

Parking Brake

To engage, depress parking brake pedal (1). When the key is in steering lock position 2, the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster should come on brightly (function check for brake warning lamp).

To release the parking brake, pull the release knob (2) on the instrument panel. This releases the parking brake pedal under spring pressure and the indicator lamp on the instrument cluster should dim.

Automatic Transmission

The automatic transmission selects individual gears automatically, depending upon selector lever position, vehicle speed and accelerator position.

Warning!

Keep driver's foot area clear at all times. Objects stored in this area may impair pedal movement.

Driving:

Shift selector lever to the desired driving position only when the engine is idling and the service brake is applied. Do not release the brake until ready to drive. The vehicle may otherwise start creeping when the selector lever is in a drive position.

Test the brakes briefly after driving off. Perform this procedure only when the road is clear of other traffic.

Warm up the engine smoothly. Do not place full load on the engine until the operating temperature has been reached.

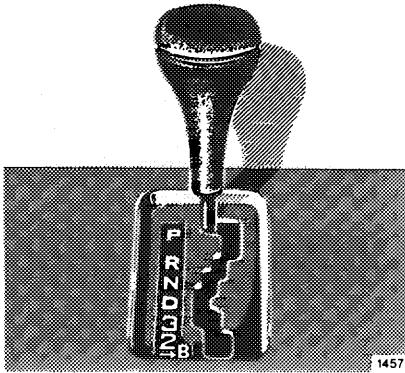
When starting off on a slippery surface, do not allow one driving wheel to spin for an extended period.

Accelerator position

Partial throttle = early upshifting = normal acceleration.

Full throttle = later upshifting = maximum acceleration.

Depressing the accelerator beyond full throttle to kickdown position means downshifting to the next lower gear and thereby increasing acceleration. If you ease up on the accelerator after having attained the desired speed, the transmission will shift up again.

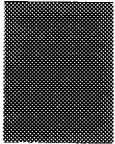


Selector lever positions

The automatic gear shifting process can be adapted to specific operating conditions using the selector lever.

- "P"** Parking lock.
The parking lock is an additional safeguard to the parking brake when parking the vehicle. Engage only with the car stopped.
- "R"** Reverse gear.
Shift to reverse gear only with the car stopped.
- "N"** Neutral.
No power is transmitted from the engine to the rear axle. When the brakes are released, the vehicle can be moved freely (pushed, towed or tow-started). Do not engage "N" while driving except when the vehicle is in danger of skidding (e.g. on icy roads, see page 18).

- "D"** Drive.
Automatic upshifting to top gear. Position "D" affords optimum driving characteristics under all normal operating conditions.
- "3"** Upshift to 3rd gear only. Suitable for medium range up or downgrades.
- "2"** Upshift to 2nd gear only. For driving in mountainous regions. Since transmission will not shift up further, this gear selection will make use of the engine's braking power.
- "B"** In this position, the engine's braking effect is utilized while descending steep or lengthy downgrades. Use this position only below 60 km/h (40 mph).



Driving

Important!

Do not exceed the engine speed limits for individual gear selections, which are indicated by marks on the speedometer.

Do not attempt downshifting to a lower gear (braking effect) unless the speedometer needle is below the speed limit mark of that particular gear range. Over-revving could result in damage to the engine.

On slippery road surfaces, it is not recommended to downshift in order to obtain braking action. This could result in rear wheel slip and reduced vehicle control.

To prevent the engine from laboring at low RPMs, do not allow the engine speed to drop too low on uphill gradients. Depending on the degree of the incline, shift selector lever to positions "3" or "2" early enough to maintain engine RPM within the best torque range.

Stopping

For brief stops, e.g. at traffic lights, leave the transmission engaged and control vehicle with the service brake.

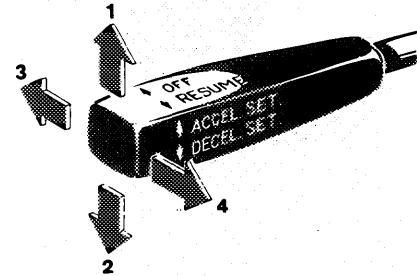
For longer stops with the engine idling, shift into "N" or "P".

When stopping the car on an incline do not hold it with the accelerator, use the brake. This avoids unnecessary transmission heat build up.

Maneuvering

To maneuver in tight areas, e.g. when pulling into a parking space, control the car speed by gradually releasing the brakes. Accelerate gently and do not pump the accelerator.

To rock a car out of soft ground (mud or snow), alternately shift from forward to reverse, while applying partial throttle.



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Cruise Control

Any given speed above approximately 40 km/h (25 mph) can be maintained with the cruise control by operating the lever.

- 1 Accelerate and set:
Lift lever briefly to set speed.
Hold lever up to accelerate.
- 2 Decelerate and set:
Depress lever briefly to set speed.
Hold lever down to decelerate.