking brake pedal with your left foot. When you lift your left foot, the parking brake pedal will follow it to the released position.

Before leaving your vehicle, firmly apply the parking brake.

CAUTION

Before driving, make sure the parking brake is fully released and that the parking brake reminder light is off.
HOW TO START THE ENGINE

Before cranking
1. Apply the parking brake firmly.
2. Turn off unnecessary lights and accessories.
3. Put the selector lever in “P”. If you need to restart the engine while the vehicle is moving, put the selector lever in “N”. A starter safety device will prevent the starter from operating if the selector lever is in any drive position.
4. Depress the brake pedal and hold it to the floor until driving off.

Starting the engine
Before starting the engine, be sure to follow the instructions in “Before cranking”.

Normal starting procedure
The multiport fuel injection system/sequential multiport fuel injection system in your engine automatically controls the proper air–fuel mixture for starting. You can start a cold or hot engine as follows:
1. With your foot off the accelerator pedal, crank the engine by turning the key to “START”. Release it when the engine starts.
2. After the engine runs for about 10 seconds, you are ready to drive.

If the weather is below freezing, let the engine warm up for a few minutes before driving. Do not leave the vehicle while the engine is warming up.

If the engine stalls ...
Simply restart it, using the correct procedure given in normal starting.

If the engine will not start ...
See “If your vehicle will not start” on page 238.

NOTICE

- Do not crank for more than 30 seconds at a time. This may overheat the starter and wiring systems.
- Do not race a cold engine.
- If the engine becomes difficult to start or stalls frequently, have the engine checked immediately.
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

Your automatic transmission has a shift lock system to minimize the possibility of incorrect operation. This means you can only shift out of “P” position when the brake pedal is depressed (with the ignition switch in “ON” position). (*)

1) Lock release button

With the brake pedal depressed, shift while holding the lock release button in. (The ignition switch must be in the “ON” position.)

2) Overdrive switch

For selecting either a three-speed or four-speed transmission.

When the cruise control is being used, even if you downshift the transmission by pushing and releasing the overdrive switch, engine braking will not be enabled because the cruise control is not cancelled. For ways to decrease the vehicle speed, see page 205.

3) Shift position indicator

The shift position is also displayed on the instrument cluster.

P: Parking, engine starting and key removal position
R: Reverse position
N: Neutral position
D: Normal driving position (with overdrive on)
2: Stronger engine braking
L: Maximum engine braking

Shift normally.
Correct use of the automatic transmission is explained in the following parts.

(a) Overdrive switch
(b) Normal driving
(c) Using engine braking
(d) Using the “2” and “L” positions
(e) Backing up
(f) Parking
(g) Good driving practice
(h) If you cannot shift the selector lever out of “P” position
(i) Driving in snow mode

(a) Overdrive switch

You can select either a third gear (with overdrive off) or fourth gear (with overdrive on) by pushing this switch.

To turn the overdrive off, push the switch. The “O/D OFF” indicator light should come on. To turn the overdrive on again, push the switch again. The “O/D OFF” indicator light should go off.

Always drive your vehicle with the overdrive on for better fuel economy and quieter driving.

If the engine is turned off when the overdrive is off and restarted, the overdrive will automatically be on.

When the cruise control is being used, even if you downshift the transmission by pushing and releasing the overdrive switch, engine braking will not be enabled because the cruise control is not cancelled.

For ways to decrease the vehicle speed, see page 205.
(b) Normal driving

1. Start the engine as instructed in “How to start the engine” on page 195.

   The transmission must be in “P” or “N”. The engine will not start in “R”, “2”, “L” or “D” position even if the ignition key is turned to “START”.

2. For starting your vehicle in sand, mud, ice or snow, set the snow mode. For details, see “(i) Driving in snow mode” on page 202.

3. With your foot holding down the brake pedal, shift the selector lever to “D”.

   CAUTION

   Never put your foot on the accelerator pedal while shifting.

4. Release the parking brake and brake pedal. Depress the accelerator pedal slowly for smooth starting.

   The vehicle will start in the first gear and automatically shift to the most suitable gear for the running conditions, such as the vehicle speed, hill climbing, hard towing, etc. However, while the engine coolant temperature is low and the vehicle is traveling at low speed, the transmission will not shift into the overdrive gear even with the overdrive on.
When the lever is in the “D” position, the automatic transmission system will select the most suitable gear for the running conditions such as hill climbing, hard towing, etc.

If you need to accelerate rapidly while driving, push the accelerator pedal all the way to the floor. The transmission will automatically downshift to third, second or first gear, according to the vehicle speed.

If engine braking is needed, such as in descending a long hill, see “(c) Using engine braking”.

(c) Using engine braking

To use the braking power of the engine, downshift the transmission in the way described below:

1. Push the overdrive switch. (This is effective only when you are driving in the “D” position.) The “O/D OFF” indicator light in the instrument cluster will come on and the transmission will downshift to third gear.

When the cruise control is being used, even if you downshift the transmission by pushing and releasing the overdrive switch, engine braking will not be enabled because the cruise control is not cancelled. If you need to decrease the vehicle speed, see page 205.
2) Shift into the “2” position. The transmission will downshift to second gear when the vehicle speed drops down to or lower than the following speed, and stronger engine braking will be enabled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Two-wheel drive models</th>
<th>Four-wheel drive models</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“2”</td>
<td>113 km/h (70 mph)</td>
<td>106 km/h (65 mph)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Shift into the “L” position. The transmission will downshift to first gear when the vehicle speed drops down to or lower than the following speed, and maximum engine braking will be enabled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Two-wheel drive models</th>
<th>Four-wheel drive models</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“L”</td>
<td>51 km/h (31 mph)</td>
<td>48 km/h (29 mph)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CAUTION

- Be careful when downshifting on a slippery surface. The abrupt change in engine speed could cause the vehicle to spin or skid.

### NOTICE

- **Be careful not to over-rev the engine.** Watch the tachometer to keep engine rpm from going into the red zone. The approximate maximum allowable speed for each position is given below for your reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Two-wheel drive models</th>
<th>Four-wheel drive models</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“2”</td>
<td>125 km/h (78 mph)</td>
<td>117 km/h (73 mph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“L”</td>
<td>70 km/h (43 mph)</td>
<td>65 km/h (40 mph)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Do not continue hill climbing or hard towing for a long time in the “2” or “L” position.** This may cause severe automatic transmission damage from overheating. To prevent such damage, “D” position should be used in hill climbing or hard towing.

(d) Using the “2” and “L” positions

The “2” and “L” positions are used for strong engine braking as described previously.

With the selector lever in “2” or “L”, you can start the vehicle in motion as with the lever in “D”.

With the selector lever in “2”, the vehicle will start in first gear and automatically shift to second gear.

With the selector lever in “L”, the transmission is engaged in first gear.
(e) Backing up

1. Bring the vehicle to a complete stop.
2. With the brake pedal held down with your foot, shift the selector lever to the “R” position.

**NOTICE**

Never shift into reverse while the vehicle is moving.

(f) Parking

1. Bring the vehicle to a complete stop.
2. Depress the parking brake fully to securely apply the parking brake.
3. With the brake pedal held down with your foot, shift the selector lever to the “P” position.

**CAUTION**

While the vehicle is moving, never attempt to move the selector lever into “P” under any circumstances. Serious mechanical damage and loss of vehicle control may result.
(g) Good driving practice

- If the transmission repeatedly shifts up and down between the third and overdrive gears when climbing a gentle slope, the overdrive should be turned off. Be sure to turn the switch on immediately after climbing the slope.
- When towing a trailer, in order to maintain efficient engine braking and electrical charging performance, do not use overdrive.

**CAUTION**
Always keep your foot on the brake pedal while stopped with the engine running. This prevents the vehicle from creeping.

**NOTICE**
Always use the brake pedal or the parking brake to hold the vehicle on an upgrade. Do not attempt to hold the vehicle using the accelerator pedal, as this can cause the transmission to overheat.

(h) If you cannot shift the selector lever out of “P” position

If you cannot shift the selector lever from “P” position even though the brake pedal is depressed, use the shift lock override button. For instructions, see “If you cannot shift automatic transmission selector lever” on page 259.

(i) Driving in snow mode

In the snow mode, the transmission system shifts up from the second gear.
To set the driving pattern to the snow mode, push the switch. In the “ECT SNOW” indicator on the instrument cluster is on. To cancel the snow mode, push the switch again. The “ECT SNOW” indicator light will go off when the snow mode is cancelled.

If the engine is turned off with the snow mode is on, the snow mode is cancelled when the engine is restarted.

CRUISE CONTROL

The cruise control allows you to cruise the vehicle at a desired speed over 40 km/h (25 mph) with your foot off the accelerator pedal.

Your cruising speed can be maintained although a slight speed change may occur when driving up or down a gradient, within the limits of engine performance. On steeper hills, a great speed change will occur so it is better to drive without the cruise control.

CAUTION

- To help maintain maximum control of your vehicle, do not use the cruise control when driving in heavy or varying traffic, or on slippery (rainy, icy or snow–covered) or winding roads.
- Avoid vehicle speed increases when driving downhill. If the vehicle speed is too fast in relation to the cruise control set speed, cancel the cruise control then downshift the transmission to use engine braking to slow down.
Turning on the system

To operate the cruise control, push the main switch. This turns the system on. The indicator light in the instrument cluster shows that you can now set your desired cruising speed. Another push on the switch will turn the system completely off. When the ignition key is turned off, the main switch is also automatically turned off. To use the cruise control again, push the main switch again to turn it on.

CAUTION
To avoid accidental cruise control engagement, keep the main switch off when not using the cruise control.

Setting operation

Each function is described below.

1 Setting at a desired speed.

The transmission must be in “D” before you set the cruise control speed. Bring the vehicle to the desired speed, press the control lever downward in the “SET/COAST” direction and release it. This sets the vehicle at that speed. Now you may take your foot off the accelerator pedal. If you need acceleration – for example, when passing – depress the accelerator pedal enough for the vehicle to exceed the set speed. When you release the accelerator pedal, the vehicle will return to the speed set prior to the acceleration.
2 Cancelling the preset speed
You can cancel the preset speed by either of the following:
a. Pulling the control lever in the “CANCEL” direction.
b. Depressing the brake pedal.
If the vehicle speed falls below about 40 km/h (25 mph), the preset speed will be automatically cancelled.
If the vehicle speed drops 16 km/h (10 mph) below the preset speed, the preset speed will also automatically be cancelled.
If the preset speed automatically cancels out for other than these reasons, have your vehicle checked by your Lexus dealer at the earliest opportunity.

3 Resetting to a faster speed
Press the control lever upward in the “RES/ACC” direction and hold it. Release the lever when the desired speed is attained. While the lever is held upward, the vehicle will gradually gain speed.
When the difference between the actual vehicle speed and the set speed is less than 5 km/h (3 mph), the set speed can be increased 1.6 km/h (1 mph) each time by pressing the control lever upward in the “RES/ACC” direction quickly.
However, a quicker way to reset is to accelerate the vehicle and then press the control lever downward in the “SET/COAST” direction.

4 Resetting to a slower speed
Press the control lever downward in the “SET/COAST” direction and hold it. Release the lever when the desired speed is attained. While the lever is held downward, the vehicle speed will gradually decrease.
When the difference between the actual vehicle speed and the set speed is less than 5 km/h (3 mph), the set speed can be lowered 1.6 km/h (1 mph) each time by pressing the control lever downward in the “SET/COAST” direction quickly.
However, a quicker way to reset is to depress the brake pedal and then press the control lever downward in the “SET/COAST” direction.
Even if you turn off the overdrive switch with the cruise control on, engine braking will not be applied because the cruise control is not cancelled. To decrease the vehicle speed, reset to a slower speed with the cruise control lever or depress the brake pedal. If you use the brake pedal, cruise control is cancelled.

5 Resuming the preset speed
If the preset speed is cancelled by pulling the control lever or by depressing the brake pedal, pushing the lever up in the “RES/ACC” direction will restore the speed set prior to cancellation. However, once the vehicle speed falls below about 40 km/h (25 mph), the preset speed will not be resumed.
Cruise control failure warning

If the “CRUISE” indicator light in the instrument cluster flashes when using the cruise control, push the main switch to turn the system off and then push it again to turn it on.

If any of the following conditions then occurs, there is some trouble in the cruise control system.
- The indicator light does not come on.
- The indicator light flashes again.
- The indicator light goes out after it comes on.

If this is the case, contact your Lexus dealer and have your Lexus inspected.

TRACTION CONTROL SYSTEM
(Two-wheel drive models)

The traction control system automatically helps prevent the spinning of front wheels when the vehicle is started or accelerated on slippery road surfaces.

When the ignition key is turned to “ON”, the system automatically turns on.

CAUTION

Under certain slippery road conditions, full traction of the vehicle and power against front wheels cannot be maintained, even though the traction control system is in operation. Do not drive the vehicle under any speed or maneuvering conditions which may cause the vehicle to lose traction control. In situations where the road surface is covered with ice or snow, your vehicle should be fitted with snow tires or tire chains. Always drive at an appropriate and cautious speed for the present road conditions.
Normal driving mode

**Slip indicator light**

Leave the system on during the ordinary driving so that it can operate when needed.

You may hear a sound in the engine compartment for a few seconds when the engine is started or just after the vehicle is started. This means that the traction control system is in the self-check mode, but does not indicate a malfunction.

When the traction control system is operating, the following conditions occur:

- The system controls the spinning of the front wheels. At this time, the slip indicator light blinks.
- You may feel vibration or noise in your vehicle, caused by operation of the brakes. This indicates the system is functioning properly.

The slip indicator light comes on for a few seconds when the ignition key is turned to “ON”. If the indicator light does not come on when the ignition is turned on, contact your Lexus dealer.

Traction control off mode

If your wheels get stuck in a ditch when you are driving on a severe off road and sand, turn off the traction control system. This system that controls engine performance interferes with the process of freeing your wheels.

**To turn off:** Push “TRAC OFF” switch.

The “TRAC OFF” indicator light will come on.

**To turn on:** Push “TRAC OFF” switch once again.

The “TRAC OFF” indicator light will go off.

“TRAC OFF” indicator light comes on for a few seconds when the ignition key is turned to “ON”. It will come on again when you push the “TRAC OFF” switch to turn off the system.
In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer:

- The indicator light does not come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The indicator light remains on after the ignition is turned on.
- The indicator light comes on with the normal driving mode while driving.

“VSC” warning light

This light warns that there is a problem somewhere in the vehicle skid control system or traction control system.

The light will come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON” and will go off after a few seconds.

If the light comes on while driving, the vehicle skid control system and traction control system do not work. However, as conventional braking operates when applied, there is no problem to continue your driving.
TRACTION CONTROL SYSTEM  
(Four–wheel drive modes)

The traction control system automatically helps prevent the spinning of 4 wheels when the vehicle is started or accelerated on slippery road surfaces.

When the ignition key is turned to “ON”, the system automatically turns on.

CAUTION

Under certain slippery road conditions, full traction of the vehicle and power against 4 wheels cannot be maintained, even though the traction control system is in operation. Do not drive the vehicle under any speed or maneuvering conditions which may cause the vehicle to lose traction control. In situations where the road surface is covered with ice or snow, your vehicle should be fitted with snow tires or tire chains. Always drive at an appropriate and cautious speed for the present road conditions.

Normal driving mode

▶ Slip indicator light

Leave the system on during the ordinary driving so that it can operate when needed.

You may hear a sound in the engine compartment for a few seconds when the engine is started or just after the vehicle is started. This means that the traction control system is in the self–check mode, but does not indicate a malfunction.

When the traction control system is operating, the following conditions occur:

- The system controls the spinning of the 4 wheels. At this time, the slip indicator light blinks.
- You may feel vibration or noise in your vehicle, caused by operation of the brakes. This indicates the system is functioning properly.
The slip indicator light comes on for a few seconds when the ignition key is turned to “ON”. If the indicator light does not come on when the ignition is turned on, contact your Lexus dealer.

“VSC” warning light

This light warns that there is a problem somewhere in the vehicle skid control system or traction control system.

The light will come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON” and will go off after a few seconds.

If the light comes on while driving, the vehicle skid control system and traction control system do not work. However, as conventional braking operates when applied, there is no problem to continue your driving.

In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer:

- The warning light does not come on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light remains on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light comes on while driving.
VEHICLE SKID CONTROL SYSTEM

The vehicle skid control system helps provide comprehensive control of the systems such as anti-lock brake system, traction control, engine control, etc. This system automatically controls the brakes and engine to help prevent the vehicle from skidding when cornering on a slippery road surface or operating steering wheel abruptly.

This system activates when the vehicle speed is about more than 15 km/h (9 mph).

You may hear a sound in the engine compartment for a few seconds when the engine is started or just after the vehicle is started. This means that the system is in the self–check mode but does not indicate a malfunction.

⚠️ CAUTION

- Do not rely excessively on the vehicle skid control system. Even if the system is operating, it can not completely eliminate the possibility of an accident. Always keep safe driving in mind, as reckless driving increases the risk of an accident. If the slip indicator light blinks, sounding an alarm, special care should be taken while driving.

- Only use tires of specified size. The size, manufacture, brand and tread pattern for all 4 tires should be the same. If you use the tires other than specified, or different type or size, the vehicle skid control system may not function correctly. When replacing the tires or wheels, contact your Lexus dealer.

> Slip indicator light

If the vehicle is going to skid during driving, the slip indicator light blinks and an alarm sounds intermittently. Special care should be taken while driving.

The slip indicator light comes on for a few seconds when the ignition key is turned to “ON”. If the indicator light does not come on when the ignition is turned on, contact your Lexus dealer.
“VSC” warning light

This light warns that there is a problem somewhere in the vehicle skid control system or the traction control system. The light will come on when the ignition key is turned to “ON” and will go off after a few seconds.

If the light comes on while driving, the vehicle skid control system and traction control system do not work. However, as conventional braking operates when applied, there is no problem to continue your driving.

In the following cases, contact your Lexus dealer:

- The warning light does not come on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light remains on after the ignition key is turned to “ON”.
- The warning light comes on while driving.

BRAKE SYSTEM

The tandem master cylinder brake system is a hydraulic system with two separate sub-systems. If either sub-system should fail, the other will still work. However, the pedal will be harder to press, and your stopping distance will be longer. Also, the brake system warning light may come on.

**CAUTION**

Do not drive your vehicle with only a single brake system. Have your brakes fixed immediately.

Brake booster

The brake booster uses engine vacuum to power-assist the brakes. If the engine should quit while you are driving, you can bring the vehicle to a stop with normal pedal pressure. There is enough reserved vacuum for one or two stops but no more!

**CAUTION**

- Do not pump the brake pedal if the engine stalls. Each push on the pedal uses up your reserved vacuum.
- Even if the power assist is completely lost, the brakes will still work. But you will have to push the pedal hard, much harder than normal. And your braking distance will be longer.
Anti–lock brake system

The anti–lock brake system is designed to help prevent lock–up of the wheels during a sudden braking or braking on slippery road surfaces. This assists in providing directional stability and steering performance of the vehicle under these circumstances.

Effective way to press the ABS brake pedal: When the anti–lock brake system function is in action, you may feel the brake pedal pulsating and hear a noise. In this situation, to let the anti–lock brake system work for you, just hold the brake pedal down more firmly. Do not pump the brake in a panic stop. This will result in reduced braking performance.

The anti–lock brake system becomes operative after the vehicle has accelerated to a speed in excess of approximately 10 km/h (6 mph). It stops operating when the vehicle decelerates to a speed below approximately 5 km/h (3 mph).

Depressing the brake pedal on slippery road surfaces such as on the manhole cover, the steel plate under the construction, joints in the bridge, etc. on a rainy day tends to activate the anti–lock brake system.

You may hear a click or motor sound in the engine compartment for a few seconds when the engine is started or just after the vehicle is started. This means that the anti–lock brake system is in the self–check mode, and does not indicate a malfunction.

When the anti–lock brake system is activated, the following conditions may occur. They do not indicate a malfunction of the system:

- You may hear the anti–lock brake system operating and feel the brake pedal pulsating and the vibrations of the vehicle body and steering wheel. You may also hear the motor sound in the engine compartment even after the vehicle is stopped.
- At the end of the anti–lock brake system activation, the brake pedal may move a little forward.

CAUTION

Do not overestimate the anti–lock brake system: Although the anti–lock brake system assists in providing vehicle control, it is still important to drive with all due care and maintain a moderate speed and safe distance from the vehicle in front of you, because there are limits to the vehicle stability and effectiveness of steering wheel operation even with the anti–lock brake system on.

If tires grip performance exceeds its capability, or if hydroplaning occurs during high speed driving in the rain, the anti–lock brake system does not provide vehicle control.
Anti-lock brake system is not designed to shorten the stopping distance: Always drive at the moderate speed and maintain a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you. Compared with vehicles without an anti-lock brake system, your vehicle may require a longer stopping distance in the following cases:

- Driving on rough, gravel or snow-covered roads.
- Driving with tire chains installed.
- Driving over the steps such as the joints on the road.
- Driving on roads where the road surface is pitted or has other differences in surface height.

Install all 4 tires of specified size at appropriate pressure: The anti-lock brake system detects vehicle speeds using the speed sensors for respective wheels’ turning speeds. The use of tires other than specified may fail to detect the accurate turning speed resulting in a longer stopping distance.

“ABS” warning light

The light comes on when the ignition key is turned to the “ON” position. If the anti-lock brake system and the brake assist system work properly, the light turns off after a few seconds. Thereafter, if either of the systems malfunctions, the light comes on again.

When the “ABS” warning light is on (and the brake system warning light is off), the anti-lock brake system, the brake assist system, the traction control system and the vehicle skid control system do not operate, but the brake system still operates conventionally.

When the “ABS” warning light is on (and the brake system warning light is off), the anti-lock brake system does not operate so that the wheels could lock up during a sudden braking or braking on slippery road surfaces.
If either of the following conditions occurs, this indicates a malfunction somewhere in the parts monitored by the warning light system. Contact your Lexus dealer as soon as possible to service the vehicle.

- The light does not come on when the ignition key is turned to the "ON" position, or remains on.
- The light comes on while you are driving.

A warning light turning on briefly during operation does not indicate a problem.

**Drum–in–disc type parking brake system**

Your vehicle has a drum–in–disc type parking brake system. This type of brake system needs bedding–down of the brake shoes periodically or whenever the parking brake shoes and/or drums are replaced.

Have your Lexus dealer perform the bedding–down.

**Brake assist system**

If you slam the brakes on such as in an emergency or apply the brakes more firmly than usual such as when descending the hill with the designated number of occupants in the vehicle, the brake assist system provides more powerful braking.

When you slam the brakes, more powerful braking will be applied. At this time, you may hear a sound in the engine compartment and feel the vibrations of the brake pedal. This does not indicate a malfunction.

The brake assist system becomes operative after the vehicle has accelerated to a speed in excess of approximately 10 km/h (6 mph). It stops operating when the vehicle decelerates to a speed below approximately 5 km/h (3 mph).

For an explanation of this system’s warning light, see “ABS warning light” on page 48 or 214.
BRAKE PAD WEAR LIMIT INDICATORS

The brake pad wear limit indicators on your disc brakes give a warning noise when the brake pads are worn to the extent that replacement is required.

If you hear a squealing or scraping noise while driving, have the brake pads checked and replaced by your Lexus dealer as soon as possible. Expensive rotor damage can result if the pads are not replaced when needed.

LIMITED–SLIP DIFFERENTIALS
(Four–wheel drive models only)

Your Lexus is equipped with a limited–slip center differential (transfer) and some models are equipped with a limited–slip rear differential as optional.

If one wheel – either front or rear – begins to spin, the transfer (limited–slip center differential) is designed to aid traction by automatically transmitting driving force to the wheels on the other drive axle. It transmits driving force to the front wheels if a rear wheel spins, and to the rear wheels if a front wheel spins.

Four–wheel drive models with limited–slip rear differential: If one rear wheel begins to spin, the limited–slip rear differential is designed to aid traction by automatically transmitting driving force to the other rear wheel. If you are not sure whether your vehicle is equipped with a limited–slip rear differential, you can ask your Lexus dealer.

⚠️ CAUTION
Do not start or run the engine while your vehicle is supported by a jack. The vehicle could be driven off the jack and could pose a danger or result in serious injury.
NOTICE
Use only a spare tire of the same size, construction and load capacity as the original tires on your Lexus because damage to the limited-slip differential could possibly occur with another tire type.

TYPES OF TIRES
Determine what kind of tires your vehicle is originally equipped with.

1. Summer tires
Summer tires are high-speed capability tires best suited to highway driving under dry conditions.
Since summer tires do not have the same traction performance as snow tires, summer tires are inadequate for driving on snow-covered or icy roads. For driving on snow-covered or icy roads, we recommend using snow tires. If installing snow tires, be sure to replace all four tires.

2. All season tires
All season tires are designed to provide better traction in snow and to be adequate for driving in most winter conditions, as well as for use all year round.
All season tires, however, do not have adequate traction performance compared with snow tires in heavy or loose snow. Also, all season tires fall short in acceleration and handling performance compared with summer tires in highway driving.
CAUTION

- Do not mix summer and all season tires on your vehicle as this can cause dangerous handling characteristics, resulting in loss of control.
- Do not use tires other than the manufacturer’s designated tires, and never mix tires or wheels of the sizes different from the originals.
SECTION 3 – 2

STARTING AND DRIVING

Driving tips

Off–road vehicle precautions ........................................ 220
Break–in period ........................................................... 221
Operation in foreign countries ........................................ 221
Tips for driving in various conditions ............................... 222
Off–road driving precautions ......................................... 223
Winter driving tips ....................................................... 225
Dinghy towing ............................................................. 226
Trailer towing ............................................................. 227
How to save fuel and make your vehicle last longer ......... 235

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02` Prod. (OM48442U)
OFF–ROAD VEHICLE PRECAUTIONS

This vehicle belongs to the utility vehicle class, which has higher ground clearance and narrower tread in relation to the height of its center of gravity to make it capable of performing in a wide variety of off–road applications. Specific design characteristics give it a higher center of gravity than ordinary passenger cars. This vehicle design feature causes this type of vehicle to be more likely to rollover. And, utility vehicles have a significantly higher rollover rate than other types of vehicles. An advantage of the higher ground clearance is a better view of the road allowing you to anticipate problems. It is not designed for cornering at the same speeds as ordinary passenger cars any more than low–slung sports cars designed to perform satisfactorily under off–road conditions. Therefore, sharp turns at excessive speeds may cause rollover.

CAUTION

Always observe the following precautions to minimize the risk of serious personal injury or damage to your vehicle:

- In a rollover crash, an unbelted person is significantly more likely to die than a person wearing a seat belt. Therefore, the driver and all passengers should fasten their seat belts whenever the vehicle is moving.
- Avoid sharp turns or abrupt maneuvers, if at all possible. Failure to operate this vehicle correctly may result in loss of control or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury.
- Avoid loading any items on the roof that will raise the vehicle's center of gravity.
- Always slow down in gusty crosswinds. Because of its profile and higher center of gravity, your vehicle is more sensitive to side winds than an ordinary passenger car. Slowing down will allow you to have better control.
When driving off-road or in rugged terrain, do not drive at excessive speeds, jump, make sharp turns, strike objects, etc. This may cause loss of control or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury. You are also risking expensive damage to your vehicle’s suspension and chassis.

Do not drive horizontally across steep slopes. Driving straight up or straight down is preferred. Your vehicle (or any similar off-road vehicle) can tip over sideways much more easily than forward or backward.

BREAK-IN PERIOD

Drive gently and avoid high speeds.

You need not follow a break-in schedule with your new Lexus. But following a few simple tips for the first 1600 km (1000 miles) can add to the future economy and long life of your vehicle:

- Avoid full throttle acceleration when starting and driving.
- Avoid racing the engine.
- Try to avoid hard stops during the first 300 km (200 miles).
- Do not drive for a long time at any single speed, either fast or slow.
- Do not tow a trailer during the first 800 km (500 miles).

OPERATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

If you plan to drive your Lexus in another country ...

First, comply with the vehicle registration laws.

Second, confirm the availability of the correct fuel (unleaded and minimum octane rating).
TIPS FOR DRIVING IN VARIOUS CONDITIONS

- Always slow down in gusty crosswinds. This will allow you much better control.
- Drive slowly onto curbs and, if possible, at a right angle. Avoid driving onto high, sharp–edged objects and other road hazards. Failure to do so can lead to severe tire damage resulting in tire bursts.
- Drive slowly when passing over bumps or travelling on a bumpy road. Otherwise, the impact could cause severe damage to the tires and/or wheels.
- When parking on a hill, turn the front wheels until they touch the curb so that the vehicle will not roll. Apply the parking brake, and place the transmission in “P”. If necessary, block the wheels.
- Washing your vehicle or driving through deep water may get the brakes wet. To see whether they are wet, check that there is no traffic near you and then press the pedal lightly. If you do not feel a normal braking force, the brakes are probably wet. To dry them, drive the vehicle cautiously while lightly pressing the brake pedal with the parking brake applied. If they still do not work safely, pull to the side of the road and call a Lexus dealer for assistance.

**CAUTION**

- Before driving off, make sure the parking brake is fully released and that the parking brake reminder light is off.
- Do not leave your vehicle unattended while the engine is running.
- Do not rest your foot on the brake pedal while driving. It can cause dangerous overheating, needless wear, and poor fuel economy.
- To drive down a long or steep hill, reduce your speed and downshift. Remember, if you ride the brakes excessively, they may overheat and not work properly. See page 199.
- Be careful when accelerating, upshifting, downshifting or braking on a slippery surface. The abrupt change in engine speed, such as sudden acceleration or engine braking, could cause the vehicle to spin or skid.
- Do not drive in excess of the speed limit. Even if the legal speed limit permits it, do not drive over 140 km/h (85 mph) unless your vehicle has high–speed capability tires. Driving over 140 km/h (85 mph) may result in tire failure, loss of control and possible injury. Be sure to consult a tire dealer to determine whether the tires on your vehicle are high–speed capability tires or not before driving at such speeds.
Do not continue normal driving when the brakes are wet. If they are wet, your vehicle will require a longer stopping distance, and it may pull to one side when the brakes are applied. Also, the parking brake will not hold the vehicle securely.

OFF–ROAD DRIVING PRECAUTIONS

When driving your vehicle off–road, please observe the following precautions to ensure your driving enjoyment and to help prevent the closure of areas to off–road vehicles.

a. Drive your vehicle only in areas where off–road vehicles are permitted to travel.
b. Respect private property. Get owner’s permission before entering private property.
c. Do not enter areas that are closed. Honor gates, barriers and signs that restrict travel.
d. Stay on established roads. When conditions are wet, driving techniques should be changed or travel delayed to prevent damage to roads.

For owners in U.S. mainland, Hawaii and Puerto Rico:

To obtain additional information pertaining to driving your vehicle off–road, consult the following organizations.

- State and Local Parks and Recreation Departments
- State Motor Vehicle Bureau
- Recreational Vehicle Clubs
- U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management

CAUTION

Always observe the following precautions to minimize the risk of serious personal injury or damage to your vehicle:

- Drive carefully when off the road. Do not take unnecessary risks by driving in dangerous places.
- Do not grip the steering wheel spokes when driving off–road. A bad bump could jerk the wheel and injure your hands. Keep both hands and especially your thumbs on the outside of the rim.
- Always check your brakes for effectiveness immediately after driving in sand, mud, water or snow.
- After driving through tall grass, mud, rock, sand, rivers, etc., check that there is no grass, bush, paper, rags, stone, sand, etc. adhering or trapped on the underbody. Clear off any such matter from the underbody. If the vehicle is used with these materials trapped or adhering to the underbody, a breakdown or fire could occur.
In a rollover crash, an unbelted person is significantly more likely to die than a person wearing a seat belt. Therefore, the driver and all passengers should fasten their seat belts whenever the vehicle is moving.

When driving off-road or in rugged terrain, do not drive at excessive speeds, jump, make sharp turns, strike objects, etc. This may cause loss of control or vehicle rollover causing death or serious injury. You are also risking expensive damage to your vehicle’s suspension and chassis.

NOTICE

- If driving through water, such as when crossing shallow streams, first check the depth of the water and the bottom of the river bed for firmness. Drive slowly and avoid deep water.
- Take all necessary safety measures to ensure that water damage to the engine or other components does not occur.
  Water entering the engine air intake will cause severe engine damage.
  Water can wash the grease from wheel bearings, causing rusting and premature failure, and may also enter the differentials, transmission and transfer case, reducing the gear oil’s lubricating qualities.

- Sand and mud that has accumulated in brake drums and around brake discs may affect braking efficiency and may damage brake system components.
- Always perform a maintenance inspection after each day of off-road driving that has taken you through rough terrain, sand, mud, or water. For scheduled maintenance information, refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.
WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Make sure you have a proper freeze protection of engine coolant.

Your coolant must contain ethylene–glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of aluminum components. Use "Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant" or equivalent. See "Checking the engine coolant level" on page 290 for instructions.

NOTICE

Do not use alcohol type antifreeze or plain water alone.

When it is extremely cold, we recommend to use 60% solution for your Lexus, to provide protection down to about –50°C (–58°F). Do not use more than 70% solution for better coolant performance.

Check the condition of the battery and cables.

Cold temperatures reduce the capacity of any battery, so it must be in top shape to provide enough power for winter starting. Page 313 tells you how to visually inspect the battery. Your Lexus dealer and most service stations will be pleased to check the battery charge level.

Make sure the engine oil viscosity is suitable for the cold weather.

See page 288 for recommended viscosity. Leaving a heavy summer oil in your vehicle during winter months may cause harder starting. If you are not sure about which oil to use, call your Lexus dealer – they will be pleased to help.

Check the electronic ignition system for loose connections or obvious damage.

Keep the door locks from freezing.

Squirt lock de–icer or glycerine into the locks to keep them from freezing.

Use a washer fluid containing an antifreeze solution.

This product is available at your Lexus dealer and most auto parts stores. Follow the manufacturer’s directions for how much to mix with water.

NOTICE

Do not use engine antifreeze or any other substitute because it may damage your vehicle’s paint.

Do not use your parking brake when there is a possibility it could freeze.

When parking, put the transmission into “P” and block the rear wheels. Do not use the parking brake, or snow or water accumulated in and around the parking brake mechanism may freeze the parking brake, making it hard to release.

Keep ice and snow from accumulating under the fenders.

Ice and snow built up under your fenders can make steering difficult. During bad winter driving, stop and check under the fenders occasionally.
Depending on where you are driving, we recommend you carry some emergency equipment.

Some of the things you might put in the vehicle are tire chains, window scraper, bag of sand or salt, flares, small shovel, jumper cables, etc.

**DINGHY TOWING**

Your vehicle is not designed to be dinghy towed (with four wheels on the ground) behind a motorhome.

**NOTICE**

*Do not tow your vehicle with four wheels on the ground. This may cause serious damage to your vehicle.*
TRAILER TOWING

Your vehicle is designed primarily as a passenger–and–load carrying vehicle. Towing a trailer will have an adverse effect on handling, performance, braking, durability and driving economy (fuel consumption, etc.). Your safety and satisfaction depend on the proper use of correct equipment and cautious driving habits. For your safety and the safety of others, you must not overload your vehicle or trailer. Lexus warranties do not apply to damage or malfunction caused by towing a trailer for commercial purposes. Ask your local Lexus dealer for further details before towing.

NOTICE

When towing a trailer, be sure to consult your Lexus dealer for further information on additional requirements such as a towing kit, etc.

Weight limits

Before towing, make sure the total trailer weight, gross vehicle weight, gross axle weight and trailer tongue load are all within the limits.

The total trailer weight and tongue load can be measured with platform scales found at a highway weighing station, building supply company, trucking company, junk yard, etc.

CAUTION

- The total trailer weight (trailer weight plus its cargo load) must not exceed 1588 kg (3500 lb.). Exceeding this weight is dangerous.
- The gross combination weight (sum of your vehicle weight plus its load and the total trailer weight) must not exceed 3835 kg (8450 lb.).
• Trailer hitch assemblies have different weight capacities established by the hitch manufacturer. Even though the vehicle may be physically capable of towing a higher weight, the operator must determine the maximum weight rating of the particular hitch assembly and never exceed the maximum weight rating specified for the trailer hitch. Exceeding the maximum weight rating set by the trailer hitch manufacturer can cause an accident resulting in serious personal injuries.

• The gross vehicle weight must not exceed the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) indicated on the Certification Label. The gross vehicle weight is the sum weight of the unloaded vehicle, driver, passengers, luggage, hitch and trailer tongue load. It also includes the weight of any special equipment installed on your vehicle.

• The load on either the front or rear axle resulting from distribution of the gross vehicle weight on both axles must not exceed the Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) listed on the Certification Label.

• The trailer cargo load should be distributed so that the tongue load is 9 to 11% of the total trailer weight, not exceeding the maximum of 158 kg (350 lb.).

• Never load the trailer with more weight in the back than in the front. About 60% of the trailer load should be in the front half of the trailer and the remaining 40% in the rear.
Hitches

- If you wish to install a trailer hitch, your Lexus dealer should be consulted.
- Use only a hitch which is recommended by Lexus dealer and conforms to the total trailer weight requirement.
- Follow the directions supplied by the hitch manufacturer. Lubricate the hitch ball with a light coat of grease.
- Lexus recommends removing the trailer hitch whenever you are not towing a trailer to reduce the possibility of additional damage caused by the hitch if your vehicle is struck from behind. After removing the hitch, seal any mounting holes in the vehicle body to prevent entry of pollutants such as exhaust fumes, dirt, water, etc.

NOTICE

- **Install the trailer hitch using only the position recommended by your Lexus dealer. Do not install the trailer hitch on the bumper; this may cause body damage.**
- **Do not use axle–mounted hitches as they can cause damage to the axle housing, wheel bearings, wheels or tires.**

Trailer ball

Follow these easy steps to properly determine the correct trailer ball for your application:

1. Determine the correct trailer ball size for the trailer coupler. Most couplers are stamped with the required trailer ball size. The sizes you will most likely find stamped on the coupler are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trailer class</th>
<th>Typical Trailer Ball Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>2 5/16 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>2 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>1 7/8 in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Select the appropriate trailer ball to match or exceed the gross trailer weight rating of the trailer. The trailer ball load rating should be printed on the top of the ball.
1. When mounted in the ball mount, the threaded ball shank must protrude beyond the bottom of the lock washer and nut at least 2 threads. The trailer ball shank must be matched to the ball mount hole diameter size.

Matching trailer ball height to trailer coupler height

No matter which class of tow hitch applies, for a safe trailer hookup, the trailer ball setup on must be the proper height for the coupler on the trailer.
Brakes and safety chains

- **Lexus recommends trailers with brakes that conform to any applicable federal and state/provincial regulations.**
- **A safety chain must always be used between the towing vehicle and the trailer. Leave sufficient slack in the chain for turns. The chain should cross under the trailer tongue to prevent the tongue from dropping to the ground in case it becomes damaged or separated. For correct safety chain procedures, follow the hitch or trailer manufacturer’s recommendations.**

**CAUTION**

- If the total trailer weight exceeds 450 kg (1000 lb.), trailer brakes are required.
- Never tap into your vehicle’s hydraulic system as it will lower its braking effectiveness.
- Never tow a trailer without using a safety chain securely attached to both the trailer and the vehicle. If damage occurs to the coupling unit or hitch ball, there is possible danger of the trailer wandering over into another lane.

Tires

- **Ensure that your vehicle’s tires are properly inflated. Adjust the tire pressure to the recommended cold tire pressure indicated below:**
  
  | Tire pressure, kPa (kgf/cm² or bar, psi) |
  |---------|---------|---------|
  | Front   | 210 (2.1, 30) |
  | Rear    | 210 (2.1, 30) |

- The trailer tires should be inflated to the pressure recommended by the trailer manufacturer in respect to the total trailer weight.
Trailer lights (on some models)

- Your vehicle is equipped with a wire harness stored in the rear end under body. Some models are fitted with a socket for trailer lights under the rear bumper. Use either of them to connect and operate the trailer lights. However, the trailer lights must comply with federal, state/provincial and local regulations. See your local recreational vehicle dealer or rental agency for the correct type of wiring and relays for your trailer. Check for correct operation of the turn signals and stop lights each time you hitch up. Direct splicing may damage your vehicle’s electrical system and cause a malfunction of your lights.

Break–in schedule

- Lexus recommends that you do not tow a trailer with a new vehicle or a vehicle with any new power train component (engine, transmission, differential, wheel bearing, etc.) for the first 800 km (500 miles) of driving.

Maintenance

- If you tow a trailer, your vehicle will require more frequent maintenance due to the additional load. For this information, please refer to the scheduled maintenance information in the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.
- Retighten all fixing bolts of the towing ball and bracket after approximately 1000 km (600 miles) of trailer driving.

Pre–towing safety check

- Check that your vehicle remains level when a loaded or unloaded trailer is hitched. Do not drive if the vehicle has an abnormal nose–up or nose–down condition, and check for improper tongue load, overload, worn suspension or other possible causes.
- Make sure the trailer cargo is securely loaded so that it cannot shift.
- Check that your rear view mirrors conform to any federal, state/provincial or local regulations. If they do not, install required rear view mirrors appropriate for towing purposes.
Trailer towing tips

When towing a trailer, your vehicle will handle differently than when not towing. The three main causes of vehicle–trailer accidents are driver error, excessive speed and improper trailer loading. Keep these in mind when towing:

- Before starting out, check the operation of the lights and all vehicle–trailer connections. After driving a short distance, stop and recheck the lights and connections. Practice turning, stopping and backing with a trailer in an area away from traffic until you learn the feel.

- Backing with a trailer is difficult and requires practice. Grip the bottom of the steering wheel and move your hand to the left to move the trailer to the left. Move your hand to the right to move the trailer to the right. (This procedure is generally opposite to that when backing without a trailer.) Also, just turn the steering wheel a little at a time, avoiding sharp or prolonged turning. Have someone guide you when backing to reduce the risk of an accident.

- Because stopping distance may be increased, vehicle–to–vehicle distance should be increased when towing a trailer. For each 16 km/h (10 mph) of speed, allow at least one vehicle and trailer length between you and the vehicle ahead. Avoid sudden braking as you may skid, resulting in jackknifing and loss of control. This is especially true on wet or slippery surfaces.

- Avoid jerky starts or sudden acceleration.

- Avoid jerky steering and sharp turns. The trailer could hit your vehicle in a tight turn. Slow down before making a turn to avoid the need of sudden braking.

- Remember that when making a turn, the trailer wheels will be closer than the vehicle wheels to the inside of the turn. Therefore, compensate for this by making a larger than normal turning radius with your vehicle.

- Crosswinds and rough roads will adversely affect handling of your vehicle and trailer, causing sway. Pay attention to the rear from time to time to prepare yourself for being passed by large trucks or buses, which may cause your vehicle and trailer to sway. If swaying happens, firmly grip the steering wheel and reduce speed immediately but gradually. Never increase speed. If it is necessary to reduce speed, brake slowly. Steer straight ahead. If you make no extreme correction with the steering or brakes, your vehicle and trailer will stabilize.

- Be careful when passing other vehicles. Passing requires considerable distance. After passing a vehicle, do not forget the length of your trailer and be sure you have plenty of room before changing lanes.

- In order to maintain efficient engine braking and electrical charging performance, do not use overdrive.
• Because of the added load of the trailer, your vehicle's engine may overheat on hot days (at temperatures over 30°C [85°F]) when going up a long or steep grade with a trailer. If the engine coolant temperature gauge indicates overheating, immediately turn off the air conditioning (if in use), pull your vehicle off the road and stop in a safe spot. See “If your vehicle overheats” on page 242 of this manual.

• Always place wheel blocks under both the vehicle and trailer wheels when parking. Apply the parking brake firmly. Put the transmission in “P”. Avoid parking on a slope with a trailer, but if it cannot be avoided, do so only after performing the following:
  1. Apply the brakes and keep them applied.
  2. Have someone place wheel blocks under both the vehicle and trailer wheels.
  3. When the wheel blocks are in place, release your brakes slowly until the blocks absorb the load.
  4. Apply the parking brake firmly.
  5. Shift into “P” and turn off the engine.

When restarting out after parking on a slope:
  1. With the transmission in “P” position, start the engine. Be sure to keep the brake pedal depressed.
  2. Shift into the “2”, “L” or “R” position.
  3. Release the parking brake and brake pedal and slowly pull or back away from the wheel blocks. Stop and apply your brakes.
  4. Have someone retrieve the blocks.

⚠️ CAUTION

• Do not exceed 72 km/h (45 mph) or the posted towing speed limit, whichever is lower. Because instability (swaying) of a towing vehicle–trailer combination usually increases as the speed increases, exceeding 72 km/h (45 mph) may cause loss of control.

• Slow down and downshift before descending steep or long downhill grades. Do not make sudden downshifts.

• Avoid holding the brake pedal down too long or too frequently. This could cause the brakes to overheat and result in reduced braking efficiency.
HOW TO SAVE FUEL AND MAKE YOUR VEHICLE LAST LONGER

Improving fuel economy is easy—just take it easy. It will help make your vehicle last longer, too. Here are some specific tips on how to save money on both fuel and repairs:

- **Keep your tires inflated at the correct pressure.** Check the pressure every two weeks, or at least once a month. Underinflation causes tire wear and wastes fuel.
- **Do not carry unneeded weight in your vehicle.** Excess weight puts a heavier load on the engine, causing greater fuel consumption.
- **Avoid lengthy warm–up idling.** Once the engine is running smoothly, begin driving—but gently. Remember, however, that on cold winter days this may take a little longer.
- **Keep the automatic transmission overdrive turned on when engine braking is not required.** Driving with the overdrive off will reduce the fuel economy. (For details, see “Automatic transmission” on page 196.)
- **Accelerate slowly and smoothly.** Avoid jackrabbit starts.
- **Avoid long engine idling.** If you have a long wait and you are not in traffic, it is better to turn off the engine and start again later.
- **Avoid engine over–revving.** Use a gear position suitable for the road on which you are traveling.
- **Avoid continuous speeding up and slowing down.** Stop–and–go driving wastes fuel.
- **Avoid unnecessary stopping and braking.** Maintain a steady pace. Try to time the traffic signals so you only need to stop as little as possible or take advantage of through streets to avoid traffic lights. Keep a proper distance from other vehicles to avoid sudden braking. This will also reduce wear on your brakes.
- **Avoid heavy traffic or traffic jams whenever possible.**
- **Do not rest your foot on the brake pedal.** This causes premature wear, overheating and poor fuel economy.
- **Maintain a moderate speed on highways.** The faster you drive, the greater the fuel consumption. By reducing your speed, you will cut down on fuel consumption.
- **Keep the front wheels in proper alignment.** Avoid hitting the curb and slow down on rough roads. Improper alignment not only causes faster tire wear but also puts an extra load on the engine, which, in turn, wastes fuel.
- **Keep the bottom of your vehicle free from mud, etc.** This not only lessens weight but also helps prevent corrosion.
Keep your vehicle tuned-up and in top shape. A dirty air cleaner, improper valve clearance, dirty plugs, dirty oil and grease, brakes not adjusted, etc. all lower engine performance and contribute to poor fuel economy. For longer life of all parts and lower operating costs, keep all maintenance work on schedule, and if you often drive under severe conditions, see that your vehicle receives more frequent maintenance. (For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.)

**CAUTION**

Never turn off the engine to coast down hills. Your power steering and brake booster will not function without the engine running. Also, the emission control system operates properly only when the engine is running.
IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency

If your engine stalls while driving ........................................... 238
If your vehicle will not start .................................................. 238
If your vehicle overheats ....................................................... 242
If you have a flat tire ............................................................ 243
If your vehicle becomes stuck ............................................... 251
If your vehicle needs to be towed ......................................... 252
If you cannot shift automatic transmission selector lever ........ 259
If you lose your keys or lock yourself out ............................... 260
**IF YOUR ENGINE STALLS WHILE DRIVING**

If your engine stalls while driving ...

1. Reduce your speed gradually, keeping a straight line. Move cautiously off the road to a safe place.
2. Turn on your emergency flashers.
3. Turn the ignition key to “ACC” or “LOCK”, and try starting the engine again.

If the engine will not start, see “If your vehicle will not start”.

**CAUTION**

- If the engine is not running, the power assist for the brakes and steering will not work, so steering and braking will be much harder than usual.

**IF YOUR VEHICLE WILL NOT START**

(a) Simple checks

Before making these checks, make sure you have followed the correct starting procedure instructions in “How to start the engine” on page 195 and that you have sufficient fuel. Since your vehicle is equipped with the engine immobiliser system, also check whether the other keys will start the engine. If they work, your key may be broken. Have the key checked at your Lexus dealer. If none of your keys work, the system is possibly broken. Call your Lexus dealer. See “Keys” on page 8.

If the engine is not turning over or is turning over too slowly –

1. Check that the battery terminals are tight and clean.
2. If the battery terminals are O.K., switch on the interior light.
3. If the light is out, dim or goes out when the starter is cranked, the battery is discharged. You may try jump starting. See “(c) Jump starting” for further instruction.

If the light is O.K., but the engine still will not start, it needs adjustment or repair. Call a Lexus dealer, Roadside Assistance or Customer Service Assistance. (See “Foreword”.)
NOTICE

Do not pull– or push–start the vehicle. It may damage the vehicle or cause a collision when the engine starts. Also the three–way catalytic converter may overheat and become a fire hazard.

If the engine turns over at its normal speed but will not start –

1. Turn the ignition key to “ACC” or “LOCK” and try starting the engine again.

2. If the engine will not start, the engine may be flooded because of repeated cranking. See “(b) Starting a flooded engine” for further instructions.

3. If the engine still will not start, it needs adjustment or repair. Call a Lexus dealer or qualified repair shop.

(b) Starting a flooded engine

If the engine will not start, your engine may be flooded because of repeated cranking.

If this happens, turn the key to “START” with the accelerator pedal held down. Continue this operation for 30 seconds and then stop cranking. Then try starting the engine with your foot off the accelerator pedal.

If the engine does not start after 30 seconds of cranking, release the key, wait a few minutes and try again.

If the engine still will not start, it needs adjustment or repair. Call a Lexus dealer, Roadside Assistance or Customer Service Assistance. (See “Foreword”.)

NOTICE

Do not crank for more than 30 seconds at a time. This may overheat the starter and wiring systems.

(c) Jump starting

To avoid serious personal injury and damage to your vehicle which might result from battery explosion, acid burns, electrical burns, or damaged electronic components, these instructions must be followed precisely.

If you are unsure about how to follow this procedure, we strongly recommend that you seek help from your Lexus dealer, Roadside Assistance or Customer Service Assistance. (See “Foreword”.)

CAUTION

- Batteries contain sulfuric acid which is poisonous and corrosive. Wear protective safety glasses when jump starting, and avoid spilling acid on your skin, clothing, or vehicle.
- If you should accidentally get acid on yourself or in your eyes, remove any contaminated clothing and flush the affected area with water immediately. Then get immediate medical attention. If possible, continue to apply water with a sponge or cloth while en route to the medical office.
The gas normally produced by a battery will explode if a flame or spark is brought near. Use only standardized jumper cables and do not smoke or light a match while jump starting.

Warning: Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.

**NOTICE**

The battery used for boosting must be 12 V. Do not jump start unless you are sure that the booster battery is correct.

![Diagram of battery setup](image)
JUMP STARTING PROCEDURE

1. If the booster battery is installed in another vehicle, make sure the vehicles are not touching. Turn off all unnecessary lights and accessories.

2. If required, remove all the vent plugs from the booster battery. Lay a cloth over the open vents on the booster battery. (This helps reduce the explosion hazard, personal injuries and burns.)

3. If the engine in the vehicle with the booster battery is not running, start it and let it run for about 5 minutes. During jump starting, run the engine at about 2000 rpm with the accelerator pedal lightly depressed.

4. Locate positive (+) and negative (–) terminals of each battery. Connect the jumper cables in the exact order (1 2 3 4) shown in the illustration.

   1. Connect a positive (red) jumper cable clamp to the positive (+) terminal of the discharged battery.
   2. Connect the clamp at the other end of the positive (red) cable to the positive (+) terminal of the booster battery.
   3. Connect a negative (black) cable clamp to the negative (–) terminal of the booster battery.
   4. Connect the clamp at the other end of the negative (black) cable to a solid, stationary, unpainted metallic point (such as shown in the illustration) away from the battery. Do not connect it to or near any part that moves when the engine is cranked.

5. Start your engine in the normal way. After starting, run it at about 2000 rpm for several minutes with the accelerator pedal lightly depressed.

6. Carefully disconnect the cables in the exact reverse order: the negative cable and then the positive cable.

7. Carefully dispose of the battery cover cloths which may now contain sulfuric acid.

8. If removed, replace all the battery vent plugs.

If the cause of your battery discharging is not apparent (for example, lights left on), you should have it checked at your Lexus dealer.
IF YOUR VEHICLE OVERHEATS

If your engine coolant temperature gauge indicates overheating, if you experience a loss of power, or if you hear a loud knocking or pinging noise, the engine has probably overheated.

When the engine overheats

Pull safely off the road, stop the vehicle and turn on your emergency flashers. Put the transmission in “P” and apply the parking brake.

A: If steam is coming from your engine:

Turn off the engine. Leave the hood closed until there is no sign of steam or coolant. Your engine could have been seriously damaged already. Call your Lexus dealer for assistance.

B: If no steam is coming from your engine:

Leave the engine running and turn off the air conditioning. Check the following.

- Is the cooling fan operating?
- Is the coolant in the acceptable range?
- Is the engine drive belt O.K.?

CAUTION

- When the engine is running, keep hands and clothing away from the moving fan and engine drive belt.
- Do not attempt to remove the radiator cap when the engine and radiator are hot. Serious injury could result from scalding hot fluid and steam blown out under pressure.

If the cooling fan is not operating or the coolant is not in the acceptable range, turn off the engine and call your Lexus dealer.

If both conditions are O.K., after the engine coolant temperature has cooled to normal, continue driving your vehicle.

If the engine coolant temperature does not cool down, or your vehicle overheats again, have it checked as soon as possible by your Lexus dealer.
IF YOU HAVE A FLAT TIRE

1. Reduce your speed gradually, keeping a straight line. Move cautiously off the road to a safe place – well away from the traffic. Avoid stopping on the center divider of a highway. Park on a level spot with firm ground.
2. Stop the engine and turn on your emergency flashers.
3. Firmly set the parking brake and put the transmission in “P”.
4. Have everyone get out of the vehicle on the side away from traffic.
5. Read the following instructions thoroughly.

⚠️ CAUTION

When jacking, be sure to observe the following to reduce the possibility of personal injury:
- Follow jacking instructions.
- Do not put any part of your body under a vehicle supported by a jack. Otherwise, personal injury may occur.
- Do not start or run the engine while your vehicle is supported by the jack.
- Stop the vehicle on a level firm ground, firmly set the parking brake and put the transmission in “P”. Block the wheel diagonally opposite to the one being changed if necessary.

● Make sure to set the jack properly in the jack point. Raising the vehicle with jack improperly positioned will damage the vehicle or may allow the vehicle to fall off the jack and cause personal injury.
● Never get under the vehicle when the vehicle is supported by the jack alone.
● Use the jack only for lifting your vehicle during wheel changing.
● Do not raise the vehicle with someone in the vehicle.
● When raising the vehicle, do not place any objects on top of or underneath the jack.
● Raise the vehicle only high enough to remove and change the tire.

NOTICE

Do not continue driving with a deflated tire. Driving even a short distance can damage a tire and wheel beyond repair.
Access to spare tire

1. Pull up the deck board.

2. Take off the hook at the rear of the deck board.

3. Lift up the back side of the board and secure the board by hooking it at the top of the back door opening with the hook at the edge of the strap.

Make sure the board is secured and does not fall down.
When closing the board, replace the hook also in its original position as shown.

**NOTICE**

If you close the back door with the board hooked, the hook may be damaged.

---

### Changing procedure

1. Get the jack, wrench and spare tire.

To prepare yourself for an emergency, you should familiarize yourself with the use of the jack and each tool, and their storage locations. The jack is located under the tray for the jack handle and wrench.
1 Joint

2 When removing the jack, turn the joint by hand in the “contract” direction until the jack is free.

3 When storing, turn the joint by hand in the “expand” direction until the jack is firmly secured to prevent it from flying forward during a collision or sudden braking.

To remove the spare tire:

1 Remove the spare tire cover.

2 Loosen the bolt and remove it.

When storing the spare tire, place it with the inner side of the wheel facing up. Then bolt the tire in place and install the spare tire cover to prevent the tire from flying forward during a collision or sudden braking.
2. Block the wheel diagonally opposite the flat tire to keep the vehicle from rolling when it is jacked up.

When blocking the wheel, place a wheel block in front of one of the front wheels or behind one of the rear wheels.

3. Loosen all the wheel nuts.

Always loosen the wheel nuts before raising the vehicle. Turn the wheel nuts counterclockwise to loosen them. To get maximum leverage, fit the wrench to the nut so that the handle is on the right side, as shown above. Grab the wrench near the end of the handle and pull up on the handle. Be careful that the wrench does not slip off the nut.

Do not remove the nuts yet – just unscrew them about one–half turn.

CAUTION

Never use oil or grease on the bolts or nuts. The nuts may loose and the wheels may fall off, which could cause a serious accident.
4. Position the jack at the jack points as shown. Make sure the jack is positioned on a level and solid surface.

5. After making sure no one is in the vehicle, raise it high enough so that the spare tire can be installed. Allow for the fact that you need more ground clearance when putting on the spare tire than when removing the flat tire.

To raise the vehicle, insert the jack handle into the jack (it is a loose fit) and turn it clockwise. As the jack touches the vehicle and begins to lift, double-check that it is properly positioned.

⚠️ CAUTION

Never get under the vehicle when the vehicle is supported by the jack alone.
6. Remove the wheel nuts and remove the flat tire.
Lift the flat tire straight off and put it aside.

Before putting on the wheel, remove any corrosion on the mounting surfaces with a wire brush or such. Installation of wheels without good metal-to-metal contact at the mounting surface can cause wheel nuts to loosen and eventually cause a wheel to come off while driving.
7. Reinstall all the wheel nuts finger tight.
Align the holes in the wheel with the bolts. Then lift up the wheel and get at least the top bolt started through its hole. Wiggle the tire and press it back over the other bolts. Reinstall the wheel nuts and tighten them as much as you can by hand. Press the tire back and see if you can tighten them more.

**CAUTION**

Never use oil or grease on the bolts or nuts. Doing so may lead to overtightening the nuts and damaging the bolts. The nuts may loose and the wheels may fall off, which could cause a serious accident. If there is oil or grease on any bolt or nut, clean it.

8. Lower the vehicle completely and tighten the wheel nuts.
Turn the jack handle counterclockwise to lower the vehicle. Use only the wheel nut wrench to tighten the nuts. Do not use other tools or any additional leverage other than your hands, such as a hammer, pipe or your foot. Make sure the wrench is securely engaged over the nut. Tighten each nut a little at a time in the order shown. Repeat the process until all the nuts are tight.
When lowering the vehicle, make sure all portions of your body and all other persons around will not be injured as the vehicle is lowered to the ground.

Have the wheel nuts tightened by torque wrench at 103 N·m (10.5 kgf-m, 76 ft·lbf), as soon as possible after changing wheels. Otherwise, the nuts may loosen and the wheels may fall off, which could cause a serious accident.

9. After changing the wheel, check the air pressure of the replaced tire. Stow all the tools, jack and flat tire securely.

If the pressure of the replaced tire is low, drive slowly to the nearest service station and fill to the correct pressure.

Do not forget to reinstall the tire valve cap as dirt and moisture could get into the valve core and possible cause air leakage. If the cap is missing, put a new one on as soon as possible.

This is the same procedure for changing or rotating your tires.

Before driving, make sure all the tools, jack and flat tire are securely in place in their storage location to reduce the possibility of personal injury during a collision or sudden braking.

IF YOUR VEHICLE BECOMES STUCK

If your vehicle becomes stuck in snow, mud, sand, etc., then you may attempt to rock the vehicle free by moving it forward and backward.

If your vehicle is equipped with the traction control system, turn off the system to become unstuck. (For details, see “Traction control system” on page 207.)

CAUTION

Do not attempt to rock the vehicle free by moving it forward and backward if people or objects are anywhere near the vehicle. During the rocking operation the vehicle may suddenly move forward or backward as it becomes unstuck, causing injury or damage to nearby people or objects.
NOTICE

If you rock your vehicle, observe the following precautions to prevent damage to the transmission and other parts.

- Do not depress the accelerator pedal while shifting the selector lever or before the transmission is completely shifted to forward or reverse gear.
- Do not race the engine and avoid spinning the wheels.
- If your vehicle remains stuck after rocking the vehicle several times, consider other ways such as towing.

IF YOUR VEHICLE NEEDS TO BE TOWED

If towing is necessary, we recommend you to have it done by your Lexus dealer or a commercial tow truck service. In consultation with them, have your vehicle towed using either (a) or (b).

(a) Towing with a wheel lift type truck
(b) Using a flat bed truck
(c) Never tow with a sling type truck

Only when you cannot receive a towing service from a Lexus dealer or commercial tow truck service, tow your vehicle carefully in accordance with the instructions given in “(d) Emergency towing” on page 257.

Proper equipment will help ensure that your vehicle is not damaged while being towed. Commercial operators are generally aware of the state/provincial and local laws pertaining to towing.

Your vehicle can be damaged if it is towed incorrectly. Although most operators know the correct procedure, it is possible to make a mistake. To avoid damage to your vehicle, make sure the following precautions are observed. If necessary, show this page to the tow truck driver.

TOWING PRECAUTIONS:

Use a safety chain system for all towing, and abide by the state/provincial and local laws. The wheels and axle on the ground must be in good condition. If they are damaged, use a towing dolly.
(a) Towing with a wheel lift type truck

- From front

**Two–wheel drive models**

Release the parking brake.

**NOTICE**

When lifting wheels, take care to ensure adequate ground clearance for towing at the opposite end of the raised vehicle. Otherwise, the bumper and/or underbody of the towed vehicle will be damaged during towing.

**Four–wheel drive models**

Use a towing dolly under the rear wheels.

**NOTICE**

*Never tow from the front with rear wheels on the ground, as this may cause serious damage to the transmission.*
From rear

Use a towing dolly under the front wheels.

**NOTICE**

Never tow from the rear with front wheels on the ground, as this may cause serious damage to the transmission.

(b) Using a flat bed truck

- Tie down points
If your Lexus is transported by a flat bed, it should be tied down at locations A and B as shown above.

**NOTICE**

Do not use the rear emergency towing eyelets.
If you use chains or wires to tie down your vehicle, the angles shaded black must be at 45°.

(c) Towing with a sling type truck

**NOTICE**

*Do not tow with a sling type truck, either from the front or rear. This may cause body damage.*
(d) Emergency towing

If towing is necessary, we recommend you to have it done by your Lexus dealer or a commercial tow truck service.

If towing service is not available in an emergency, your vehicle may be temporarily towed by a cable or chain secured to the emergency towing eyelet. Use extreme caution when towing the vehicle.

A driver must be in the vehicle to steer it and operate the brakes.

Towing in this manner may be done only on hard-surfaced roads for a short distance and at low speeds. Also, the wheels, axles, drive train, steering and brakes must all be in good condition.

**CAUTION**

Use extreme caution when towing the vehicle. Avoid sudden starts or erratic driving maneuvers which would place excessive stress on the emergency towing eyelet and towing cable or chain. The eyelet and towing cable or chain may break and cause serious injury or damage.

**NOTICE**

- Use only a cable or chain specifically intended for use in towing vehicles. Securely fasten the cable or chain to the towing eyelet provided.
- Never use the eyelets under the front bumper. If you use them for towing, it may damage the vehicle and cause an unexpected accident.

Before towing, release the parking brake and put the transmission in “N”. The ignition key must be in “ACC” (engine off) or “ON” (engine running).

**CAUTION**

If the engine is not running, the power assist for the brakes and steering will not work so steering and braking will be much harder than usual.
Emergency towing eyelet precautions:
- Before emergency towing, check that the eyelet is not broken or damaged and that the installation bolts are not loose.
- Fasten the towing cable or chain securely to the eyelet.
- Do not jerk the eyelet. Apply steady and even force.
- To avoid damaging the eyelet, do not pull from the side or at a vertical angle. Always pull straight ahead.

**CAUTION**

If the emergency towing eyelet is used to get out when your vehicle becomes stuck in the mud, sand or other condition from which the vehicle cannot be driven out under its own power, make sure to observe the precautions mentioned below. Otherwise, excessive stress will be put on the eyelet and the towing cable or chain may break, causing serious injury or damage.
- If the towing vehicle can hardly move, do not forcibly continue the towing. Contact your Lexus dealer or a commercial tow truck service for assistance.
- Tow the vehicle as straight ahead as possible.
- Keep away from the vehicle during towing.

Tips for towing a stuck vehicle:
The following methods are effective to use when your vehicle is stuck in the mud, sand or other condition from which the vehicle cannot be driven out under its own power. Use extreme caution when towing the vehicle. In addition, keep away from the vehicles and towing cable or chain when towing.
- Remove the sand and soil in the front and the back of the tires.
- Place stones or wood under the tires.
IF YOU CANNOT SHIFT AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION SELECTOR LEVER

If you cannot shift the selector lever out of “P” position to other positions even though the brake pedal is depressed, use the shift lock override button as follows:

1. Turn the ignition key to “LOCK”. Make sure the parking brake is applied.
2. Pry up the cover with a flat-bladed screwdriver or equivalent.
3. Push down the shift lock override button. You can shift out of “P” position only while pushing the button.
4. Shift into “N” position.

Insert the cover. Start the engine. For your safety, keep the brake pedal depressed.

Be sure to have the system checked by your Lexus dealer as soon as possible.
IF YOU LOSE YOUR KEYS OR LOCK YOURSELF OUT

You can purchase a new key at your Lexus dealer if you can give them the key number and master key.

Even if you lose only one key, contact your Lexus dealer to make a new key. If you lose all your master keys, you cannot make new keys; the whole engine immobiliser system must be replaced.

See the suggestion given in “Keys” on page 8.

You can use the wireless remote control system with the new key. Contact your Lexus dealer for detailed information.

If your keys are locked in the vehicle and you cannot get a duplicate, many Lexus dealers can still open the door for you, using their special tools. If you must break a window to get in, we suggest breaking the smallest side window because it is the least expensive to replace. Be extremely cautious to avoid cuts from the glass.
MAINTENANCE

Maintenance

Maintenance requirements ........................................... 262
General maintenance .................................................. 263
Does your vehicle need repairing? ............................... 266
Emissions Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) programs ....... 267

For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Your Lexus vehicle has been designed to have fewer maintenance requirements with longer service intervals to save both your time and money. However, each regular maintenance as well as day-to-day care is more important than ever before to ensure smooth, trouble-free, safe, and economical driving.

It is the owner’s responsibility to make sure the specified maintenance, including general maintenance services, is performed. Note that both the new vehicle and emission control system warranties specify that proper maintenance and care must be performed. See “Owner’s Guide”, “Owner’s Manual Supplement” or “Warranty Booklet” for complete warranty information.

General maintenance

General maintenance items are those day-to-day care practices that are important to your vehicle for proper operation. It is the owner’s responsibility to ensure that the general maintenance items are performed regularly.

These checks or inspections can be done either by yourself or your Lexus dealer.

Scheduled maintenance

The scheduled maintenance items listed in the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance” are those required to be serviced at regular intervals.

For details of your maintenance schedule, read the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.

It is recommended that any genuine Lexus parts be used for maintenance.

The owner may elect to use non-Lexus supplied parts for replacement purposes without invalidating the emission control system warranty. However, use of replacement parts which are not of equivalent quality may impair the effectiveness of the emission control systems.

You may also elect to have maintenance, replacement, or repair of the emission control devices and system performed by any automotive repair establishment or individual without invalidating this warranty. See “Owner’s Guide”, “Owner’s Manual Supplement” or “Warranty Booklet” for complete warranty information.

Where to go for service?

Lexus technicians are well-trained specialists and are kept up to date with the latest service information through technical bulletins, service tips, and in-dealership training programs. They are well informed about the operation of all the systems on your vehicle.

You can be confident that your Lexus dealer’s service department performs the best job to meet the maintenance requirements of your vehicle.

Your copy of the repair order is proof that all required maintenance has been performed for warranty coverage. And if any problems should arise with your vehicle while under warranty, your Lexus dealer will promptly take care of it. Again, be sure to keep a copy of the repair order for any service performed on your Lexus.
What about do–it–yourself maintenance?

Many of the maintenance items are easy to do yourself, if you have a little mechanical ability and a few basic automotive tools. Simple instructions for how to perform them are presented in Section 6.

If you are a skilled do–it–yourself mechanic, the Lexus service manuals are recommended. Please be aware that do–it–yourself maintenance can affect your warranty coverage. See “Owner’s Guide”, “Owner’s Manual Supplement” or “Warranty Booklet” for the details.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Listed below are the general maintenance items that should be performed at the intervals specified. It is recommended that any problem you notice be brought to the attention of your Lexus dealer or qualified service shop for their advice.

CAUTION

Make these checks only where adequate ventilation can be obtained if you run the engine.

Vehicle exterior

Items listed below should be performed from time to time, unless otherwise specified.

Tire pressure

Check the pressure with a gauge every two weeks, or at least once a month and adjust as shown on the tire pressure label. See page 299 for additional information.

Tire surface

Check the tires carefully for cuts, damage or excessive wear. See page 301 for additional information.

Wheel nuts

When checking the tires, make sure to check the nuts for looseness. Tighten them if necessary.
Tire rotation
Rotate the tires according to the maintenance schedule. (For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.) See “Rotating tires” on page 300.

Fluid leaks
Check underneath for leaking fuel, oil, water or other fluid after the vehicle has been parked for a while. If you smell fuel fumes or notice any leak, have the cause found and corrected immediately.

Doors and engine hood
Check that all doors and back door operate smoothly and all latches lock securely. Make sure the engine hood secondary latch secures the hood when the primary latch is released.

Vehicle interior
Items listed below should be checked regularly, e.g. while performing periodic services, cleaning the vehicle, etc.

Lights
Make sure the headlight, stop lights, tail lights, turn signal lights, and other lights are working. Check headlight aim.

Service reminder indicators and warning buzzers
Check that all service reminder indicators and warning buzzers function properly.

Steering wheel
Check that it has the specified free play. Be alert for changes in steering condition, such as hard steering, excessive free play or strange noise.

Seats
Check that all front seat controls such as seat adjusters, seatback recliner, etc., operate smoothly. Check that the head restraints move up and down smoothly and that the locks hold securely in any latched position. For folding–down rear seatbacks, check that the latches lock securely.

Seat belts
Check that the seat belt system such as buckles, retractors and anchors operate properly and smoothly. Make sure the belt webbing is not cut, frayed, worn or damaged.

Accelerator pedal
Check the pedal for smooth operation and uneven pedal effort or catching.
Brake pedal
Check the pedal for smooth operation and the proper clearance and free play. Check the brake booster function.

Brakes
At a safe place, check that the brakes do not pull to one side when applied.

Parking brake
Check that the pedal has the proper travel and that, on a safe incline, your vehicle is held securely with only the parking brake applied.

Automatic transmission “Park” mechanism
Check the lock release button of the selector lever for proper and smooth operation. On a safe incline, check that your vehicle is held securely with the selector lever in “P” position and all brakes released.

Engine compartment
Items listed below should be checked from time to time, e.g. each time when refueling.

Washer fluid
Make sure there is sufficient fluid in the tank. See page 320 for additional information.

Engine coolant level
Make sure the coolant level is between the “F” and “L” lines on the see-through reservoir when the engine is cold. See page 290 for additional information.

Radiator, condenser and hoses
Check that the front of the radiator and condenser are clean and not blocked with leaves, dirt or insects. See page 292 for additional information.

Battery
Your Lexus has a maintenance free battery. You do not have to add distilled water. For longer life of the battery, however, see page 313 for additional information.

Brake fluid level
Make sure the brake fluid level is correct. See page 297 for additional information.

Engine oil level
Check the level on the dipstick with the engine turned off and the vehicle parked on a level spot. See page 287 for additional information.
Power steering fluid level
Check the level through the reservoir. The level should be in the “HOT” or “COLD” range depending on the fluid temperature. See page 298 for additional information.

Exhaust system
If you notice any change in the sound of the exhaust or smell exhaust fumes, have the cause located and corrected immediately. (See “Engine exhaust cautions” on page 191.)

DOES YOUR VEHICLE NEED REPAIRING?
Be on the alert for changes in performance and sounds, and visual tip-offs that indicate service is needed. Some important clues are:

- Engine missing, stumbling, or pinging
- Appreciable loss of power
- Strange engine noises
- A fluid leak under the vehicle (However, water dripping from the air conditioning after use is normal.)
- Change in exhaust sound (This may indicate a dangerous carbon monoxide leak. Drive with the windows open and have the exhaust system checked immediately.)
- Flat-looking tires, excessive tire squeal when cornering, uneven tire wear
- Vehicle pulls to one side when driving straight on a level road
- Strange noises related to suspension movement
- Loss of brake effectiveness, spongy feeling brake pedal, pedal almost touches floors, vehicle pulls to one side when braking
- Engine coolant temperature continually higher than normal

If you notice any of these clues, take your vehicle to your Lexus dealer as soon as possible. It probably needs adjustment or repair.
CAUTION

Do not continue driving with the vehicle unchecked. It could result in serious vehicle damage and possibly personal injury.

EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE (I/M) PROGRAMS

Some states have vehicle emission inspection programs which include OBD (On-Board Diagnostics) checks.

The OBD system monitors the operation of the emission control system. When the OBD system determines that a problem exists somewhere in the emission control system, the malfunction indicator lamp comes on. In this case, your vehicle may not pass the I/M test and need to be repaired. Contact your Lexus dealer to service the vehicle.

Even if the malfunction indicator lamp does not come on, your vehicle may not pass the I/M test as readiness codes have not been set in the OBD system.

Readiness codes are automatically set during ordinary driving. However, when the battery is disconnected or run down, the codes are erased. Also, depending on your driving habits, the codes may not be completely set.

Also, if the malfunction indicator lamp had come on recently due to temporary malfunction such as a loose fuel tank cap, your vehicle may not pass the I/M test.

The malfunction indicator lamp will go off after taking several driving trips, but the error code in the OBD system will not be cleared unless about 40 trips or more are taken.

If your vehicle does not pass the I/M test even the malfunction indicator lamp does not come on, contact your Lexus dealer to prepare the vehicle for re-testing.
SECTION 6 – 1

SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Introduction
Vehicle identification ........................................ 270
Engine compartment overview ............................... 272
Do–it–yourself service precautions .......................... 273
Parts and tools ..................................................... 274
Positioning the jack ............................................. 276
The vehicle identification number (VIN) is the legal identifier for your vehicle. This number is stamped under the front passenger’s seat. It is also shown on the left top of the instrument panel and can be seen through the windshield from outside.

This is the primary identification number for your Lexus. It is used in registering the ownership of your vehicle.

The vehicle identification number (VIN) is also on the Certification Label.
The engine number is stamped on the engine block as shown.
ENGINE COMPARTMENT OVERVIEW

1. Engine coolant reservoir
2. Power steering fluid reservoir
3. Engine oil level dipstick
4. Engine oil filler cap
5. Fuse box
6. Brake fluid reservoir
7. Fuse box
8. Battery
9. Radiator
10. Condenser
11. Electric cooling fans
12. Washer fluid tank
DO–IT–YOURSELF SERVICE PRECAUTIONS

If you perform maintenance yourself, be sure to follow the correct procedure given in this Section.

You should be aware that improper or incomplete servicing may result in operating problems.

Performing do–it–yourself maintenance during the warranty period may affect your warranty coverage. Read the separate Lexus Warranty statement for details and suggestions.

This Section gives instructions only for those items that are relatively easy for an owner to perform. As explained in Section 5, there are still a number of items that must be performed by a qualified technician with special tools.

For information on tools and parts for do–it–yourself maintenance, see “Parts and tools” on page 274.

Utmost care should be taken when working on your vehicle to prevent accidental injury. Here are a few precautions that you should be especially careful to observe:

**CAUTION**

- When the engine is running, keep hands, clothing, and tools away from the moving fan and engine drive belt. (Removing rings, watches, and ties is advisable.)

- Right after driving, the engine compartment – the engine, radiator, exhaust manifold and power steering fluid reservoir, etc. – will be hot. So be careful not to touch them. Oil and other fluids may also be hot.

- Do not smoke, cause sparks or allow open flames around fuel or the battery. Their fumes are flammable.

- Do not get under your vehicle with just the body jack supporting it. Always use automotive jack stands or other solid supports.

- Be sure that the ignition is off if you work near the electric cooling fans or radiator grille. With the ignition on, the electric cooling fans will automatically start to run if the engine coolant temperature is high and/or the air conditioning is on.

- Use eye protection whenever you work on or under your vehicle where you may be exposed to flying or falling material, fluid spray, etc.

- Be extremely cautious when working on the battery. It contains poisonous and corrosive sulfuric acid.

- Warning: Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.
NOTICE

- Remember that battery and ignition cables carry high currents or voltages. Be careful of accidentally causing a short circuit.
- Before closing the engine hood, check to see that you have not forgotten any tools, rags, etc.
- Do not drive with the air cleaner removed, or excessive engine wear could result. Also backfiring could cause a fire in the engine compartment.
- Do not overfill automatic transmission fluid and power steering fluid, or the transmission and power steering could be damaged.
- Be careful not to scratch the glass surface with the wiper frame.

PARTS AND TOOLS

Here is a list of parts and tools you will need to perform do-it-yourself maintenance. Remember all Lexus parts are designed in metric sizes, so your tools must be metric.

Checking the engine oil level

Parts (if level is low):
- ‘Toyota Genuine Motor Oil’ or equivalent
  See page 288 for details about engine oil selection.

Tools:
- Rag or paper towel
- Funnel (only for adding oil)

Checking the engine coolant level

Parts (if level is low):
- ‘Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant’ or equivalent
  See ‘Checking the engine coolant level’ on page 290 for instructions.
- Demineralized or distilled water

Tools:
- Funnel (only for adding coolant)
Checking brake fluid
Parts (if level is low):
- FMVSS No. 116 DOT 3 or SAE J1703 brake fluid
Tools:
- Funnel (only for adding fluid)

Checking power steering fluid
Parts (if level is low):
- Automatic transmission fluid DEXRON® II or III
Tools:
- Rag or paper towel
- Funnel (only for adding fluid)

Checking battery condition
Tools:
- Warm water
- Baking soda
- Grease
- Conventional wrench (for terminal clamp bolts)

Checking and replacing the blade type fuses
Parts (if replacement is necessary):
- Fuse with same amperage rating as original

Checking the cartridge type fuses
Parts (if replacement is necessary):
- Genuine Lexus fuse or equivalent with same amperage rating as original

Adding washer fluid
Parts:
- Water
- Washer fluid containing antifreeze (for winter use)
Tools:
- Funnel
POSITIONING THE JACK

Front

Rear (two-wheel drive models)

Rear (four-wheel drive models)

When jacking up your vehicle with the jack, position the jack correctly as shown in the illustrations.

CAUTION

When jacking, be sure to observe the following to reduce the possibility of personal injury:

- Follow jacking instructions.
- Do not put any part of your body under the vehicle supported by the jack. Personal injury may occur.
- Do not start or run the engine while your vehicle is supported by the jack.
- Stop the vehicle on a level firm ground, firmly set the parking brake and put the transmission in “P”. Block the wheels on the opposite side of the jack up point if necessary.
• Make sure to set the jack properly in the jack point. Raising the vehicle with jack improperly positioned will damage the vehicle or may allow the vehicle to fall off the jack and cause personal injury.
• Never get under the vehicle when the vehicle is supported by the jack alone; use vehicle support stands.
• Do not raise the vehicle with someone in the vehicle.
• When raising the vehicle, do not place any objects on top of or underneath the jack.

**NOTICE**

*Make sure to place the jack correctly, or your vehicle may be damaged.*
SECTION 6–2

SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Engine
Specifications ................................................. 280
Fuel ................................................................. 283
Fuel pump shut off system ............................... 285
Facts about engine oil consumption ................. 285
Used engine oil .................................................. 286
Checking the engine oil level ......................... 287
Checking the engine coolant level .................... 290
Checking the radiator and condenser ............... 292
Spark plugs ..................................................... 292
### SPECIFICATIONS

#### GENERAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>1MZ – FE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>6 cylinder V type, 4 cycle, gasoline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bore and stroke</td>
<td>87.5 × 83 mm (3.44 × 3.27 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displacement</td>
<td>2995 cm³ (182.7 cu.in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valve clearance (engine cold)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intake</td>
<td>0.15 – 0.25 mm (0.006 – 0.010 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhaust</td>
<td>0.25 – 0.35 mm (0.010 – 0.014 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drive belt tension (with Borroughs drive belt tension gauge No. BT–33–73F)</td>
<td>115 ± 20 lb.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FUEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fuel type</th>
<th>Only UNLEADED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octane Rating</td>
<td>87 (Research Octane Number 91) or higher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### LUBRICATION SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oil capacity</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drain and refill</td>
<td>4.7 L (5.0 qt., 4.1 lmp.qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with filter</td>
<td>4.5 L (4.8 qt., 4.0 lmp.qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>without filter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Oil grade                   | API grade SL “Energy–Conserving” or ILSAC multigrade engine oil |

| Recommended oil viscosity (SAE): |

![Outside temperature graph]

**NOTE:**

“Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” is filled in your Lexus vehicle. Use Lexus approved “Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” or equivalent to satisfy the above grade and viscosity. Please contact your Lexus dealer for further details.
### COOLING SYSTEM

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capacity</td>
<td>9.0 L (9.5 qt., 7.9 Imp.qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coolant type</td>
<td>“Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With ethylene–glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of aluminum components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Do not use alcohol type antifreeze or plain water alone.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:**

“Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” is filled in your Lexus vehicle. In order to avoid technical problems, we strongly recommend using “Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” or equivalent. Please contact your Lexus dealer for further details.

### IGNITION SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spark plug</th>
<th>Make</th>
<th>Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DENSO</td>
<td>SK20R11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NGK</td>
<td>IFR6A11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.1 mm (0.043 in.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battery Open voltage at 20°C (68°F):</th>
<th>Charging rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.7V Fully charged</td>
<td>5A max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3V Half charged</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.9V Discharged</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Voltage that is checked 20 minutes after the key is removed with all the lights turned off]
FUEL

Fuel type
Your vehicle must use only unleaded gasoline.

To help prevent gas station mixups, your Lexus has a smaller fuel tank opening. The special nozzle on pumps with unleaded fuel will fit it, but the larger standard nozzle on pumps with leaded gas will not.

At a minimum, the gasoline you use should meet the specifications of ASTM D4814 in the U.S.A. and CGSB 3.5–M93 in Canada.

NOTICE
Do not use leaded gasoline. Use of leaded gasoline will cause the three-way catalytic converter to lose its effectiveness and the emission control system to function improperly. Also, this can increase maintenance costs.

Octane rating
Select Octane Rating 87 (Research Octane Number 91) or higher. For improved vehicle performance, the use of premium unleaded gasoline with an Octane Rating of 91 (Research Octane Number 96) or higher is recommended.

Use of unleaded fuel with an Octane Rating or Research Octane Number lower than stated above will cause persistent heavy knocking. If it is severe, this will lead to engine damage.

If your engine knocks ...

If you detect heavy knocking even when using the recommended fuel, or if you hear steady knocking while holding a steady speed on level roads, consult your Lexus dealer.

However, occasionally, you may notice light knocking for a short time while accelerating or driving up hills. This is normal and there is no need for concern.

Gasoline containing detergent additives
Lexus recommends the use of gasoline that contains detergent additives to avoid build-up of engine deposits.

However, all gasoline sold in the U.S. contains detergent additives to keep clean and/or clean intake systems.

Quality gasoline
Automotive manufacturers in the U.S., Europe and Japan have developed a specification for quality fuel named World–Wide Fuel Charter (WWFC) that is expected to be applied world wide. The WWFC consists of three categories that depend on required emission levels. In the U.S., category 3 has been adopted. The WWFC improves air quality by providing for better emissions in vehicle fleets, and customer satisfaction through better vehicle performance.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
Cleaner burning gasoline

Cleaner burning gasoline, including reformulated gasoline that contains oxygenates such as ethanol or MTBE is available in many areas.

Lexus recommends the use of cleaner burning gasoline and appropriately blended reformulated gasoline. These types of gasoline provide excellent vehicle performance, reduce vehicle emissions, and improve air quality.

Oxygenates in gasoline

Lexus allows the use of oxygenate blended gasoline where the oxygenate content is up to 10% ethanol or 15% MTBE. If you use gasohol in your Lexus, be sure that it has an octane rating no lower than 87.

Lexus does not recommend the use of gasoline containing methanol.

Gasoline containing MMT

Some gasoline contain an octane enhancing additive called MMT (Methylcyclopentadienyl Manganese Tricarbonyl).

Lexus does not recommend the use of gasoline that contains MMT. If fuel containing MMT is used, your emission control system may be adversely affected. The Malfunction Indicator Lamp on the instrument cluster may come on. If this happens, contact your Lexus dealer for service.

Gasoline quality

In a very few cases, you may experience driveability problems caused by the particular gasoline that you are using. If you continue to have unacceptable driveability, try changing gasoline brands. If this does not rectify your problem, then consult your Lexus dealer.

NOTICE

- Do not use gasohol other than stated above. It will cause fuel system damage or vehicle performance problems.
- If drivability problems are encountered (poor hot starting, vaporizing, engine knock, etc.), discontinue its use.
- Take care not to spill gasohol during refueling. Gasohol may cause paint damage.

Fuel tank capacity

75 L (19.8 gal., 16.5 imp.gal.)
FUEL PUMP SHUT OFF SYSTEM

The fuel pump shut off system stops supplying fuel to the engine to minimize the risk of fuel leakage when the engine stalls or an airbag inflates upon collision. To restart the engine after the fuel pump shut off system activates, turn the ignition switch to “ACC” or “LOCK” once and start it.

CAUTION
Inspect the ground under the vehicle before restarting the engine. If you find that liquid has leaked onto the ground, it is the fuel system has been damaged and it is in need of repair. In this case, do not restart the engine.

FACTS ABOUT ENGINE OIL CONSUMPTION

Functions of engine oil

Engine oil has the primary function of lubricating and cooling the inside of the engine, and plays a major role in maintaining the engine in proper working order.

Engine oil consumption

It is normal that an engine should consume some engine oil during normal engine operation. The causes of oil consumption in a normal engine are as follows.

- Oil is used to lubricate pistons, piston rings and cylinders. A thin film of oil is left on the cylinder wall when a piston moves downwards in the cylinder. High negative pressure generated when the vehicle is decelerating sucks some of this oil into the combustion chamber. This oil as well as some part of the oil film left on the cylinder wall is burned by the high temperature combustion gases during the combustion process.
- Oil is also used to lubricate the stems of the intake valves. Some of this oil is sucked into the combustion chamber together with the intake air and is burned along with the fuel. High temperature exhaust gases also burn the oil used to lubricate the exhaust valve stems.
The amount of engine oil consumed depends on the viscosity of the oil, the quality of the oil and the way the vehicle is driven.

More oil is consumed under driving conditions such as high speeds and frequent acceleration and deceleration.

A new engine consumes more oil, since its pistons, piston rings and cylinder walls have not become conditioned.

When judging the amount of oil consumption, keep in mind that the oil may have become diluted, making it difficult to judge the true level accurately.

For example, if a vehicle is used for repeated short trips and consumes a normal amount of oil, the dipstick may not show any drop in the oil level at all, even after 1000 km (600 miles) or more. This is because the oil is gradually becoming diluted with fuel or moisture, making it appear that the oil level has not changed.

The diluting ingredients evaporate out when the vehicle is then driven at high speeds, as on an expressway, making it appear that oil is excessively consumed after driving at high speeds.

**Importance of engine oil level check**

One of the most important points in proper vehicle maintenance is to keep the engine oil at the optimum level so that oil function will not be impaired. Therefore, it is essential that the oil level be checked regularly. Lexus recommends that the oil level be checked every time you refuel the vehicle.

---

**NOTICE**

Failure to check the oil level regularly could lead to serious engine trouble due to insufficient oil.

For detailed information on oil level check, see “Checking the engine oil level” on page 287.

---

**USED ENGINE OIL**

**CAUTION**

- Used engine oil contains potentially harmful contaminants which may cause skin disorders such as inflammation or skin cancer, so care should be taken to avoid prolonged and repeated contact with it. To remove used engine oil from your skin, wash thoroughly with soap and water.
- Do not leave used oil within the reach of children.
- Dispose of used oil and used oil filters only in a safe and acceptable manner. Do not dispose of used oil and used oil filters in household trash, in sewers or onto the ground. Call your Lexus dealer or a service station for information concerning recycling or disposal.
CHECKING THE ENGINE OIL LEVEL

With the engine at operating temperature and turned off, check the oil level on the dipstick.

1. To get a true reading, the vehicle should be on a level spot. After turning off the engine, wait a few minutes for the oil to drain back into the bottom of the engine.
2. Pull the dipstick out, hold a rag under the end and wipe it clean.
3. Reinsert the dipstick and push it in as far as it will go, or the reading will not be correct.
4. Pull the dipstick out and look at the oil level while holding a rag under the end. If it is between the low level mark (1) and the full level mark (5), it is O.K.

NOTICE

Be careful not to drop the engine oil on the vehicle components.
If the oil level is below or only slightly above the low mark, add engine oil of the same type as already in the engine.

Remove the oil filler cap and add engine oil a little at a time, checking the dipstick. We recommend that you use a funnel when adding oil. The approximate quantity of oil needed to fill between the low level mark and the full level mark on the dipstick is indicated below for reference.

When the level reaches within the correct range, return the filler cap and turn the cap clockwise until you hear a click.

Oil quantity. L (qt., imp. qt.) 1.5 (1.6, 1.3)

**NOTICE**

- Be careful not to spill the engine oil on the vehicle components.
- Avoid overfilling, or the engine could be damaged. Check the oil level on the dipstick once again after adding the oil.

**Engine oil selection**

“Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” is filled in your Lexus vehicle. Use Lexus approved “Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” or equivalent to satisfy the following grade and viscosity.

Oil grade: API grade SL “Energy–Conserving” or ILSAC multigrade engine oil.

Recommended viscosity: SAE 5W–30

SAE 5W–30 is the best choice for good fuel economy and good starting in cold weather.

If SAE 5W–30 is not available, SAE 10W–30 may be used. However, it should be replaced with SAE 5W–30 at the next oil change.
Oil identification marks

Either or both API registered marks are added to some oil containers to help you select the oil you should use.

- The API Service Symbol is located anywhere on the outside of the container.
  
  The top portion of the label shows the oil quality by API (American Petroleum Institute) designation such as SL. The center portion of the label shows the SAE viscosity grade such as SAE 5W–30. “Energy–Conserving”, shown in the lower portion, indicates that the oil has fuel–saving capabilities.

- The ILSAC (International Lubricant Standardization and Approval Committee) Certification Mark is displayed on the front of the container.

To ensure excellent lubrication performance for your engine, the “Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” range is available, which has been specifically tested and approved for all Lexus engines. Please contact your Lexus dealer for further details of the “Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” range.
CHECKING THE ENGINE COOLANT LEVEL

Look at the see-through coolant reservoir when the engine is cold. The coolant level is satisfactory if it is between the “F” and “L” lines on the reservoir. If the level is low, add ethylene-glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of aluminum components.

The coolant level in the reservoir will vary with engine temperature. However, if the level is on or below the “L” line, add coolant. Bring the level up to the “F” line.

Always use ethylene-glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of aluminum components. See information in the next column.

If the coolant level drops within a short time after replenishing, there may be a leak in the system. Visually check the radiator, hoses, engine coolant filler cap, radiator cap and drain cock and water pump.

If you can find no leak, have your Lexus dealer test the radiator cap pressure and check for leaks in the cooling system.

CAUTION

To prevent burning yourself, do not remove the radiator cap when the engine is hot.
Coolant type selection

Use of improper coolants may damage your engine cooling system. Your coolant must contain ethylene–glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of your engine that contains aluminum components. We have used “Toyota Genuine Long life Coolant” in your Lexus vehicle. In order to avoid technical problems, we strongly recommend using “Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” or equivalent.

In addition to preventing freezing and subsequent damage to the engine, this type of coolant will also prevent corrosion. Further supplemental inhibitors or additives are neither needed nor recommended.

Read the coolant container for information on freeze protection. Follow the manufacturer’s directions for how much to mix with plain water (preferably demineralized water or distilled water). The total capacity of the cooling system is given on page 282.

We recommend to use 50% solution for your Lexus, to provide protection down to about –35 °C (–31 °F). When it is extremely cold, to provide protection down to about –50 °C (–58 °F), 60% solution is recommended. Do not use more than 70% solution for better coolant performance.

**NOTICE**

Do not use alcohol type antifreeze or plain water alone.

The engine cooling system is integral to maximizing performance of your Lexus vehicle. In line with this, it is strongly recommended that you use “Toyota Genuine Long life Coolant” for protecting the system, as it is an ethylene–glycol based premium antifreeze coolant with excellent corrosion protection properties that has been specifically formulated for use in Lexus vehicles.

Please contact your Lexus dealer for further details of the “Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” range.
CHECKING THE RADIATOR AND CONDENSER

If any of the above parts are extremely dirty or you are not sure of their condition, take your vehicle to Lexus dealer.

⚠️ CAUTION
To prevent burning yourself, be careful not to touch the radiator or condenser when the engine is hot.

NOTICE
To prevent damage to the radiator and condenser, do not perform the work by yourself.

SPARK PLUGS

Your engine is fitted with iridium–tipped spark plugs.

NOTICE
Use only iridium–tipped spark plugs and do not adjust gaps for your engine performance and smooth drivability.
SECTION 6-3

SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Chassis
Specifications .................................................. 294
Checking brake fluid ........................................... 297
Checking power steering fluid .............................. 298
Checking tire pressure ........................................ 299
Rotating tires ...................................................... 300
Checking and replacing tires .............................. 301
Installing snow tires and chains ......................... 303
Replacing wheels ............................................... 305
Aluminum wheel precautions ............................... 306
Suspension and chassis ...................................... 307
## SPECIFICATIONS

### DIFFERENTIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil capacity</td>
<td>0.9 L (1.0 qt., 0.8 Imp.qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil type</td>
<td>Hypoid gear oil API GL–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended oil viscosity</td>
<td>Above –18°C (0°F) SAE 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Below –18°C (0°F) SAE 80W or 80W–90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### AUTOMATIC TRANSAXLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fluid capacity Drain and refill</td>
<td>3.5 L (3.7 qt., 3.1 Imp.qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluid type</td>
<td>Toyota Genuine ATF Type T–IV*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Change automatic transmission fluid only as necessary. Generally, it is necessary to change automatic transmission fluid only if your vehicle is driven under one of the Special Operating Conditions listed in your “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”. When changing the automatic transmission fluid, use only “Toyota Genuine ATF Type T–IV” (ATF JWS3309 or NWS6500) to aid in assuring optimum transaxle performance.

### NOTICE

Using automatic transmission fluid other than “Toyota Genuine ATF Type T–IV” may cause deterioration in shift quality, locking up of your transmission accompanied by vibration, and ultimately damage the automatic transmission of your vehicle.

Please contact your Lexus dealer for further details.
### TRANSFER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil capacity</td>
<td>0.9 L (1.0 qt., 0.8 Imp. qt.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil type</td>
<td>Hypoid gear oil API GL–5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended oil viscosity</td>
<td>Above –18°C (0°F) SAE 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Below –18°C (0°F) SAE 80W or 80W–90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BRAKES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pedal clearance</td>
<td>122 mm (5.0 in.) Min. *¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedal free play</td>
<td>1 – 6 mm (0.04 – 0.24 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brake pad wear limit</td>
<td>1.0 mm (0.04 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking brake lining wear limit</td>
<td>1.0 mm (0.04 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking brake adjustment</td>
<td>5 – 7 clicks *²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluid type</td>
<td>SAE J1703 or FMVSS No. 116 DOT 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*¹: Minimum pedal clearance when depressed with the pressure of 490 N (50 kgf, 110 lbf) with the engine running

*²: Parking brake adjustment when depressed with the pressure of 294 N (30 kgf, 66 lbf)

### STEERING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheel free play</td>
<td>Less than 30 mm (1.2 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power steering fluid type</td>
<td>Automatic transmission fluid DEXRON® II or III</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)
### TIRES AND WHEELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tire size</th>
<th>P225/70R16 101S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended cold tire inflation pressure</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle loaded up to vehicle capacity weight</td>
<td>210 kPa (2.1 kgf/cm² or bar, 30 psi) (Both front and rear)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spare tire</td>
<td>210 kPa (2.1 kgf/cm² or bar, 30 psi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trailer towing (conventional and snow tires)</td>
<td>210 kPa (2.1 kgf/cm² or bar, 30 psi) (Both front and rear)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For sustained high speeds above 160 km/h (100 mph), in countries where such speeds are permitted by law, add 30 kPa (0.3 kgf/cm² or bar, 5 psi) to the front tires and rear tires, but never exceed the maximum cold tire pressure molded on the tire sidewall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Wheel size | 16 × 6 1/2 JJ |
| Wheel nut torque | 103 N·m (10.5 kgf-m, 76 ft·lbf) |

NOTE: For complete information on tires (e.g. replacing tires or replacing wheels), see “Checking tire pressure” through “Aluminum wheel precautions” on pages 299 through 306.
CHECKING BRAKE FLUID

To check the fluid level, simply look at the see-through reservoir. The level should be between the “MAX” and “MIN” lines on the tank.

It is normal for the brake fluid level to go down slightly as the brake pads wear. So be sure to keep the reservoir filled.

If the reservoir needs frequent refilling, it may indicate a serious mechanical problem.

If the level is low, add FMVSS No.116 DOT 3 or SAE J1703 brake fluid to the brake reservoir.

Remove and replace the reservoir cap by hand. Add brake fluid up to the “MAX” line.

Use only newly opened brake fluid. Once opened, brake fluid absorbs moisture from the air, and excess moisture can cause a dangerous loss of braking efficiency.

---

**CAUTION**

Take care when filling the reservoir because brake fluid can harm your hands or eyes and damage painted surfaces. If fluid gets in your eyes, flush your eyes with clean water immediately. If you still feel uncomfortable with your eyes, go to the doctor.

**NOTICE**

If you spill some of the fluid, be sure to wipe it off to prevent it from damaging the parts or paintwork.
CHECKING POWER STEERING FLUID

Check the fluid level through the reservoir. If necessary, add automatic transmission fluid DEXRON II or III.

If the vehicle has been driven around 80 km/h (50 mph) for 20 minutes (a little more in frigid temperatures), the fluid is hot (60°C – 80°C or 140°F – 175°F). You may also check the level when the fluid is cold (about room temperature, 10°C – 30°C or 50°F – 85°F) if the engine has not been run for about five hours.

If hot O.K.
1 If hot add
2 If hot
3 If cold O.K.
4 If cold add

Clean all dirt off the reservoir and look at the fluid level. If the fluid is cold, the level should be in the “COLD” range. Similarly, if it is hot, the fluid level should be in the “HOT” range. If the level is at the low side of the appropriate range, add automatic transmission fluid DEXRON II or III to bring the level within the range.

To remove the reservoir cap, turn it counterclockwise and lift up. To reinstall it, turn it clockwise. After replacing the reservoir cap, visually check the steering box case, vane pump and hose connections for leaks or damage.

⚠️ CAUTION

The reservoir may be hot so be careful not to burn yourself.
NOTICE

Avoid overfilling, or the power steering could be damaged.

CHECKING TIRE PRESSURE

The recommended cold tire pressures, tire size and the vehicle capacity weight are given on the label.

You should check the tire pressures every two weeks, or at least once a month. And don’t forget the spare! The air pressure for the spare tire should be 210 kPa (2.1 kgf/cm² or bar, 30 psi). Incorrect tire pressure may waste fuel, reduce the comfort of driving, reduce tire life and make your vehicle less safe to drive.

If a tire needs frequent refilling, have it checked by your Lexus dealer.

CAUTION

Keep your tire pressure properly. Otherwise, the following conditions may occur and cause an accident resulting in death or serious injuries.

Low tire pressure (underinflation) —
- Excessive wear
- Uneven wear
- Poor handling
- Possibility of blowouts from overheated tire
- Poor sealing of the tire bead
- Wheel deformation and/or tire separation

High tire pressure (overinflation) —
- Poor handling
- Excessive wear at the center of the tire tread
- A greater possibility of tire damage from road hazards
The following instructions for checking tire pressure should be observed:

- **The pressure should be checked only when the tires are cold.** If your vehicle has been parked for at least 3 hours and has not been driven for more than 1.5 km or 1 mile since, you will get an accurate cold tire pressure reading.

- **Always use a tire pressure gauge.** The appearance of the tire can be misleading. Besides, tire pressures that are even just a few pounds off can degrade ride and handling.

- **Do not bleed or reduce tire pressure after driving.** It is normal for the tire pressure to be higher after driving.

- **Never exceed the vehicle capacity weight.** The passengers and luggage weight should be located so that the vehicle is balanced.

- **Be sure to reinstall the tire valve caps.** Without the valve caps, dirt or moisture could get into the valve core and cause air leakage. If the caps have been lost, have new ones put on as soon as possible.

---

**ROTATING TIRES**

To equalize the wear and help extend tire life, Lexus recommends that you rotate your tires according to the maintenance schedule. (For scheduled maintenance information, please refer to the “Owner’s Manual Supplement / Scheduled Maintenance”.) However, the most appropriate timing for tire rotation may vary according to your driving habits and road surface conditions.

The wheel assemblies must be rotated as illustrated above.

When rotating tires, check for uneven wear and damage. Abnormal wear is usually caused by incorrect tire pressure, improper wheel alignment, out-of-balance wheels, or severe braking.

Before storing radial, snow or studded tires, mark the direction of rotation and be sure to install them in the same direction when using them again. Tires should be stored in a cool dry place.
CHECKING AND REPLACING TIRES

When to replace your tires

1. New tread
2. Tread wear indicator
3. Worn tread

Replace the tires when the tread wear indicators show. The location of the tread wear indicators is shown by the marks such as “TWI” or “Δ” marks molded on the sidewall of each tire.

The tires on your Lexus have built-in tread wear indicators to help you know when the tires need replacement. When the tread depth wears to 1.6 mm (0.06 in.) or less, the indicators will appear. If you can see the indicators in two or more adjacent grooves, the tire should be replaced.

The effectiveness of snow tires is lost if the tread wears down below 4 mm (0.16 in.).

If you have tire damage such as cuts, splits, cracks deep enough to expose the fabric, or bulges indicating internal damage, the tire should be replaced.

If a tire often goes flat or cannot be properly repaired due to the size or location of a cut or other damage, it should be replaced. If you are not sure, consult with your Lexus dealer.

If an air loss occurs while driving, do not continue driving with a deflated tire. Driving even a short distance can damage a tire beyond repair.

Any tires which are over 6 years old must be checked by a qualified technician even if damage is not obvious.

Tires deteriorate with age even if they have never or seldom been used.

This also applies to the spare tire and tires stored for future use.
Uniform tire quality grading

This information has been prepared in accordance with regulations issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. It provides the purchasers and/or prospective purchasers of Lexus vehicles with information on uniform tire quality grading.

Your Lexus dealer will help answer any questions you may have as you read this information.

DOT quality grades – All passenger vehicle tires must conform to Federal Safety Requirements in addition to these grades. Quality grades can be found where applicable on the tire sidewall between tread shoulder and maximum section width. For example: Treadwear 200 Traction AA Temperature A

Treadwear – The treadwear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course. For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and a half (1 – 1/2) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices and differences in road characteristics and climate.

Traction AA, A, B, C – The traction grades, from highest to lowest, are AA, A, B and C, and they represent the tire’s ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction performance.

Warning: The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on braking (straight ahead) traction tests and does not include cornering (turning) traction.

Temperature A, B, C – The temperature grades are A (the highest), B, and C, representing the tire’s resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel. Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger car tires must meet under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.

Warning: The temperature grades for this tire are established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat buildup and possible tire failure.
Tire selection
When replacing a tire, use a tire of the same size and construction, and the same or greater load capacity as the originally installed tires. Also, on four-wheel drive models, all the tires must be the same brand and have the same tread patterns.

Using any other size or type of tire may seriously affect handling, ride, speedometer/odometer calibration, ground clearance, and clearance between the body and tires or snow chains.

CAUTION
Observe the following instructions. Otherwise, an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.

- Do not mix radial, bias belted, or bias-ply tires on your vehicle, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.
- Do not use tires other than the manufacturer’s recommended size, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.
- Four-wheel drive models: Do not use tires of different brands, sizes, construction or tread patterns, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.

INSTALLING SNOW TIRES AND CHAINS

When to use snow tires or chains
Snow tires or chains are recommended when driving on snow or ice.

On wet or dry roads, conventional or radial tires provide better traction than snow or studded tires.

Snow tire selection
If you need snow tires, select the same size, construction and load capacity as the original tires on your Lexus.

Do not use tires other than stated above. Since your vehicle has radial tires as original equipment, make sure your snow tires also have radial construction. Do not install studded tires without first checking local regulations for possible restrictions.
CAUTION
Observe the following instructions. Otherwise, an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.

- Do not use snow tires other than the manufacturer’s recommended size, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.
- Four-wheel drive models:
  Do not use snow tires of different brands, sizes, construction or tread patterns, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.

Snow tire installation
Snow tires should be installed on all wheels.
Installing snow tires on the front wheels only can lead to an excessive difference in road grip capability between the front and rear tires which could cause loss of vehicle control.

CAUTION

- Snow tires should be inflated to the same pressure as the original tires.
- Never drive over 120 km/h (75 mph) with any type of snow tires.

Tire chain selection

Use the tire chains of correct size.
For P225/70R16 101S tires, use the following type chains.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Diameter of side chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Width of side chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Length of side chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Width of cross chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Length of cross chain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Diameter of cross chain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regulations regarding the use of tire chains vary according to location or type of road. Always check the local regulations before installing chains.
NOTICE

If the wrong combination of tire and chain is used, the chains could damage the vehicle body.

Chain installation

Install the chains on the front tires as tightly as possible. Do not use tire chains on the rear tires. Retighten chains after driving 0.5 – 1.0 km (1/4 – 1/2 mile).

When installing chains on your tires, carefully follow the instructions of the chain manufacturer.

CAUTION

- Do not exceed 50 km/h (30 mph) or the chain manufacturer’s recommended speed limit, whichever is lower.
- Drive carefully avoiding bumps, holes, and sharp turns, which may cause the vehicle to bounce.
- Avoid sharp turns or locked-wheel braking, as use of chains may adversely affect vehicle handling.
- When driving with chains installed, be sure to drive carefully. Slow down before entering the curves to avoid losing control of the vehicle. Otherwise an accident may occur.

REPLACING WHEELS

When to replace your wheels

If you have wheel damage such as bending, cracks or heavy corrosion, the wheel should be replaced.

If you fail to replace damaged wheels, the tire may slip off the wheel or cause loss of handling control.

Replacement with used wheels is not recommended as they may have been subjected to rough treatment or high mileage and could fail without warning. Also, bent wheels which have been straightened may have hidden structural damage and therefore should not be used. Never use an inner tube in a leaking wheel which is designed for a tubeless tire.

Wheel selection

When replacing wheels, care should be taken to ensure that they are equivalent to those removed in load capacity, diameter, rim width, and offset.

Correct replacement wheels are available at your Lexus dealer.

A wheel of a different size or type may adversely affect handling, wheel and bearing life, brake cooling, speedometer/odometer calibration, stopping ability, headlight aim, bumper height, vehicle ground clearance, and tire or snow chain clearance to the body and chassis.
CAUTION
Observe the following instructions. Otherwise, an accident may occur resulting in death or serious injuries.

- Do not use wheels other than the manufacturer’s recommended size, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.
- Four-wheel drive models: Do not use wheels of different brands, sizes and types, as this may cause dangerous handling characteristics resulting in loss of control.

ALUMINUM WHEEL PRECAUTIONS
- When installing aluminum wheels, check that the wheel nuts are tight after driving your vehicle the first 1600 km (1000 miles).
- If you have rotated, repaired, or changed your tires, check that the wheel nuts are still tight after driving 1600 km (1000 miles).
- When using tire chains, be careful not to damage the aluminum wheels.
- Use only the Lexus wheel nuts and wrench designed for your aluminum wheels.
- When balancing your wheels, use only Lexus balance weights or equivalent and a plastic or rubber hammer.
- As with any wheel, periodically check your aluminum wheels for damage. If damaged, replace immediately.
SUSPENSION AND CHASSIS

CAUTION

Do not modify the suspension/chassis with lift kits, spacers, springs, etc. It can cause dangerous handling characteristics, resulting in loss of control.
SECTION 6 - 4

SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Electrical components

Specifications .................................................. 310
Checking battery condition ................................. 313
Battery recharging precautions ........................... 316
Checking and replacing the blade type fuses ............ 316
Checking the cartridge type fuses ....................... 319
Adding washer fluid ........................................... 320
Checking the headlight aim ................................. 321
Replacing light bulbs ........................................... 322
SPECIFICATIONS

– FUSE LOCATIONS

1 2  Engine compartment
3  Driver’s side instrument panel

– FUSES

Engine compartment

Engine compartment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>FUSE</th>
<th>AMPERE</th>
<th>CIRCUIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DRL</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Daytime running light system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>TOWING</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Trailer lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>H–LP R LWR</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Right–hand headlight (low beam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>H–LP L LWR</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Left–hand headlight (low beam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>HAZARD</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Emergency flashers, Turn signal lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>AM2</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Starting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>TEL</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Telephone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>FL DOOR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Power door lock system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>SPARE</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Spare fuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SPARE</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Spare fuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>SPARE</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Spare fuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>ALT–S</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Charging system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>HORN</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Theft deterrent system, Horn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>EFI</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Multiport fuel injection system/Sequential multiport fuel injection system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>DOME</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Interior light, Vanity lights, Foot lights, Rear personal light, Gauges and meters, Multi–display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>ECU–B</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Multiplex computer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>RAD NO.1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Audio system</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02' Prod. (OM48442U)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>FUSE</th>
<th>AMPERE</th>
<th>CIRCUIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>ABS 3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Anti-lock brake system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>H–LP R UPR</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Right–hand headlight (high beam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>H–LP L UPR</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Left–hand headlight (high beam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>A/F HTR</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Air fuel ratio sensor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>IGN</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>SRS system, Multiport fuel injection/Sequential multiport fuel injection system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>RADIO NO.2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Audio system, Multiplex computer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>CIG</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cigarette lighter, Outside rear view mirrors, Power door lock system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>D RR DOOR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Rear door lock, Rear power window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>PWR OUTLET</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Power outlets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>FR FOG</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Fog lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>SRS–IG</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>SRS system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>ECU–IG</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Telephone, Inside rear view mirror, Anti–lock brake system, Traction control system, Multi–display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>WIPER</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Windshield wipers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>P RR DOOR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Rear door lock, Rear power window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>P FR DOOR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Front door lock, Front power window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>S/ROOF</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Moon roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>HEATER</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Air conditioning system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>GAUGE</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Multiplex computer, Service reminder indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>RR WIP</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Rear window wiper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>STOP</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Stop lights, High mounted stoplight, Anti–lock brake system, Traction control system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>OBD</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>On–board diagnosis system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>SEAT HTR</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Seat heater system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>STARTER</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Starting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>WASHER</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Washer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>RR FOG</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>No circuit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>FR DEF</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>TAIL</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tail lights, Side marker lights, License plate lights, Parking lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>PANEL</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Instrument panel lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Anti–lock brake system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>ALT</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>Charging system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>RDI</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Cooling fan system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>FUSE</td>
<td>AMPERE</td>
<td>CIRCUIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>CDS</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Cooling fan system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>RR DEF</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Rear window and outside rear view mirror defogger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>HEATER</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Blower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>MAIN</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Starting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>AM1</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Ignition system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>POWER</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Power seats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHECKING BATTERY CONDITION**

**Precautions**

---

**CAUTION**

**BATTERY PRECAUTIONS**

The battery produces flammable and explosive hydrogen gas.

- Do not cause a spark by contacting the battery terminals with tools.
- Do not smoke or light a match near the battery.
- The electrolyte contains poisonous and corrosive sulfuric acid.
- Avoid contact with eyes, skin or clothes.
- Never inhale or swallow electrolyte.
- Wear protective safety glasses when working near the battery.
- Keep children away from the battery.

**EMERGENCY MEASURES**

- If electrolyte gets in your eyes, flush your eyes with clean water for at least 15 minutes and get immediate medical attention. If possible, continue to apply water with a sponge or cloth while traveling to the medical office.
● If electrolyte gets on your skin, thoroughly wash the contacted area. If you feel a pain or burn, get medical attention immediately.

● If electrolyte gets on your clothes, there is a possibility of its soaking through to your skin, so immediately take off the exposed clothing and follow the procedure above, if necessary.

● If you accidentally swallow electrolyte, drink a large quantity of water or milk. Follow with milk of magnesia, beaten raw egg or vegetable oil. Then go immediately for emergency help.

● Warning: Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Wash hands after handling.

Checking battery exterior

1. Terminals  2. Hold–down clamp

Check the battery for corroded or loose connections, cracks, or loose hold–down clamps.

1. If the battery is corroded, wash it off with a solution of warm water and baking soda. Coat the terminals with grease to prevent further corrosion.

2. If the connections are loose, tighten the clamp bolts – but do not overtighten.

3. Tighten the hold–down clamp only enough to keep the battery firmly in place. Overtightening may damage the battery case.
**NOTICE**

- Make sure the engine and all accessories are turned off before performing maintenance.
- When checking the battery, remove the ground cable first and reinstall it last.
- Be careful not to cause a short circuit with tools.
- Take care no solution gets into the battery when washing it.

### Checking battery condition

#### Checking by indicator

Check the battery condition by the indicator color.

1. **RED** – Have the battery checked by your Lexus dealer.
2. **BLUE** – Good condition
3. **WHITE** – Charging necessary. Have the battery checked by your Lexus dealer.

**NOTICE**

*Do not refill the battery with water.*
BATTERY RECHARGING PRECAUTIONS

During recharging, the battery is producing hydrogen gas.

Therefore, before recharging:
1. If recharging with the battery installed on the vehicle, be sure to disconnect the ground cable.
2. Make sure the power switch on the recharger is off when connecting the charger cables to the battery and when disconnecting them.

CAUTION

- Always charge the battery in an unconfined area. Do not charge the battery in a garage or closed room where there is not sufficient ventilation.
- Only do a slow charge (5 A or less). Charging at a quicker rate is dangerous. The battery may explode causing personal injuries.

NOTICE

Never recharge the battery while the engine is running. Also, be sure all accessories are turned off.

CHECKING AND REPLACING THE BLADE TYPE FUSES

Engine compartment

1 Pull-out tool  2 Spare fuses
1. Turn the ignition switch off and remove the auxiliary box.
   Determine which fuse may be causing the problem. The auxiliary box shows the name of the circuit for each fuse.

2. Make sure the inoperative component is turned off. Pull the suspected fuse straight out with the pull–out tool and check it. If it has blown, push a new fuse into the clips.
Good Blown

a. Look carefully at the fuse. If the thin wire is broken, the fuse has blown. If you are not sure or if it is too dark to see, try replacing the suspected fuse with one of the same value that you know is good.

b. Only install a fuse with the amperage rating designated on the fuse box lid.

If you do not have a spare fuse, in an emergency you can pull out the “RAD NO.1”, “RADIO NO.2”, or “PWR OUTLET” fuse, which may be dispensable for normal driving, and use it if its amperage rating is the same.

If you cannot use one of the same amperage, use one lower than, but as close as possible to, the amperage. If the amperage is lower than that specified, the fuse might blow out again but this does not indicate anything wrong. Be sure to get the correct fuse as soon as possible and return the substitute to its original clips.

It is a good idea to purchase a set of spare fuses and keep them in your vehicle for emergencies.

If the new fuse immediately blows out, there is a problem with the electrical system. Have your Lexus dealer correct it as soon as possible.

CAUTION

Never use a fuse with a higher amperage rating, or any other object, in place of a fuse. This may cause extensive damage and possibly a fire.
CHECKING THE CARTRIDGE TYPE FUSES

If the headlights or other electrical components do not work and the blade type fuses are O.K., check the cartridge type fuses. If any of the cartridge type fuses are blown, they must be replaced.

► Engine compartment

► Driver’s side instrument panel
If there is an overload in the circuits from the battery, the fuses are designed to blow before the entire wiring harness is damaged.

**CAUTION**
Always use a genuine Lexus fuse or equivalent for replacement. Never install an ordinary wire – even for a temporary fix. This may cause extensive damage and possibly a fire.

**NOTICE**
Before replacing the fuses, have the cause of electrical overload determined and repaired by your Lexus dealer.

---

**ADDING WASHER FLUID**

If the washer tank becomes nearly empty, add washer fluid.

You may use plain water as washer fluid. However, in cold areas where temperatures range below the freezing point, use washer fluid containing antifreeze. This product is available at your Lexus dealer and most auto parts stores. Follow the manufacturer’s directions for how much to mix with water.

**NOTICE**
- Do not use engine antifreeze or any other substitute because it may damage your vehicle’s paint.
- Do not fill washer fluid over the “NORMAL” level.
CHECKING THE HEADLIGHT AIM
(Vehicles with discharge headlight only)

Before checking the headlight aim:
1. Be sure that the body around the headlight is not deformed.
2. Park the vehicle on a level spot.
3. The driver gets into the driver’s seat and puts the vehicle in a state readying for a driving (with a full tank).
4. Bounce the vehicle several times.

Vertical movement adjusting bolt 1
Vertical movement adjusting bolt 2

Adjusting the vertical aiming

1. Turn the vertical movement adjusting bolt 1 in either direction. At this time, keep the turning direction and number of turns in mind.
2. Turn the vertical movement adjusting bolt 2 the same number of turns and in the same direction at step 1.
REPLACING LIGHT BULBS

The illustration on the following pages show the locations of light bulbs. If it is necessary to replace a bulb, take your vehicle to your Lexus dealer as soon as possible. Use bulbs with the bulb numbers and wattage ratings given in the table.

---

**CAUTION**

- To prevent burning yourself, do not replace the light bulbs while they are hot.
- Halogen bulbs have pressurized gas inside and require special handling. They can burst or shatter if scratched or dropped. Hold a bulb only by its plastic or metal case. Do not touch the glass part of a bulb with bare hands.

**NOTICE**

*Only use a bulb of the listed type.*

The inside of the lens of exterior lights such as headlights may temporarily fog up when the lens becomes wet in the rain or in a car wash. This is not a problem because the fogging is caused by the temperature difference between the outside and inside of the lens, just like the windshield fogged up in the rain. However, if there is a large drop of water on the inside of the lens, or if there is water pooled inside the light, contact your Lexus dealer.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Light Bulbs</th>
<th>Bulb No</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Headlights (high beam)</td>
<td>9005</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Headlights (low beam)</td>
<td>D2R</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Halogen bulb</td>
<td>9006</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Parking lights</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Front turn signal lights</td>
<td>7440</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Fog lights</td>
<td>9006</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Front side marker lights</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light Bulbs</td>
<td>Bulb No</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 High mounted stoplight</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Rear turn signal lights</td>
<td>7443</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Stop/tail lights</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Rear side marker lights</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Back-up lights</td>
<td>7440</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 License plate lights</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Vanity lights</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Personal light</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Interior lights</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Door courtesy light</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Glove box light</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A: HB3 halogen bulbs
B: D2R discharge bulbs
C: HB4 halogen bulbs
D: Single end bulbs
E: Wedge base bulbs
F: Double end bulbs
SERVICE PROCEDURES AND SPECIFICATIONS

Body
Specifications ................................................. 326
Protecting your vehicle from corrosion ................. 327
Washing and waxing ....................................... 328
Cleaning the interior ...................................... 330
## SPECIFICATIONS

### – DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall length</td>
<td>4580 mm (180.3 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall width</td>
<td>1815 mm (71.5 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall height</td>
<td>1670 mm (65.7 in.)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelbase</td>
<td>2615 mm (103 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tread – Front</td>
<td>1565 mm (61.6 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tread – Rear</td>
<td>1550 mm (61.0 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle capacity weight (occupants + luggage)</td>
<td>380 kg (840 lb.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Unladen vehicle

### – FUEL TANK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75 L (19.8 gal., 16.5 imp.gal.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROTECTING YOUR VEHICLE FROM CORROSION

Proper care of your Lexus can help ensure long-term corrosion prevention.

The most common causes of corrosion to your vehicle are:

- The accumulation of road salt, dirt and moisture in hard-to-reach areas under the vehicle.
- Chipping of paint or undercoating caused by minor accidents or by stones and gravel.

The following conditions will cause or accelerate corrosion of your vehicle, so it is important to keep your vehicle, particularly the underside, as clean as possible and to repair any damage to paint or protective coatings as soon as possible.

- The presence of road salt or dust control chemicals, salt in the air near the sea coast, industrial air pollution.
- High humidity, especially at temperatures just above freezing point.
- Certain parts of your vehicle are wet or damp for an extended period of time, even though other parts of the vehicle are dry.
- Components of the vehicle which are prevented from quick-drying due to lack of proper ventilation are exposed to high ambient temperature.

To help prevent corrosion on your Lexus, follow these guidelines:

Keep your vehicle clean by regular washing. In addition, observe the following points.

- If you drive on salted roads in the winter or if you live near the ocean, you should hose off the undercarriage at least once a month to minimize corrosion.
- High pressure water or steam is effective for cleaning the vehicle’s underside and wheel housings. Pay particular attention to these areas as it is difficult to see all the mud and dirt. It will do more harm than good to simply wet the mud and debris without removing them. The lower edge of doors, rocker panels and frame members have drain holes which should not be allowed to clog with dirt as trapped water in these areas can cause corrosion.
- Wash the underside of the vehicle thoroughly when winter is over.

See “Washing and waxing” on page 328 for more tips.

Check the condition of your vehicle’s paint and trim. If you find any chips or scratches in the paint, touch them up immediately to prevent corrosion from starting. If the chips or scratches have gone through the bare metal, have a qualified body shop make the repair.
Check the interior of your vehicle. Water and dirt can accumulate under the floor mats and could cause corrosion. Occasionally check under the mats to make sure the area is dry. Be particularly careful when transporting chemicals, cleansers, fertilizers, salt, etc. These should be transported in proper containers. If a spill or leak should occur, immediately clean and dry the area.

Use mud shields on your wheels. If you drive on salted or gravel roads, mud shields help protect your vehicle. Full-size shields, which come as near to the ground as possible, are the best. We recommend that the fittings and the area where the shields are installed be treated to resist corrosion. Your Lexus dealer will be happy to assist in supplying and installing the shields if they are recommended for your area.

Keep your vehicle in a well ventilated garage or a roofed place. Do not park your vehicle in a damp, poorly ventilated garage. If you wash your vehicle in the garage, or if you drive it in covered with water or snow, your garage may become so damp it will cause corrosion. Even if your garage is heated, a wet vehicle can corrode if the ventilation is poor.

WASHING AND WAXING

Washing your Lexus

Keep your vehicle clean by regular washing. The following cases may cause weakness to the paint or corrosion to the body and parts. Wash your vehicle as soon as possible.

- When driving in a coastal area
- When driving on a road sprinkled with antifreeze
- When having coal tar, tree sap, bird droppings and carcass of an insect
- When driving in the areas where there is a lot of smoke, soot, dust, iron dust and chemical substance
- When the vehicle becomes remarkably dirty with dust and mud

Hand-washing your Lexus

Work in the shade and wait until the vehicle body is not hot to the touch.

1. Rinse off loose dirt with a hose. Remove any mud or road salt from the underside of the vehicle or in the wheel wells.
2. Wash with a mild car-wash soap, mixed according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Use a soft cotton mitt and keep it wet by dipping it frequently into the wash water. Do not rub hard – let the soap and water remove the dirt.
Plastic wheel ornaments: The plastic wheel ornaments are damaged easily by organic substances. If any organic substance splashes an ornament, be sure to wash it off with water and check if the ornament is damaged.

![CAUTION]
Do not attach the heavily damaged plastic wheel ornament. It may fly off the wheel and cause accidents while the vehicle is moving.

Aluminum wheels: Use only a mild soap or neutral detergent.

Urethane bumpers and side moldings: Wash carefully. Do not scrub with abrasive cleaners. The bumper and side molding faces are soft.

Road tar: Remove with turpentine or cleaners that are marked safe for painted surfaces.

![NOTICE]
Do not use organic substances (gasoline, kerosene, benzine or strong solvents), which may be toxic or cause damage.

3. Rinse thoroughly – dried soap can cause streaking. In hot weather you may need to rinse each section right after you wash it.

4. To prevent water spots, dry the vehicle using a clean soft cotton towel. Do not rub or press hard – you might scratch the paint.

Automatic car wash

![NOTICE]
To prevent damage to the antenna, make sure it is retracted before driving your vehicle through an automatic car wash.

Your vehicle may be washed in an automatic car wash, but remember that the paint can be scratched by some type of brushes, unfiltered washing water, or the washing process itself. Scratching reduces paint durability and gloss, especially on darker colors. The manager of the car wash should be able to advise you whether the process is safe for the paint on your vehicle.
**Waxing your Lexus**

Polishing and waxing is recommended to maintain the original beauty of your Lexus' finish.

Once a month or if the vehicle surface does not repel water well, apply wax.

1. Always wash and dry the vehicle before you begin waxing, even if you are using a combined cleaner and wax.
2. Use a good quality polish and wax. If the finish has become extremely weathered, use a car–cleaning polish, followed by a separate wax. Carefully follow the manufacturer’s instructions and precautions. Be sure to polish and wax the chrome trim as well as the paint.
3. Wax the vehicle again when water does not bead but remains on the surface in large patches.

**CLEANING THE INTERIOR**

**CAUTION**

- Be careful not to splash water or spill liquid on the floor. This may prevent the side airbags from activating correctly, resulting in serious injury.
- Do not wash the vehicle floor with water, or allow water to get onto the floor when cleaning the vehicle interior or exterior. Water may get into audio components or other electrical components above or under the floor carpet (or mat) and cause a malfunction; and it may cause body corrosion.

**Leather Interior**

The selected leather is used in your Lexus. Due to a leather product, some parts of leather may be rough, uneven or scratched originally.

To keep good appearance, we recommend you to clean it periodically twice a year.

Remove dirt on the leather in the following ways:

1. Wipe it off lightly using a soft cloth (e.g. gauze) dampened with 5% solution of neutral detergent for wool.
2. Wring water from a clean cloth and thoroughly wipe off all traces of detergent with it.
3. Wipe off the surface of the leather with a dry soft cloth. Allow the leather to dry in a ventilated shaded area. Excess of wet may cause the hardening or shrinking of the leather.
NOTICE

- Dirt or sand adhered to the leather may damage the treated surface and cause it to wear earlier. Remove dirt or sand using a vacuum cleaner.
- If a stain should fail to come out with a neutral detergent, apply a cleaner that does not contain an organic solvent.
- Never use organic substances such as benzine, alcohol or gasoline, or alkaline or acid solutions for cleaning the leather as these could cause discoloring.
- Use of a nylon brush or synthetic fiber cloth, etc. may scratch the fine grained surface of the leather.
- Mildew may develop on soiled leather upholstery. Be especially careful to avoid oil spots. Try to keep your upholstery always clean.
- Long exposure to direct sunlight may cause the leather surface to harden and shrink. Keep your vehicle in a shaded area, especially in the summer.
- The interior of your vehicle is apt to heat up on hot summer days, so avoid placing on the upholstery items made of vinyl or plastic or containing wax as these tend to stick to leather when warm.
- Improper cleaning of the leather upholstery could result in discoloration or staining.

NOTICE

Synthetic Leather Areas (Dash)
The synthetic leather areas may be easily cleaned with a mild soap or detergent and water.

First vacuum over the upholstery to remove loose dirt. Then, using a sponge or soft cloth, apply the soap solution to the synthetic leather. After allowing it to soak in for a few minutes to loosen the dirt, remove the dirt and wipe off the soap with a clean damp cloth. If all the dirt does not come off, repeat the procedure. Commercial foaming–type cleaners are also available which work well. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions.

NOTICE

Do not use solvent, thinner, gasoline or window cleaner on the interior.
Carpets, Windows and Seat Belts

Begin by vacuuming thoroughly to remove as much dirt as possible. Several types of foam cleaners are available; some are in aerosol cans and others are powders or liquids which you mix with water to produce a foam. To shampoo the carpets, use a sponge or brush to apply the foam. Rub in overlapping circles. Do not apply water – the best results are obtained by keeping the carpet as dry as possible. Read the shampoo instructions and follow them closely.

The seat belts may be cleaned with mild soap and water or with lukewarm water.

Use a cloth or sponge. As you are cleaning, check the belts for excessive wear, fraying or cuts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Use a good foam–type shampoo to clean the carpets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not use dye or bleach on the belts – it may weaken them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Do not use the belts until they become dry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The windows may be cleaned with any household window cleaner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• When cleaning the inside of the rear window, be careful not to scratch or damage the heater wires or connectors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Air Conditioning Control Panel, Car Audio, Instrument Panel, Console Panel, and Switches

Use a soft damp cloth for cleaning.

Soak a clean soft cloth in water or lukewarm water then lightly wipe off any dirt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Do not use organic substances (solvents, kerosene, alcohol, gasoline, etc.) or alkaline or acidic solutions. These chemicals can cause discoloring, staining or peeling of the surface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If you use cleaners or polishing agents, make sure their ingredients do not include the substances mentioned above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If you use a liquid car freshener, do not spill the liquid onto the vehicle’s interior surfaces. It may contain the ingredients mentioned above. Immediately clean any spill using the method mentioned above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions about the cleaning of your Lexus, your local Lexus dealer will be pleased to answer them.
REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS FOR U.S. OWNERS

Reporting safety defects for U.S. owners

Reporting safety defects for U.S. owners .......................... 334
REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS FOR U.S. OWNERS

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. (Toll-free: 1–800–25–LEXUS).

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll–free at 1–800–424–9393 (or 366–0123 in Washington, D.C. area) or write to: NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.
GAS STATION INFORMATION

- **Fuel selection:**
  Select Octane Rating 87 (Research Octane Number 91) or higher. For improved vehicle performance, the use of premium unleaded gasoline with an Octane Rating 91 (Research Octane Number 96) or higher is recommended.

- **Fuel tank capacity:**
  75 L (19.8 gal., 16.5 Imp. gal.)

- **Engine oil:**
  “Toyota Genuine Motor Oil” or equivalent
  Oil grade: API grade SL “Energy–Conserving” or ILSAC multigrade engine oil
  Recommended oil viscosity: SAE 5W–30
  Oil capacity: L (qt., Imp qt.)
  Drain and refill
  - with filter: 4.7 (5.0, 4.1)
  - without filter: 4.5 (4.8, 4.0)
  See page 287 for detailed information.

- **Engine coolant:**
  Capacity: 9.0 L (9.5 qt., 7.9 Imp. qt.)
  Coolant type: “Toyota Genuine Long Life Coolant” or equivalent
  With ethylene–glycol type coolant for a proper corrosion protection of aluminum components
  Do not use alcohol type antifreeze or plain water alone.
  For checking the engine coolant, see page 290.

- **Automatic transaxle:**
  Fluid type: Toyota Genuine ATF Type T–IV
  See page 294 for detailed information.

- **Tire information:**
  See page 299 through 306 for detailed information.

- **Tire pressure:**
  Tire size: P225/70R16 101S
  Tire size: P225/70R16 101S
  cold tires
  Vehicle load up to 4 occupants
  kPa (kgf/cm² or bar, psi)
  Front tires: 210 (2.1, 30) Rear tires: 210 (2.1, 30)
  Vehicle loaded up to vehicle capacity weight
  Front tires: 210 (2.1, 30) Rear tires: 210 (2.1, 30)
  For sustained high speeds above 160 km/h (100 mph), in countries where such speeds are permitted by law, add 30 kPa (0.3 kgf/cm² or bar, 5 psi) to the front tires and rear tires, but never exceed the maximum cold tire pressure molded on the tire sidewall.

2003 RX300 from Aug. 02’ Prod. (OM48442U)