



WARNING LIGHTS.

WHAT'S WRONG AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

From November 2012, a new EU ruling means that all new cars must be installed with a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS). This is a significant step to make it easier for drivers to ensure their tyres are maintained at the correct pressure – however, research shows that many drivers are confused by the new symbol so we've put together a Handy Guide to some of the warning lights you may see on your car dashboard to help.



ABS WARNING LIGHT.

When the ignition is switched on this light will illuminate temporarily. If this remains illuminated when driving it indicates a malfunction. Normal braking (without ABS assistance) will generally be maintained in many cars enabling you to continue to drive on, but not in all cases. Consult your vehicle handbook for advice and arrange for your vehicle to be inspected as a priority.



BATTERY CHARGE LIGHT.

This light should illuminate when the ignition is switched on and should extinguish as soon as the engine starts. If it does not illuminate at all or illuminates whilst driving your battery is not being charged and there is a fault with your charging system. Immediately move the vehicle to a safe location and switch off the engine. Do not restart the engine and seek advice.



AIR-BAG WARNING LIGHT.

This will illuminate when the ignition is switched on but will extinguish once the engine is started. If the light remains illuminated it indicates a problem with your airbag system. You can continue to drive the vehicle but we recommend you seek advice as early as possible to ensure the safety of you and your passengers in the event of an accident.



BRAKE SYSTEM WARNING LIGHT.

This light will remain illuminated when the handbrake is engaged. Illumination after the handbrake is released could indicate a brake fluid problem. Refer to your vehicle's handbook and check the brake fluid level. If the brake fluid is too low and brake pedal travel is distinctively longer than usual do not continue your journey and seek professional advice.



ENGINE WARNING LIGHT

Illuminates when the ignition is switched on and should extinguish as soon as the engine is started. If this illuminates whilst the engine is running this indicates a malfunction with the engine management system. Have this checked as soon as possible.



TYRE PRESSURE WARNING LIGHT.

Illuminates when there is a loss of air pressure in your tyres. Check your vehicle's manufacturer handbook for the correct air pressures for your vehicle and ensure your air pressures are in line with these recommendations. If the light remains illuminated this could indicate a more serious tyre problem which you should have checked immediately by a tyre expert.



ENGINE COOLANT WARNING LIGHT.

When illuminated this light indicates that the coolant level is low. Stop as soon as possible and wait for the engine to cool. Check the coolant level and top up as necessary. If the problem persists seek advice immediately from a car care expert.



GLOW PLUG LIGHT.

With diesel engine cars this light will be illuminated when you turn the ignition on to indicate that the glow plugs are being heated. You should wait for the light to be extinguished before starting the engine.

These are just some of the examples, if in any doubt check your car's manufacturer handbook which will give you the details of all of the dashboard lights associated with your particular make and model and what they mean. If you are still unsure then speak to a HiQ tyre or car care expert for more advice.



DIESEL PARTICULATE FILTER (DPF) WARNING LIGHT.

The diesel particulate filter traps soot in your car's exhaust. As with any filter they have to be emptied regularly to maintain performance. The illumination of the DPF warning light indicates that the system is partially blocked. If the light is amber, refer to your owners manual as you may need to take the car for a short drive at higher speed to prevent the filter from fully blocking. If the light is red, seek assistance from a HiQ car care expert.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? CHECK OUT OUR HANDY GUIDE TO TYRES AND TYRE SAFETY OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL HIQ CAR CARE EXPERT.

