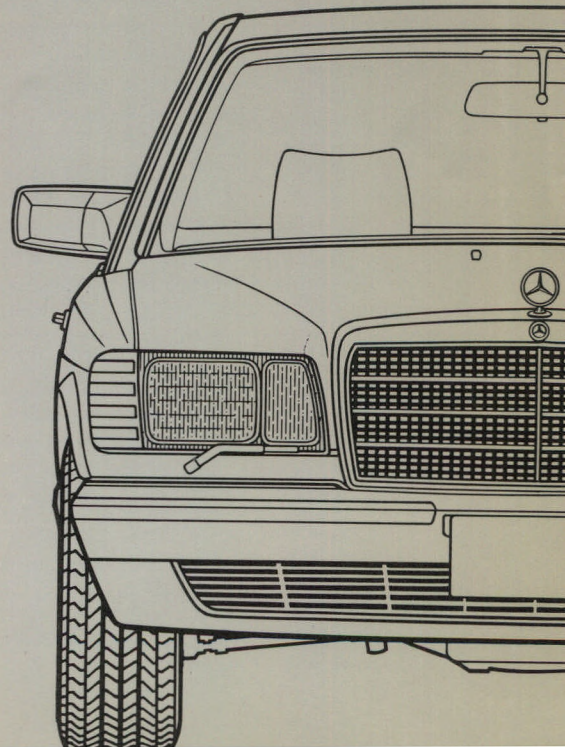


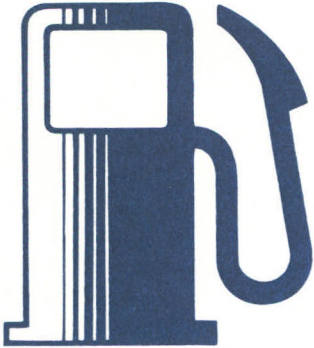
Owner's Manual



300 SDL TURBO

1987





What You Should Know at the Gas Station

See last page

Drive Sensibly – Save Fuel

Fuel consumption, to a great extent, depends on driving habits and operating conditions.

To save fuel you should:

- keep tires at the recommended inflation pressures
- remove unnecessary loads
- remove ski racks or roof-mounted luggage racks when not in use
- allow engine to warm up under low load use
- avoid frequent acceleration and deceleration
- have all maintenance work performed at regular intervals by an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

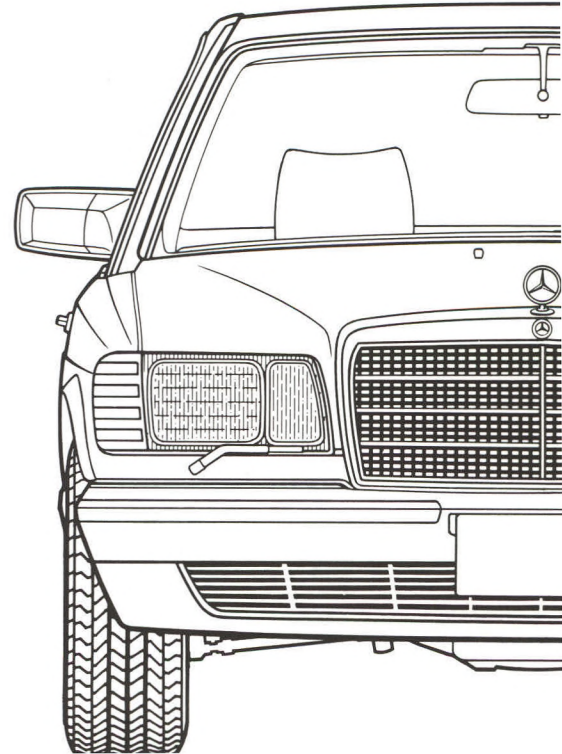
Fuel consumption is also increased by driving in cold weather, in stop-and-go traffic, on short trips and in hilly country.

Owner's Manual

300 SDL TURBO

Model 126 D

1987



Printed in Germany

We reserve the right to modify the technical details of the vehicle as given in the data and illustrations of this Owner's Manual (s.e.e.o.). Reprinting, translation and copying, even of excerpts, is not permitted without our prior authorization in writing.

ZKD/2.87.5/PVL

Our company and staff congratulate you on the purchase of your new MERCEDES-BENZ.

Your selection of our product is a demonstration of your trust in our company name. Further, it exemplifies your desire to own an automobile that will be as easy as possible to operate and provide years of service.

Your MERCEDES-BENZ represents the efforts of many skilled engineers and craftsmen. To ensure your pleasure of ownership, we ask you to make a small investment of your time:

- Please read this manual carefully before putting it aside.
- Please consider the recommendations contained in this manual. They are designed to acquaint you with the operation of your MERCEDES-BENZ.

We extend our best wishes for many miles of safe, pleasurable driving.

Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft

Introduction

This Owner's Manual contains a great deal of useful information. We urge you to read it carefully and familiarize yourself with the vehicle before driving.

For your own safety and longer service life of the vehicle, we urge you to follow the instructions and warnings. Ignoring them could result in damage to the vehicle or personal injury.

Your vehicle may have some or all of the equipment described. Therefore, you may find explanations of equipment not installed in your vehicle. If you have any questions about the operation of any equipment, your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will be glad to demonstrate the proper procedures.

Owner's Service and Warranty Policy

The Owner's Service and Warranty Policy Booklet contains detailed information about the warranties covering your MERCEDES-BENZ, including:

- New Car Limited Warranty
- Emissions Systems Warranty
- Emission Performance Warranty
- California Emission Control System Warranty (California Only)

Maintenance

The Maintenance Booklet describes all the necessary maintenance work which should be performed at regular intervals.

Always have the Maintenance Booklet with you when you take the vehicle to your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for service. The Service Advisor will record each service.

Roadside Assistance

Although your Mercedes-Benz is built to be as trouble-free as possible, a Roadside Assistance Program is available to provide emergency roadside service after normal dealer hours and on weekends and holidays in the contiguous United States.

Roadside Assistance is available Monday through Friday from 5:00 PM to 12:00 Midnight and on Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Midnight. In the event of a breakdown during these hours, telephone this toll-free number: 1-800-222-0100.

For additional information, refer to the Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance Program Booklet in your glove compartment.

Change of Address or Ownership

If you change your address, be sure to send in the "Change of Address Notice" found in the Owner's Service and Warranty Policy Booklet. It is in your own interest that we can contact you should the need arise.

If you sell your Mercedes, please leave all owner's literature with the vehicle to make it available to the next owner.

If you bought this vehicle used, be sure to send in the "Notice of Purchase of Used Car" found in the Owner's Service and Warranty Policy Booklet.

Operating Your Vehicle Outside the U.S.A. or Canada

If you plan to operate your vehicle in foreign countries, please be aware that service facilities or replacement parts may not be readily available.

Certain Mercedes-Benz models are available for delivery in Europe under our European Delivery Program. For details, consult your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer or write to:

Mercedes-Benz of North America, Inc.
European Delivery Department
One Mercedes Drive
Montvale, NJ 07645

Optional equipment is also described in this manual, including operating instructions wherever necessary. Since they are special-order items, the descriptions and illustrations herein may vary slightly from the actual equipment of your vehicle.

If there are any equipment details that are not shown or described in this Owner's Manual, your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will be glad to inform you of correct care and operating procedures.

The Owner's Manual and Maintenance Booklet are important documents and should be kept with the vehicle.

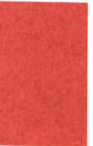
**Instruments and Controls, Starting the Engine
Driving Instructions, Service and Maintenance**



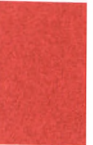
Operation



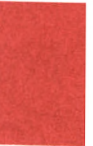
Driving



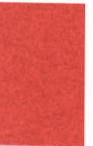
Practical Hints



**Technical Data
Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.
Consumer Information**



Index



Check Regularly and Before a Long Trip

See page 108

The First 1500 km (1000 Miles)

The more cautiously you treat your vehicle during the break-in period, the more satisfied you will be with its performance later on. Therefore, drive your vehicle during the first 1500 km (1000 miles) at moderate vehicle and engine speeds.

During this period, avoid heavy loads (full throttle driving) and high RPMs (no more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of maximum permissible speed in each gear).

Avoid accelerating by kickdown. It is not recommended to brake the vehicle by manually shifting to a lower gear. We recommend to select positions "3" or "2" only at moderate speeds (for hill driving).

After 1500 km (1000 miles) speeds may gradually be increased to the permissible maximum.

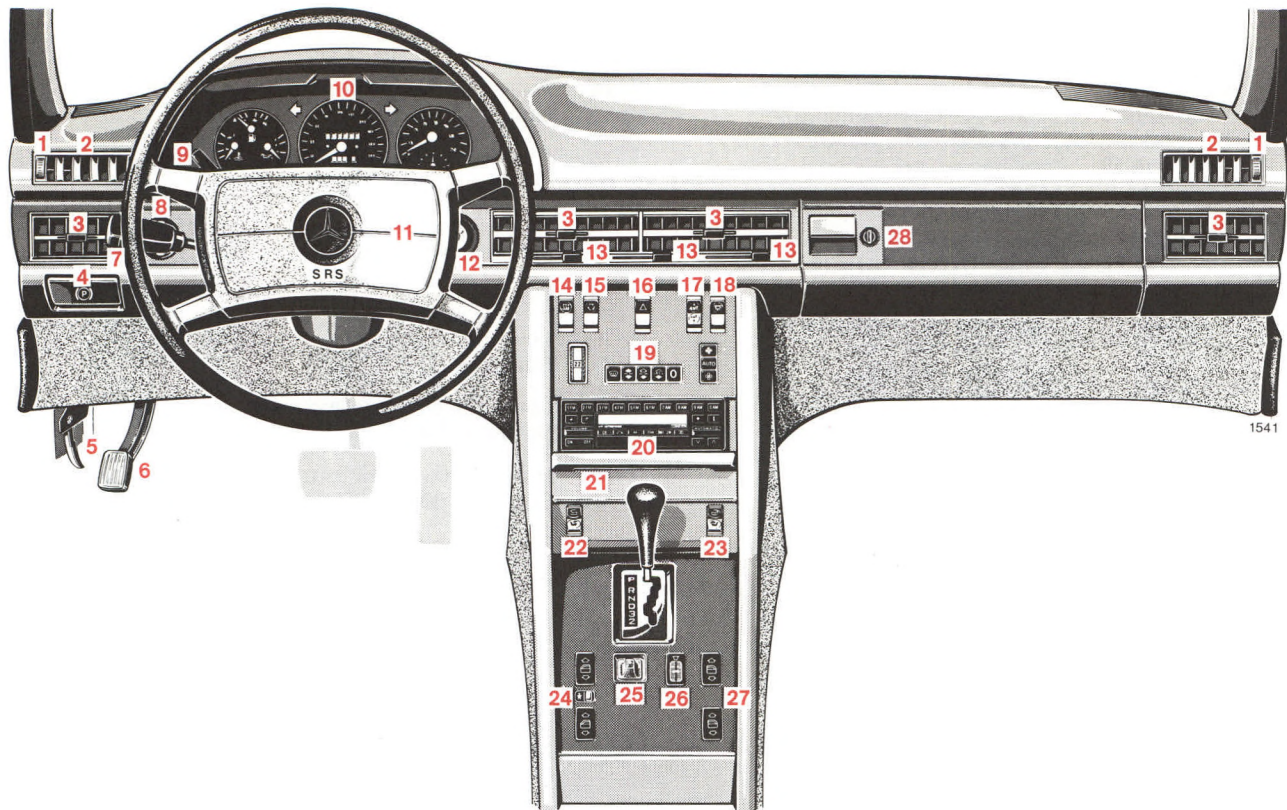
Instruments and Controls, Starting the Engine Driving Instructions, Service and Maintenance

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Instrument Cluster	12
Starting and Turning off the Engine	14
Driving Instructions	15
MERCEDES-BENZ Maintenance System	18

Instruments and Controls

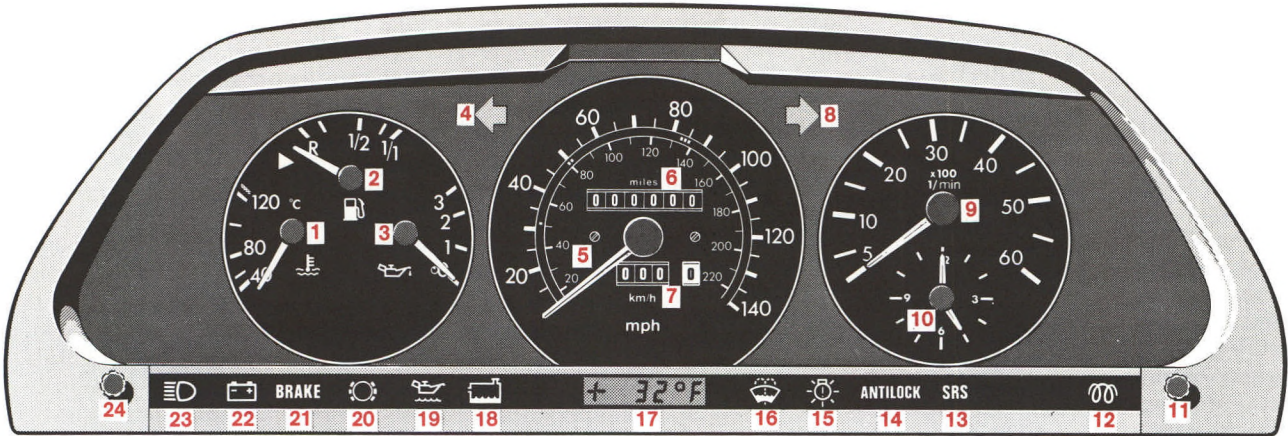
For more detailed descriptions see specified pages.

- 1** Volume control for side air outlets (page 20)
- 2** Side air outlets (page 20)
- 3** Adjustable air outlets (page 20)
- 4** Parking brake release (page 54)
- 5** Hood lock release (page 64)
- 6** Parking brake pedal (page 54)
- 7** Combination switch (page 42)
- 8** Exterior lamp switch (page 41)
- 9** Cruise control (page 57)
- 10** Instrument cluster (page 12)
- 11** Horn control, air bag (page 37)
- 12** Steering lock with preglow/starter switch (page 40)
- 13** Volume control lever for center air outlets (page 20)
- 14** Rear window defroster switch (page 46)
- 15** Air recirculation switch (page 20)
- 16** Hazard warning flasher system switch
- 17** Automatic antenna switch (page 52)
- 18** Rear passenger compartment lamp switch (page 45)
- 19** Automatic climate control (page 20)
- 20** Radio (page 48)
- 21** Ashtray with lighter (pages 45, 87)
- 22** Left front seat heater switch (page 32)
- 23** Right front seat heater switch (page 32)
- 24** Left power window switch group (page 47)
- 25** Adjusting switch for exterior mirror on front passenger side (page 43)
- 26** Loudspeaker front to rear fader control
- 27** Right power window switch group (page 47)
- 28** Glove compartment, illuminated (only with key in steering lock positions 1 or 2)



Instrument Cluster

- 1** Coolant temperature gauge
Up to red marking: Maximum permissible temperature for an anticorrosion/antifreeze-blended fill protecting down to -30°C (-22°F).
See page 58
- 2** Fuel gauge with reserve warning lamp (yellow).
See page 59
Fuel reserve and capacity, refer to page 95 and inside back cover.
- 3** Oil pressure gauge (bar). See page 58
- 4** Turn signal indicator lamp, left (green)
- 5** Speedometer
- 6** Main odometer
- 7** Trip odometer
- 8** Turn signal indicator lamp, right (green)
- 9** Tachometer
- 10** Electric clock
- 11** Knob for clock adjustment
(press in for adjustments)
- 12** Preglow indicator lamp (yellow)
- 13** Supplemental restraint system (SRS) indicator lamp (red). See page 37
- 14** Antilock brake system (ABS) indicator lamp (yellow). See page 60
- 15** Exterior light failure indicator lamp (yellow).
See page 59
- 16** Low windshield and headlamp washer fluid level indicator lamp (yellow). See page 59
- 17** Outside temperature indicator. See page 59
- 18** Low engine coolant level indicator lamp (yellow).
See page 58
- 19** Low engine oil level indicator lamp (yellow).
See page 58
- 20** Brake pad wear indicator lamp (yellow).
See page 60
- 21** Brake warning lamp (red). See pages 54 and 60
- 22** Charge indicator lamp (red). See page 58
- 23** High beam indicator lamp (blue)
- 24** Knob for instrument lamps and trip odometer
Rotate knob: To vary intensity of instrument lamps
Depress knob: To reset trip odometer



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Starting and Turning off the Engine

Engage parking brake and move the gear selector lever in either “P” or “N” position before starting the engine.

Cold Engine

Turn key to steering lock position 2. Charge indicator and preglow indicator lamp should come on. The preglow process starts. When the preglow indicator goes out, the engine is ready for starting.

Ambient Temperature
above 0° C (+32° F):

Turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop. Do not depress accelerator. Release key only when the engine is firing regularly.

Ambient Temperature
below 0° C (+32° F):

Depress accelerator to the floor. Turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop. Release key only when the engine is firing regularly and back off accelerator slowly.

Do not interrupt the starting process. If the engine is very cold it is possible that it will fail to start on subsequent attempts.

Hot Engine

Turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop and start engine immediately without depressing the accelerator.

Turning off

Turn the key to steering lock position 0 and remove only when the vehicle has stopped.

Should the engine continue to operate with the key in steering lock position 0, refer to page 68.

If the coolant temperature is very high (e.g. after hard driving on mountain roads), do not shut off the engine immediately, allow it to run for 1 – 2 minutes at increased idle speed.

Important!

Due to the installed starter non-repeat unit, the key must be returned to steering lock position 0 before a new starting attempt is made.

Observe the oil pressure gauge immediately after starting the engine. In a very cold engine the oil pressure will only rise slowly, some time after the engine has started. Do not speed up the engine before pressure is registered on the pressure gauge.

The battery charge indicator lamp should go out as soon as the engine has started.

If the preglow indicator lamp fails to light up, the preglow system is defective and should be repaired at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer at the earliest possible date.

The engine is equipped with a block heater to provide reliable starting at temperatures below – 18° C (0° F). Refer to page 62.



Driving Instructions

Power assistance

When the engine is not running, the brake and steering systems are without power assistance. Under these circumstances, a much greater effort is necessary to stop or steer the vehicle.

Brakes

Caution!

When driving down long and steep grades, relieve the brakes by shifting into “3” or “2”. This helps prevent overheating of the brakes and reduces brake pad wear. Do not exceed engine speed limits (see page 56).

After hard braking it is advisable to drive on for some time so the air stream will cool down the brakes faster.

Warning!

After driving in heavy rain for some time without applying the brakes or through water deep enough to wet brake components, the first braking action may be somewhat reduced and increased pedal pressure may be necessary. Be sure to maintain a safe distance from vehicles in front.

The condition of the parking brake system is checked each time the car is in the shop for maintenance.

Between maintenance checks it is a good practice to apply the parking brake once or twice while driving at approximately 50 km/h (30 mph) on a dry straight road. Apply brake lightly until a slight drag on the wheels is felt. Keep applying brake for about 10 seconds while pulling the release handle out before releasing the parking brake completely. This practice will keep the parking brake at maximum efficiency.

Warning!

The stop lamps will not come on when applying the parking brake only. Perform the procedure in the previous paragraph only when the road is clear of other traffic.

Caution!

Resting your foot on the brake pedal will cause excessive and premature wear of the brake pads.

All checks and maintenance work on the brake system should be carried out by an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

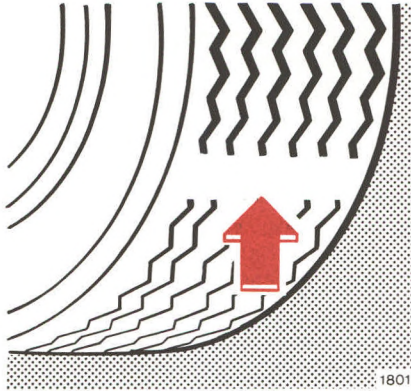
If the parking brake is released and the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster stays on, the brake fluid level in the reservoir is too low.

Brake pad wear or a leak in the system may be the reason for low brake fluid in the reservoir.

Have the brake system inspected at an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer without delay.

Install only brake pads and brake fluid recommended by MERCEDES-BENZ.

If other than recommended brake pads are installed, the braking properties of the vehicle can be affected to an extent that the safety is substantially impaired.



Tires

Tread wear indicators (TWI) are required by law. These indicators are located in six places on the tread circumference and become visible at a depth of approx. 2 mm (1/16 in), at which point the tire is considered worn and should be replaced.

The tread wear indicator appears as a solid band across the tread.

Warning!

Do not allow your tires to wear down too far. With less than appr. 3 mm (1/8 in) of tread, the adhesion properties on a wet road are sharply reduced.

Depending upon the weather and/or road surface (conditions), the traction varies widely.

Specified tire pressures must be maintained. This applies particularly if the tires are subjected to high loads (e.g. high speeds, heavy loads, high ambient temperatures).

Aquaplaning

Depending on the depth of the water layer on the road, aquaplaning may occur, even at low speeds and with new tires. Avoid track grooves in the road and apply brakes cautiously in the rain.

Tire traction

The safe speed on a wet, snow covered or icy road is always lower than on a dry road.

You should pay particular attention to the condition of the road as soon as the prevailing temperatures fall close to the freezing point.

Warning!

If ice has formed on the road, tire traction will be substantially reduced. Under such weather conditions, drive, steer and brake with extreme caution.

We recommend M + S radial-ply tires for the winter season for all four wheels to insure normal balanced handling characteristics. On packed snow, they can reduce your stopping distance as compared with summer tires. Stopping distance, however, is still considerably greater than when the road is wet or dry.

Parking

Warning!

To reduce the risk of personal injury as a result of vehicle movement, before leaving the vehicle always:

- 1. Keep foot on brake pedal.**
- 2. Firmly depress parking brake pedal.**
- 3. Slowly release brake pedal.**
- 4. Move the selector lever to position "P".**
- 5. Turn front wheels towards the road curb.**
- 6. Turn the key to steering lock position 0 and remove.**

Note:

It is advisable to set the parking brake whenever leaving the vehicle. Also, when parking on hills, always apply the parking brake. In addition, move selector lever to position "P".

Winter Driving Instructions

The most important rule for slippery or icy roads is to drive sensibly and to avoid abrupt acceleration, braking and steering action. Do not use the cruise control system under such conditions.

When the vehicle is in danger of skidding, move selector lever to position "N". Try to keep the vehicle under control by corrective steering action.

Road salts and chemicals can adversely affect braking efficiency. Increased pedal force may become necessary to produce the normal

brake effect. We therefore recommend depressing the brake pedal repeatedly when traveling on salt-strewn roads at length. This can bring road salt impaired braking efficiency back to normal. A prerequisite is, however, that this is possible without endangering other drivers on the road.

If the vehicle is parked after being driven on salt treated roads, the braking efficiency should be tested as soon as possible after driving is resumed while observing the safety rules in the previous paragraph.

MERCEDES-BENZ Maintenance System

A maintenance booklet is included with your car, listing all the maintenance jobs that must be carried out after the following mileages:

Routine Maintenance

Inspection at
1300 – 1600 km (800 – 1000 miles)

Lubrication Service every
8000 km (5000 miles)

Maintenance Service every
24 000 km (15 000 miles)

Additional Work every
48 000 km (30 000 miles)

For additional details refer to the
Maintenance Booklet.

In the case of low mileage operation,
the Maintenance Service must be carried
out at least once every 2 years.

Engine Oil and Filter Change

Required every 8000 km (5000 miles),
or at least once a year (fall) when
using year-round multigrade oil; otherwise
at least twice a year (spring and fall).

Under severe operating conditions or
if diesel fuels with high sulphur content
(in excess of 0.5 % by weight) are used,
the oil and filter should be changed every
4000 km (2500 miles). For engine oil
recommendations, see page 94.

Severe Operating Conditions

In the case of severe operating conditions
or heavy use mainly in city traffic or over
short distances, frequent mountain driving,
poor roads, dusty and muddy conditions,
hard and sporty driving etc., it may be
necessary to carry out maintenance work
at shorter than normal intervals, as follows:

Engine: Oil change with filter change
every 4000 km (2500 miles).

Automatic transmission: Fluid change
without filter change every 24 000 km
(15 000 miles).

Tires: Inspect

Air filter: Clean or replace element.

Special Maintenance Measures

Brake fluid should be replaced annually,
preferably in the spring.

It is recommended to use only brake
fluid approved by MERCEDES-BENZ.
Do not mix different types of brake
fluids.

The coolant should be checked for
sufficient protection before the start
of and during the summer and winter
seasons.

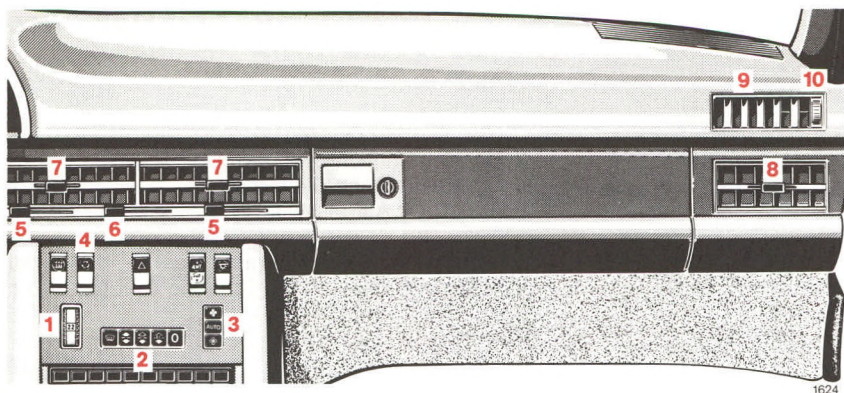
Have the coolant (water/anticorrosion/
antifreeze mixture) replaced at least
every three years (see "Fuels,
Coolants, Lubricants, etc.>").

Maintenance Vouchers

Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ
dealer will certify in the maintenance
booklet that all lubrication and
maintenance services have been carried
out at the correct intervals.






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Automatic Climate Control

The engine must be running for the climate control system to operate.

- 1 Temperature selector
- 2 Pushbuttons for function selection (only press individually)
 -  Defrost
 -  Multi-Level
 -  Normal setting
 -  EC (Economy)
 -  Off (air supply off)

- 3 Fan control buttons (only press individually)
 -  Maximum fan speed
 -  Automatic fan speed control
 -  Minimum fan speed
- 4 Air recirculation switch
- 5 Volume control for adjustable air outlets (8) right and left
- 6 Volume control for adjustable air outlets (7)
- 7, 8 Adjustable air outlets
- 9 Side air outlets
- 10 Volume control for side air outlets (9) right and left

For maximum operating efficiency, keep all windows and the sliding roof closed.

Heating, cooling, and air distribution within the vehicle's interior will be automatically controlled. This is accomplished with the temperature selector (1), the pushbuttons (2) and the fan control buttons (3).

The adjustable air outlets (7) and (8) can be variably opened and closed, or moved to direct the flow of air as desired. The outlets (7) are opened and closed with slide lever (6), and outlets (8) with slide levers (5).

Move slide levers (5) and (6) towards the left to open, towards the right to close.

The air flow from the outlets (9) may be increased by rotating the control (10) up, and reduced by rotating down.

An air outlet in the rear passenger compartment console provides a variable flow of fresh outside air or cooled air. The air flow is increased by sliding the lever to the left and decreased by sliding the lever to the right.

To ensure efficient operation of the climate control system, the air outlets (7), (8) and (9) should not all be closed at the same time.

With the exterior lamps turned on (except parking lamps), the symbols on all buttons light up. Each button shines brighter when depressed.

Note:

The air conditioner removes considerable moisture from the air during operation. It is normal, for water to drip on the ground through openings in the underbody.

Temperature Selection (° C)


The desired temperature can be adjusted by turning the temperature selector. The selected temperature is reached as quickly as possible and maintained. A basic setting of 22° C (72° F) is recommended. To avoid undesirable temperature fluctuations, a set temperature should be readjusted in small increments.

To override the automatic climate control turn the temperature wheel to either extreme end position “MIN” or “MAX”.

“MIN” (detent) = peak cooling performance.

The system operates with recirculated air, without additional fresh air.

“MAX” (detent) = maximum heating performance.


If button  is pressed with the temperature selector in the “MIN” or “MAX” position, the fan will run continuously at a high speed.

Air Recirculation

Pressing the symbol-side of the air recirculation switch causes air to be recirculated without additional fresh air and the red indicator lamp to light up. After a while the air recirculation mode will switch off automatically, including the indicator lamp.

The air recirculation mode should be used with high or low outside temperatures, or to prevent dust or annoying odors from entering the car’s interior. If the windows should fog up from the inside, the air recirculation should be shut off (press opposite side of symbol on switch). The red indicator lamp should then go out.

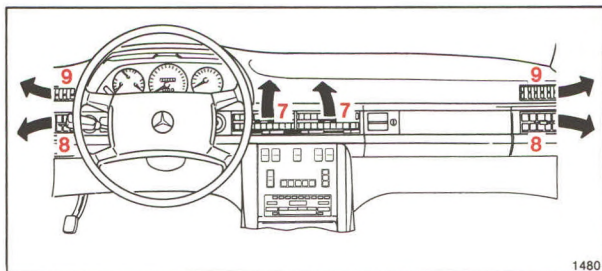
Note:



The air recirculation mode will not come on if button  is pressed.

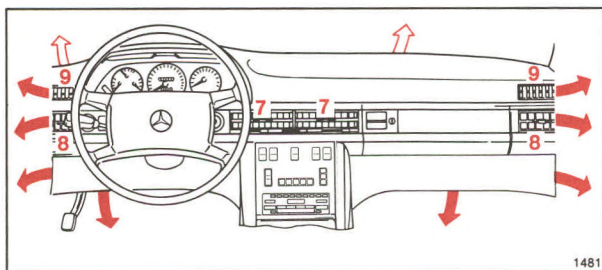
Function Setting



 Off


In this setting, the Automatic Climate Control system is shut off including the fresh air supply to the interior of the car (to prevent entrance of odors, i. e. while driving through tunnels, etc. or to prevent the entrance of water from automatic car wash). Use this setting only temporarily while driving.



-  Economy setting – Ventilation
-  Normal setting – Cooling



-  Economy setting – Heating
-  Normal setting – Heating

 **EC (ECONOMY)** = Economical setting; the air conditioning compressor remains off.


In the remaining three settings, the air conditioning compressor comes on with ambient temperatures above +5° C (41° F).



As a fuel saving measure, we recommend this setting be used with cool outside temperatures, so that the air conditioning compressor remains off.

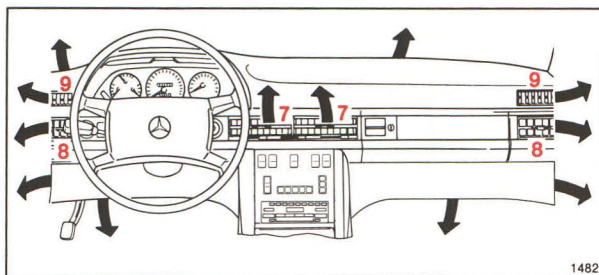
In the ventilation mode, air is emitted from outlets (7), (8) and (9).

In the heating mode, warm air is supplied primarily to the foot area. In addition, warm air is also supplied to the ducts in the front doors. Only enough warm air is supplied to the windshield and air outlets (8) and (9), to keep the glass defogged in normal weather conditions. In the heating mode, air may be emitted periodically from outlets (7), depending on the interior temperature.

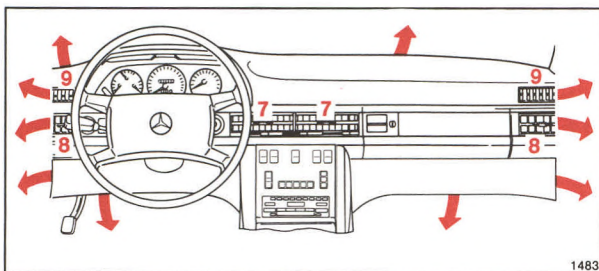
With low outside temperatures, fan operation is cancelled until the engine coolant starts to warm up.

 **Normal setting**
This setting is recommended when you wish to cool the interior of your car. It is also recommended for use in humid weather.

The setting  corresponds with setting  but, in addition, the air can be also cooled as necessary.





 Multi-Level ventilation – Cooling



 Multi-Level ventilation – Heating

Multi-Level

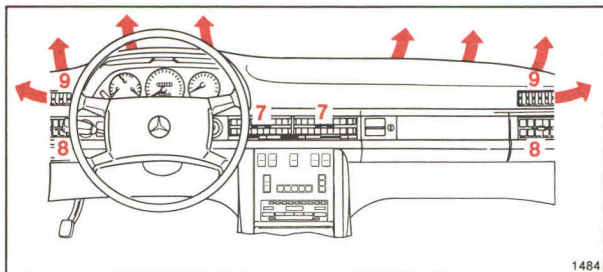
This setting is used for clearing a fogged windshield. As soon as the windshield is clear, reset to  or .

In the heating mode, warm air is supplied to the windshield, foot area, air outlets (8) and (9), and to the ducts in the front doors. Additionally, air may be emitted periodically from outlets (7), depending on the interior temperature.

In the cooling mode, cool air is supplied to the windshield, foot area, front door ducts, and air outlets (7), (8) and (9).

Note:

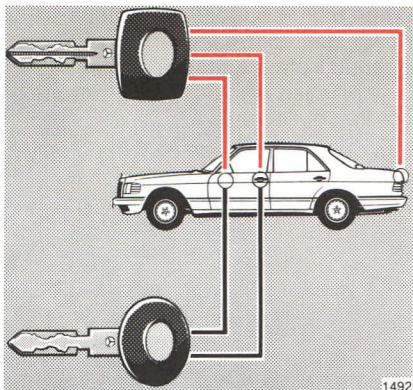
In warm, humid climates, prolonged use of this setting may create condensation on the outside of the windshield, directly above the defroster ducts.



 Defrost

 Defrost

The maximum amount of heated air is directed to the windshield and side windows (outlets, 9). This setting overrides temperature and fan speed settings, and the air recirculation switch.



Car Keys

Included with your vehicle are two master keys, one valet key and one flat (master) key.

Master Key – square head with a red dot – fits all locks on the car. Arms/disarms the anti-theft alarm system.

Valet Key – round head – fits only the door locks and the steering lock. This key should be used whenever the car is left with an attendant. Be sure to lock glove compartment and trunk with the master key. The valet key cannot be used to disarm the anti-theft alarm after the car is locked with the master key.

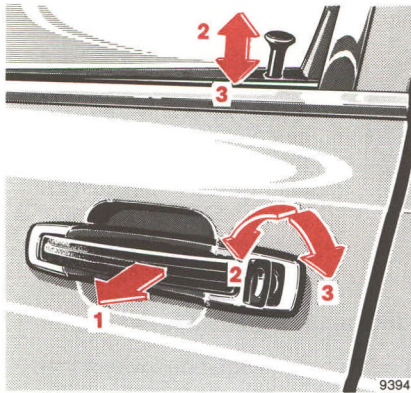
Flat Key



The flat key with a red dot fits all vehicle locks. Arms/disarms the anti-theft alarm system. We recommend that you carry the flat key with you and keep it in a safe place so that it is always handy. Never leave the flat key in the vehicle.

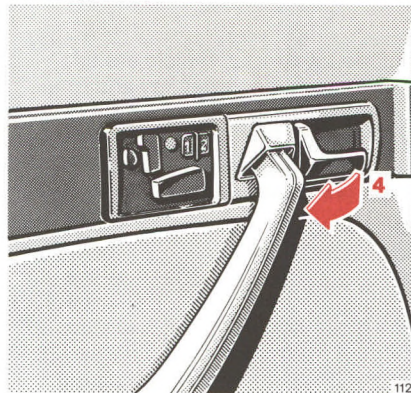
Obtaining Replacement Keys

Your vehicle is equipped with a theft deterrent locking system requiring a special key manufacturing process. For security reasons, replacement keys can only be obtained via your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.



Opening the Doors

From outside: pull handle (1) outwards.
From inside: pull handle (4) in door trim panel.



Locking and Unlocking of Doors

From the outside: turn key.
From the inside: actuate door lock button.

- 2 Unlocking
- 3 Locking

When the rear door lock buttons are down, the rear doors cannot be opened from the outside or the inside, unless the door lock buttons are first pulled up.

The driver's door can be locked only if it is closed and the door lock has properly engaged.

Central Locking System

The entire vehicle may be locked or unlocked with the central locking system:

- Using the master or valet key in either front door.
- Using the master key in the trunk lock.
- By pushing down or pulling up the interior door lock button at either front door.

The central locking system locks or unlocks all doors, trunk lid and fuel filler flap simultaneously.

Doors

When you lock the car, all door lock buttons should move down. If any one stays up, the respective door is not properly closed. You should then unlock the car, open and reclose this door, and lock the car again.

Note:

The central locking system can be engaged from the driver-side door lock button, provided the door is completely closed. It can also be inserted from the passenger-side if the ignition key is removed, or engaged in the steering lock without being turned (key in position 0).

If the car has been locked from the outside with the master key, the anti-theft alarm will come on if a door is opened from the inside, or if opened with the valet key.

Trunk

To unlock the trunk with the central locking system, turn the master key in the trunk lock completely to the left and let it return to the vertical position. Push in trunk lock button and open the trunk. To lock the trunk, turn the master key completely to the right and let it return to the vertical position.

The trunk can remain locked while the central locking system is unlocked (e.g. while driving or when leaving the car in a situation where it must be driven using the valet key, but you wish the trunk to remain locked at parking lots, workshops, etc.). Turn the master key completely to the right and pull it out in the horizontal position. Now the trunk can only be unlocked with the master key by turning it back completely to the left.

Important!

If the trunk is unlocked with the master key, the doors and fuel filler flap will also be unlocked. After closing the trunk, the central locking system must again be engaged using the key to relock the doors and fuel filler flap.

Note:

If the fuel filler flap cannot be opened, refer to “Unlocking of Fuel Filler Flap” (page 79).

Anti-Theft Alarm System

The anti-theft alarm can be armed or disarmed with the master key or flat key (identified by red dot) by locking or unlocking either front door or the trunk.

Operation

Once the alarm system has been armed, the exterior vehicle lamps will flash and the horn will sound intermittently when someone tries to:

- open a door
- open the trunk
- open the hood
- remove the radio
- switch on or bridge the ignition circuit
- step on the brake pedal

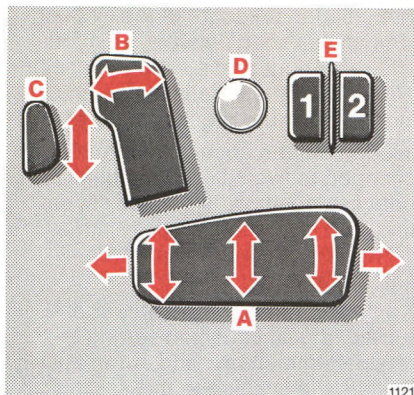
The alarm will last approximately 150 seconds in the form of blinking exterior lamps. At the same time an additional horn will sound intermittently for 60 seconds, pause for 30 seconds, and repeat for another 60 seconds.

The alarm will stay on even if the activating element (a door, for example) is immediately closed.

Note:

If the radio is removed from its mounting when the anti-theft alarm is armed the radio will automatically be rendered inoperative! (This is indicated by a dashed line across the display.)

Do not give the master key to an unauthorized person. We recommend that you carry the flat key safely with you so that it is always handy. This key has the same function as the master key.



Adjusting Power Seats, Front

The switches are located in each front door.

Turn key to steering lock position 1 or 2 (with the driver's or front passenger's door opened, the power seats can also be operated with the key removed or in steering lock position 0).

Seat and head restraint adjustment:

A Seat cushion adjustment.

B Seatback adjustment.

C Head restraint adjustment.

Adjust head restraint to support the back of the head approximately at ear level. The head restraint can also be turned forward by hand.

Note:

Your car is equipped with power head restraints, do not try to operate manually.

Warning!

Do not adjust the driver's seat while driving. Adjusting the seat while driving could cause the driver to lose control of the vehicle.

Never ride in a moving vehicle with the seat back reclined. The seat back and seat belts provide the best restraint, when the wearer is in an upright position and the belts are properly positioned on the body.

Storing seat and head restraint positions in memory:

D Memory button.

E Position buttons "1" and "2".

Two sets of seat/head restraint positions may be programmed into memory. After the seat and head restraint are positioned, push memory button D, release, and within 3 seconds push position button "1". A second set of positions for the same seat and head restraint can be programmed into memory by pushing first button D and then "2".

Recalling seat and head restraint positions stored in memory:

To recall a seat/head restraint position, push position button "1" or "2" until seat/head restraint movement has stopped. For safety reasons, the seat/head restraint movement stops after releasing the position button.

Caution!

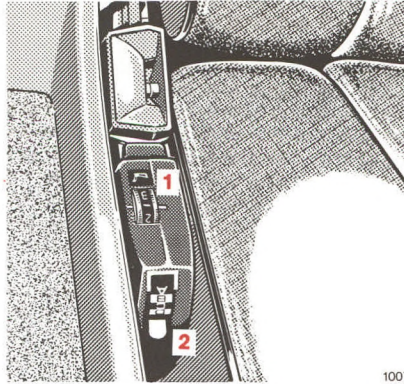
Do not remove head restraints except when mounting seat covers. For removal refer to "Practical Hints", page 86. Whenever restraints have been removed be sure to reinstall them before driving.

Important!

Prior to operating the vehicle, the driver should adjust the seat height for proper vision as well as fore/aft placement and seat back angle to insure adequate control, reach, operation, and comfort. The head restraint should also be adjusted for proper height.

Both the inside and outside rear view mirrors should be adjusted for adequate rearward vision. Fasten seat belts. Infants and small children should be seated in a properly secured restraint system that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.

All seat, head restraint, and rear view mirror adjustments as well as fastening of seat belts should be done before the vehicle is put into motion.



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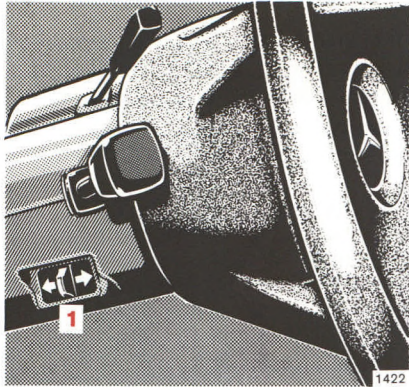
Orthopedic Seat Backrest

Some models may be equipped with orthopedic seats. These seats have an inflatable air cushion built into the backrest to provide additional lumbar support. The amount of cushion height and curvature may be adjusted after turning the key to steering lock position 1 or 2.

The inflation pressure of the air cushion can be varied between position "0" = without pressure, and position "4" = maximum pressure, by changing the pressure regulator (1) setting.

In addition, the cushion height may be changed to five different settings between position "A" = lowest setting, and "E" = highest setting, by varying the height regulator (2) adjustment.

If a driving trip is temporarily interrupted, the last cushion setting is retained in memory, and automatically adjusts the cushion to this setting when the trip is continued.



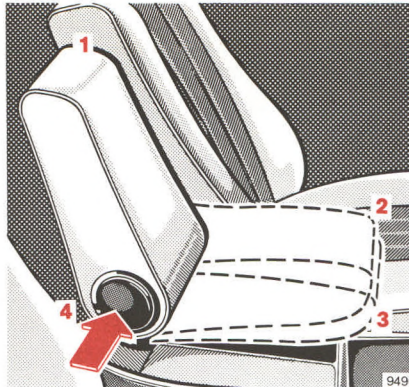
Adjusting Telescoping Steering Column

Turn key to steering lock position 1 or 2 (with the driver's or front passenger's door opened, the telescoping steering column can be operated with the key removed or in steering lock position 0).

To lengthen or shorten the steering column, actuate the switch (1).

Note:

The steering wheel position is stored in memory with the seat and head restraint position.



Arm Rest (Front Seats)

The arm rest engages in 3 positions.

Position 1 = arm rest folded up.

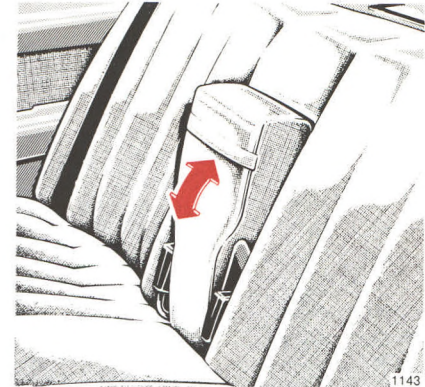
Position 2 = for normally inclined seat back.

Position 3 = for extremely inclined seat back.

For downward adjustment of the arm rest, depress release button (4).

Note:

To move the arm rest between positions 1 and 2 it may be necessary to overcome a slight resistance.



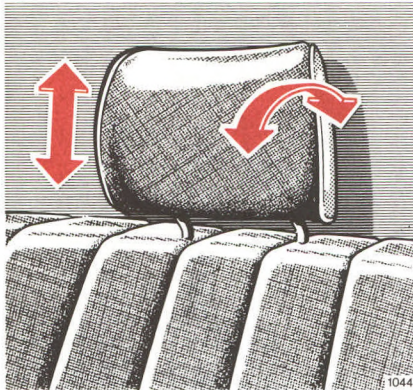
Warning!

The arm rest does not suffice as a child restraint system. In case of a frontal collision a child can be catapulted forward over the locked arm rest. Infants and small children should be seated in a properly secured restraint system that complies with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213.

Arm Rest (Rear Bench Seat)

When pulling out the arm rest by its strap, the seat belt buckles for the outboard seats swing out automatically.

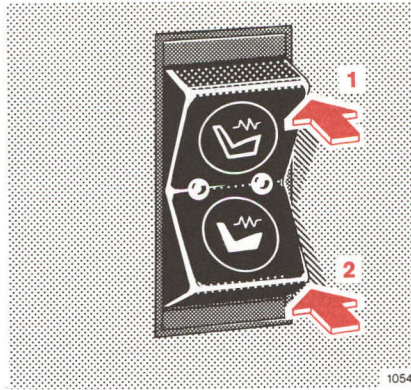
For the removal of the rear seat cushion see "Practical Hints", page 87.



Head Restraints, Rear

Adjust head restraint to support the back of the head approximately at ear level. Do not extend the head restraint past the stop.

For removal of head restraint refer to "Practical Hints", page 86.



Heated Seats

The front seat heaters can be switched on with the key in steering lock positions 1 or 2, the rear seat heaters only in steering lock position 2.

The switches for the front seats are located at the forward end of the center console, those for the rear seats are located in the rear doors.

Heater operation:

Push in upper switch portion; position 1 = normal heater operation, one indicator lamp lights up.

Push in lower switch portion; position 2 = rapid heating, both indicator lamps light up.

After approximately 5 minutes in the rapid heating mode, the heater automatically switches to normal operation and only one indicator lamp will stay on.

Turning off heater:

If one indicator lamp is on, press in upper part of switch, position 1.

If both indicator lamps are on, press in lower part of switch, position 2.

The heater automatically turns off after approximately 30 minutes of operation.

Note:

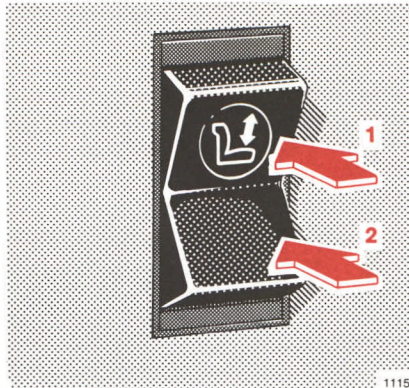
When in operation, the seat heater consumes a large amount of power. It is advisable not to use the seat heater longer than necessary.



Adjusting Power Seats, Rear

Turn key to steering lock position 1 or 2.

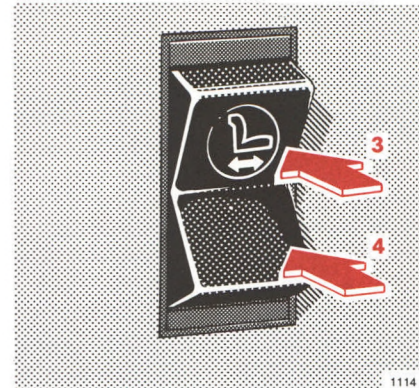
The rear seat can be adjusted in the fore/aft direction using the switch located in the rear door. The inclination of the seat back is altered together with the adjustment of the seat cushion.



Adjusting Individual Rear Seats

The switches are located on the console between the seats.

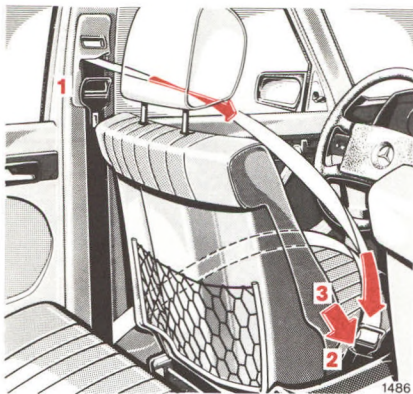
Turn key to steering lock position 1 or 2.



Press switches:

- 1 Upward seat cushion adjustment
- 2 Downward seat cushion adjustment
- 3 Forward seat cushion adjustment
- 4 Rearward seat cushion adjustment

The inclination of the seat back is altered together with the fore/aft adjustment of the seat cushion.



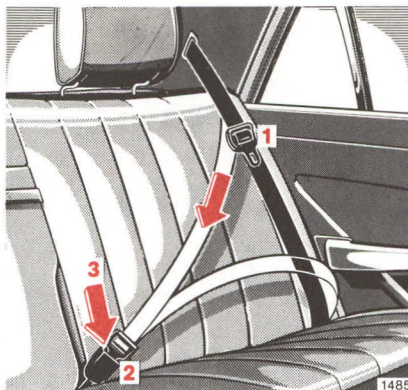
Supplemental Restraint System – Seat Belts, Emergency Tensioning Retractors, Driver Air Bag

Seat Belts and Emergency Tensioning Retractor

Your vehicle is equipped with seat belts and emergency tensioning retractors for the front seats. The tensioning retractors are located in each belt's inertia reel and become operationally ready with the key in steering lock position 1 or 2.

Important!

Laws in your state may require seat belt use.



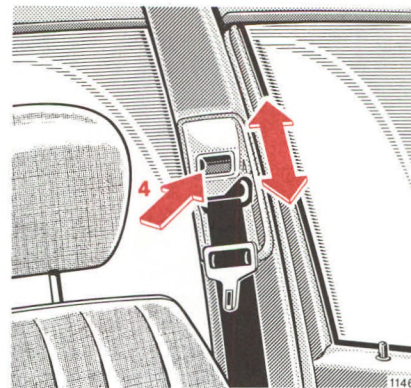
Seat Belt Warning System:

With the key in steering lock position 2, a warning buzzer sounds for a short time if the driver's seat belt is not fastened.

When someone enters the car the reminder lamp, located below the front interior/reading lamp, flashes for a short time to remind all occupants to fasten seat belts.

Fastening:

- Pull belt with latch plate (1) across shoulder and lap. Do not twist the belt doing this.
- Push latch plate (1) into buckle (2) until it clicks.



- Adjust front seat belts so the upper belt is located as close as possible to the middle of the shoulder (it should not touch the neck). For this purpose, push button (4) and raise or lower belt outlet (3 positions).
- The belt must be pulled snug and checked for snugness immediately after engaging it and during driving. If necessary, tighten the lap portion to a snug fit by pulling shoulder portion up.

Unfastening:

- Push in the red button (3) in the belt buckle.
- The retractor should completely rewind the belt and latch plate (1).

Operation:

The inertia reel stops the belt from unwinding during sudden vehicle stops or when quickly pulling on the belt.

The emergency tensioning retractor tightens the seat belt upon severe frontal impacts within the shaded area shown on page 36.

The locking function of the reel may be checked by quickly pulling out the belt.

Lap belt for middle of rear seat:

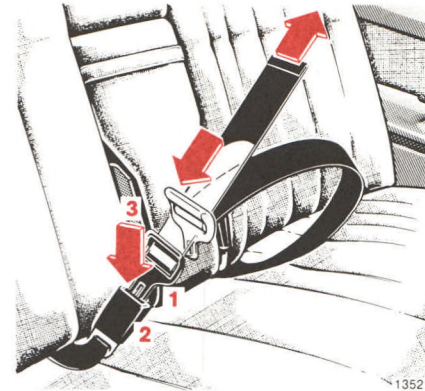
Pull belt with latch plate (1) across the lap, press latch plate into buckle (2) until it clicks. The belt must not be twisted and must be tight.

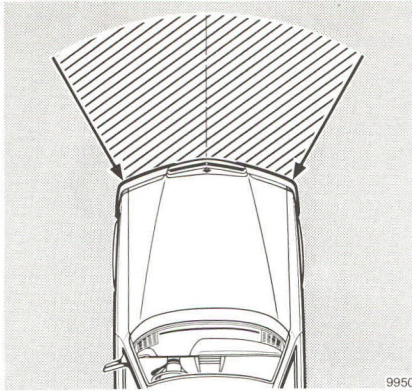
To shorten the belt: With the latch plate engaged, pull the loose end of the belt.

To lengthen the belt: With the belt unfastened, turn the latch plate so that it is a little more than 90° to the belt, then extend the belt. Fasten the belt and shorten as stated above.

To disengage the belt, push red button (3) in buckle.

If the center seat is not occupied, the belt buckle and rolled-up seat belt can be stored in the space next to the rear arm rest (to the left or right of arm rest).





The emergency tensioning retractors are designed to activate only during severe frontal impacts within the shaded area shown. They tighten the belts in such a way that they fit more snugly against the body restricting as much as possible its forward movement.

In cases of less severe frontal impacts, roll-overs, side or rear collisions, or other accidents without severe frontal forces, the emergency tensioning retractors will not be activated. The driver and passengers will then be protected by the fastened seat belts and inertia reel in the usual manner.

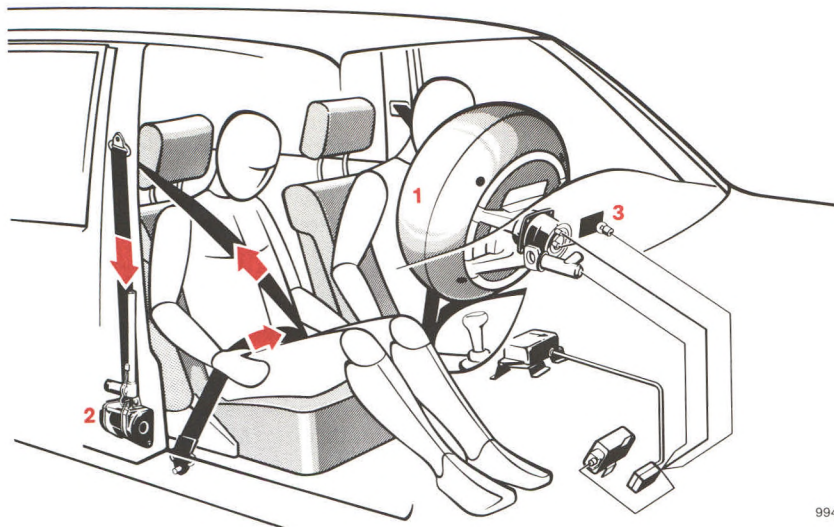
Warning!

- **Each occupant should wear their seat belt at all times. Together with the “SRS” (driver air bag, front seat ETR’s and driver side knee bolster), the seat belt offers the best conditions for protection of the body in case of severe frontal impact. Never wear the shoulder belt under your arm or otherwise out of position. Position the lap belt as low as possible around the hips (not the waist).**
- **Children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front seating positions.**

- **Infants and small children should be seated in an infant or child restraint system, which is properly secured by a lap belt or lap belt portion of a lap-shoulder belt.**
- **Children too big for child restraint systems should ride in rear seats using regular seat belts. A shoulder belt can be used, providing it does not cross the face or neck of a child.**
- **Each seat belt should not be used for more than one person at a time.**
- **Belts should not be worn twisted.**
- **Pregnant women should select a seat with a lap-shoulder belt whenever possible. The lap belt should be positioned as low as possible around the hips, to avoid any possible pressure on the abdomen.**

For cleaning and care of the seat belts, see page 83.

For seat belt and emergency tensioning retractor safety rules, see page 38.



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Driver Air Bag

The air bag (1) is located in the steering wheel hub and, in conjunction with wearing the seat belts with emergency tensioning retractors (2), provides increased protection for the driver.

The operational readiness of the supplemental restraint system (air bag and ETR's) is verified by the indicator lamp "SRS" (3) in the instrument cluster. When the key is turned from steering lock position 0 to position 1 or 2, the electronic components of the "SRS" are monitored and undergo a self-check indicated by the "SRS" warning lamp coming on. If no fault is detected, the lamp will go out after approximately 10 seconds.

After the lamp goes out, the system continues to monitor the components and circuitry of the "SRS" and will indicate a malfunction by coming on again.

We strongly recommend that you visit an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer immediately to have the system checked; otherwise the "SRS" may not be activated in a severe frontal accident.

Important note:

The air bag is designed to activate only in severe frontal impacts within the shaded area shown in the illustration on page 36. Only during these types of impacts will it provide its supplemental protection. The driver should always wear the seat belt, otherwise it is not possible for the air bag to provide its intended protection.

In cases of less severe frontal impacts, roll-overs, side or rear collisions, or other accidents without severe frontal forces, the air bag will not be activated. The driver and other passengers will then be protected by the fastened seat belts.

The activation of the “SRS” temporarily releases a small amount of dust from the driver air bag and the seat belt emergency tensioning retractors. This dust, however, is neither injurious to your health, nor does it indicate a fire in the vehicle.

The service life of the air bag extends to the date indicated on the sticker on the inside of the glove compartment door and on the radiator cowl. To provide continued reliability after that date, it should be inspected by an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer at that time.

Safety Guidelines for the Supplemental Restraint System – Seat Belts, Emergency Tensioning Retractor and Air Bag

Warning!

- **Damaged belts or belts that were highly stressed in an accident must be replaced and their anchoring points must also be checked. Use only belts installed or supplied by MERCEDES-BENZ.**
- **Do not pass belts over sharp edges.**
- **Do not make any modification that could change the effectiveness of the belts.**
- **An air bag or tensioning retractor that was activated must be replaced.**
- **No modifications of any kind may be made to any components or wiring of the “SRS”. This includes the installation of additional trim material, badges, etc. over the steering wheel hub and installation of additional electrical/electronic equipment on or near “SRS” components and wiring.**

- **Improper work on the system, including incorrect installation and removal, can lead to possible injury through an uncontrolled activation of the “SRS”. In addition, through improper work there is the risk of rendering the “SRS” inoperative. Work on the “SRS” must therefore only be performed by an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.**
- **When scrapping the air bag unit or emergency tensioning retractor, it is mandatory to follow our safety instructions. These instructions are available at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.**

When you sell the vehicle we strongly urge you to give notice to the subsequent owner that it is equipped with an “SRS” by alerting him to the applicable section in the Owner’s Manual.

Infant and Child Restraint Systems

Mercedes-Benz of North America recommends that all infants and children be restrained at all times while the vehicle is in motion.

Important!

The use of infant or child restraints is required by law in all 50 states and Canadian provinces.

Infants and small children should be seated in an infant or child restraint system, which is properly secured by a lap belt or lap belt portion of a lap-shoulder belt, and that complies with U.S. Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213. A statement by the seat manufacturer of compliance with this standard can be found on the instruction label on the restraint and in the instruction manual provided with the restraint.

When using any infant or child restraint system, be sure to carefully read and follow all manufacturer's instructions on installation and use.

Warning!

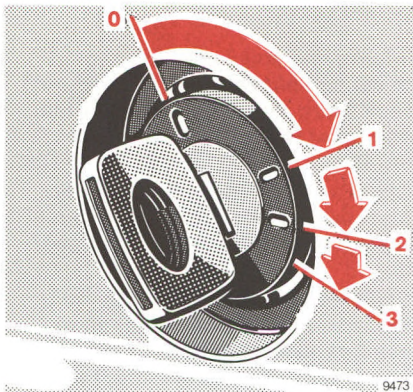
Infants and small children should never be held on the lap, nor should they share a seat belt with another occupant while the vehicle is in motion.

Children are safer when properly restrained in the rear seating positions than in the front seating positions.

Children too big for child restraint systems should ride in rear seats using regular seat belts. A shoulder belt can be used, providing it does not cross the face or neck of a child.

This vehicle is equipped with tether anchorages for use with child restraints that have a top tether strap. Consult your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for the exact location of these anchorages.





Steering Lock

- 0 Steering is locked when the key is withdrawn and the steering lock is engaged. The key can be withdrawn only in position 0.

Warning!

Do not remove key from the steering lock while the vehicle is in motion as this will cause the engagement of the steering lock thus rendering the vehicle inoperable.

- 1 Steering is unlocked. (If necessary, move steering wheel slightly and turn the key clockwise to position 1.)
- 2 Preglow and driving position.
- 3 Starting position.

For starting and turning off the engine, refer to page 14.

Warning!

When leaving the vehicle always remove the key from the steering lock. Do not leave children unattended in the vehicle. Unsupervised use of vehicle equipment may cause serious personal injury.

Notes:

The following items can be operated with the key in steering lock position 1:

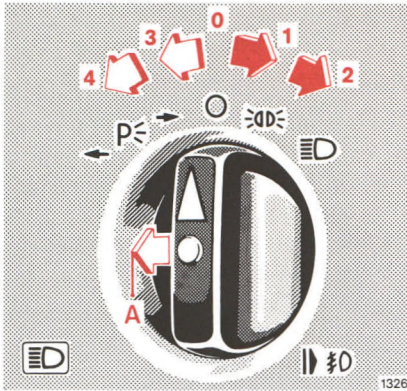
Wiper, windshield washer, headlamp cleaning system (only in exterior lamp switch positions 1 or 2), headlamp flasher, lighter, glove compartment lamp, radio, sliding roof, rear window defroster, power windows, front power seats, rear power seats, front heated seats, orthopedic seat backrest, telescoping steering column.

A warning buzzer sounds when the driver's door is opened with the key in steering lock position 1 or 0.

With the engine at idle speed, the charging rate of the alternator (output) is limited.

It is therefore recommended to turn off unnecessary electrical consumers while driving in stop and go traffic. This precaution helps to avoid draining the battery.

Unnecessary strain on the battery and charging system may be minimized by turning off the following power consumers, for example: Heated seats, rear window defroster.



Exterior Lamp Switch

- 0 Off-position
- 1 Parking lamps (includes side marker lamps, taillamps, license plate lamps, instrument panel lamps)
- 2 Same as pos. 1 plus headlamps
- 3 Standing lamps, right
- 4 Standing lamps, left
- A Turn to position 2 and pull out to first stop = same as position 2 plus fog lamps.

Standing lamps

When the vehicle is parked on the street the standing lamps (right or left side parking lamps) can be turned on, making the vehicle more visible to passing vehicles.

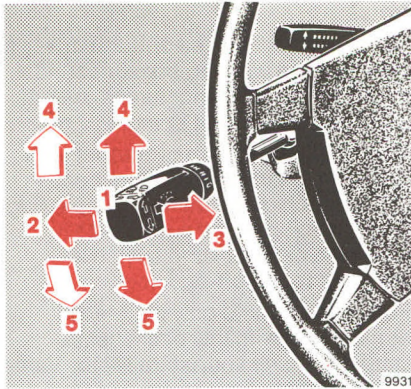
The standing lamps can only be operated with steering lock in position 0 or 1.

Notes:

With the key removed and the driver's door open, a warning buzzer sounds if the vehicle's exterior lamps are not switched off (except standing lamps).

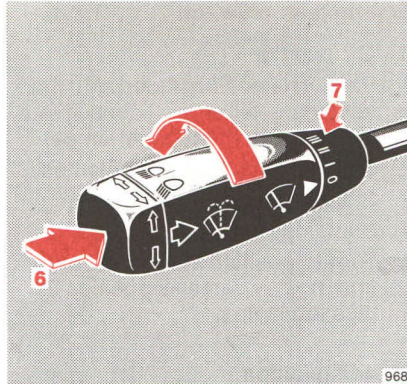
Fog lamps will operate together with the parking lamps, low beam headlamps and high beam headlamps. Fog lamps are turned off automatically when the exterior lamp switch is returned to the off-position.

Fog lamps should only be used in conjunction with low beam headlamps. Consult your state Motor Vehicle Regulations regarding fog lamp operation.



Combination Switch

- 1 Low beam (with exterior lamp switch turned to position 2)
- 2 High beam (with exterior lamp switch turned to position 2)
- 3 High beam flasher (high beam available independent of exterior lamp switch position)
- 4 Turn signals, right
- 5 Turn signals, left



- 6 Control for
 - windshield washer system
 - headlamp cleaning system (will work only with exterior lamp switch in position 1 or 2).

When the washer system is activated, the wipers also operate for a limited time.

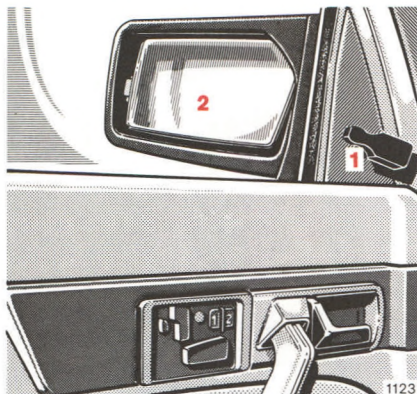
The windshield washer nozzles are automatically heated.

- 7 Windshield wiper control
 - 0 Wiper off
 - I Intermittent wiping
 - II Normal wiper speed
 - III Fast wiper speed

Note:

If one of the turn signals fails, the turn signal indicator system flashes and sounds at a faster rate than normal. In addition, the lamp failure indicator will come on.

For the overload protection of the windshield wiper motor, see page 79.



Exterior Rear View Mirrors

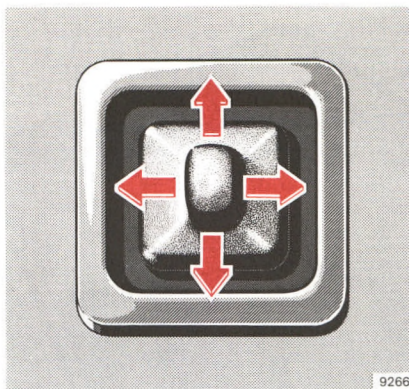
The exterior mirrors have electrically heated glass. The heater switches on and off automatically, depending on outside temperature.

Driver's side:

The exterior mirror (2) can be adjusted from inside the vehicle by moving adjusting lever (1) in the desired direction.

Passenger side:

The passenger side exterior mirror is convex (outwardly curved surface). Exercise care when using the passenger side mirror.



Caution!

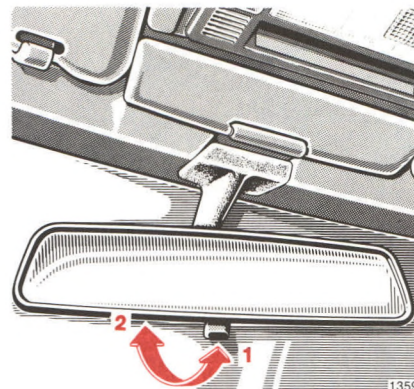
Objects in mirror are closer than they appear.

To adjust the mirror:

Turn key in steering lock to position 2. The exterior mirror can be adjusted using the switch. Adjust the mirror so you can just see the side of your vehicle in the portion of the mirror closest to the car.

Note:

If the mirror housing is forcibly pivoted from its normal position, it must be repositioned by applying firm pressure until it snaps into place.



Inside Rear View Mirror

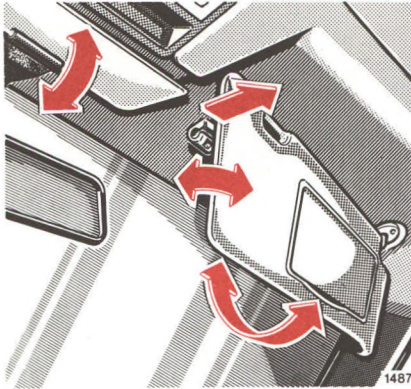
The mirror can be tilted to the anti-glare night position using the lever at its lower edge.

1 = Normal position

2 = Anti-glare night position.

Use your inside mirror to determine the size and distance of objects seen in the passenger side convex mirror.

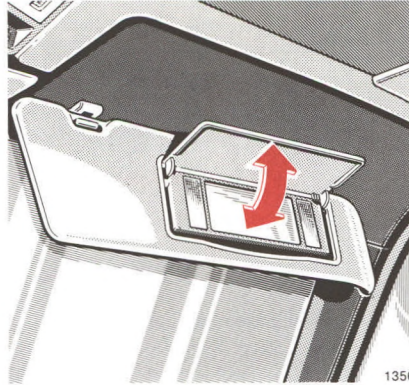




Sun Visors

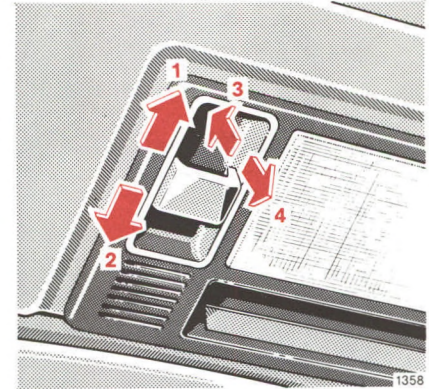
Swing sun visors down to protect against sun glare.

If sunlight enters through a side window, disengage visor from inner mounting and swing to the side. From this position, the visor can slide forward and backward on its shaft.



Vanity mirror:

With the visor engaged in its inner mounting, the lamp can be switched on by opening the cover.

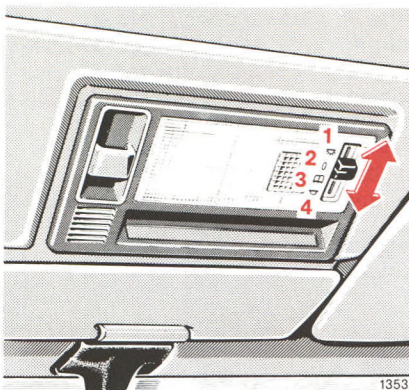


Sliding Roof with Rear Pop-Up Feature

Turn key to steering lock position 1 or 2.

- 1 Slide switch backward = to slide roof open.
- 2 Slide switch forward = to slide roof closed.
- 3 Press switch at rear = to raise roof at rear.
- 4 Pull switch at rear = to lower roof at rear.

The sliding roof can be opened or closed manually should an electrical malfunction occur (see page 79).



1353

Interior Lamps

The switch for the front lamp (combination interior and reading lamp) has 4 positions.

Position 1: Interior and reading lamp switched on continuously.

Position 2: Interior and reading lamp switched off continuously.

Position 3: Reading lamp switched on continuously.

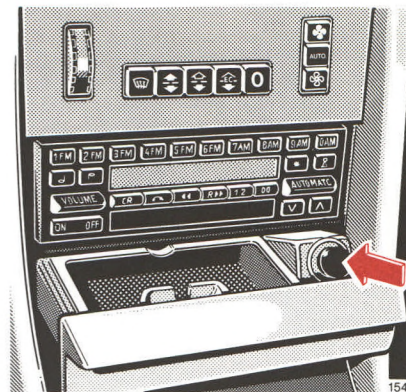
Position 4: Interior lamp is switched on and off (delayed, however, there will be no delay when the key is in steering lock position 2) by the front door contact switches.



9234

The rear courtesy lamp is switched on and off by the rear door contact switches or by the rocker switch on the instrument panel.

The reading lamps in the rear passenger compartment are switched on and off by a switch in each lamp.



1546

Lighter

Turn key in steering lock to position 1 or 2.

Push in lighter; it will pop out automatically when hot.

Warning!

Do not touch heating element or sides of lighter, hold at knob only.



Rear Window Defroster

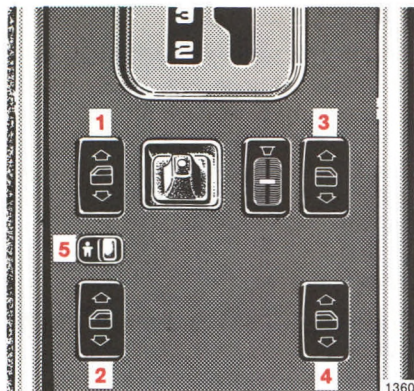
With engine running, press symbol side of rocker switch to turn on, bottom to turn off.

When activating the rear window defroster, the indicator lamp in the switch will come on.

Note:

The rear window defroster uses a large amount of power. To keep the battery drain to a minimum, turn off the defroster as soon as the window is clear. The defroster is automatically turned off after a maximum of 20 minutes of operation. Heavy accumulation of snow and ice should be removed before activating the defroster.

If several power consumers are turned on simultaneously, or the battery is only partially charged, it is possible that the defroster will automatically turn itself off. When this happens, the indicator lamp inside the switch starts blinking. As soon as the battery has sufficient voltage, the defroster automatically turns itself back on.

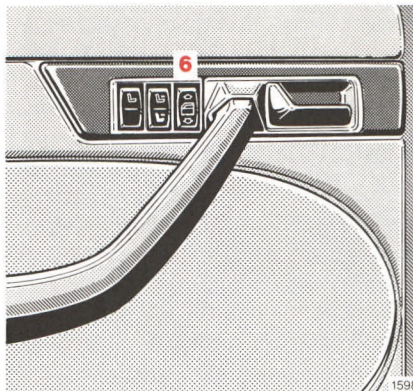


Power Windows

Switch group for power windows:

- 1 left, front
- 2 left, rear
- 3 right, front
- 4 right, rear
- 5 Safety switch

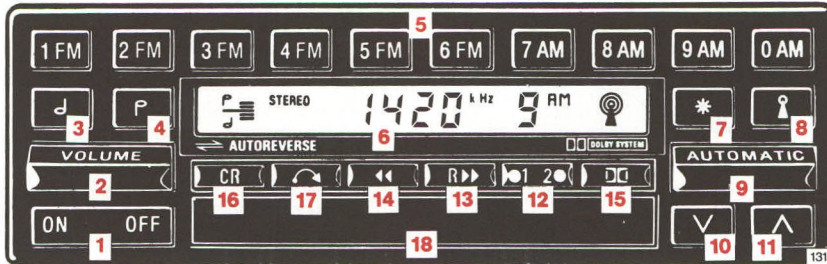
The power windows can be operated with the key in steering lock position 1 or 2.



Shelf below Rear Window

Warning!

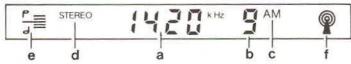
The shelf below the rear window should not be used to carry objects. This will prevent such objects from being thrown about and injuring vehicle occupants during an accident or sudden maneuver.



Electronic Radio

Pushbutton Functions

- 1 On/Off button **ON OFF**
- 2 Volume control **VOLUME**
- 3 Bass control **d**
- 4 Treble control **P**
- 5 Pushbuttons for AM/FM band selection, station frequency selection, station storage **1 FM** through **0 AM**
- 6 Digital display for station frequency (a), station pushbutton number (b), AM/FM band (c), stereo indicator (d), tone setting indicator (e), tuning sensitivity indicator (f)



- 7 Function control
- 8 Tuning sensitivity
- 9 Automatic station seeker bar
- 10 Manual tuning **V** (decreasing station frequency)
- 11 Manual tuning **^** (increasing station frequency)
- 12 Cassette track selector and track indicator **1 2**
- 13 Fast tape rewind **R>>**
- 14 Fast tape forward **<<**
- 15 Dolby* noise reduction **DD**
- 16 Tape selection **CR**
- 17 Cassette eject **⤴**
- 18 Cassette door

* Dolby and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation. Noise reduction system manufactured under license from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

To turn the radio ON

Press "ON" side of **ON OFF** button. The radio will begin operating on the last station, volume and tone setting stored before last turning it off.

The system can also be turned on by inserting a tape cassette through the cassette door.

To turn the radio OFF

Press the "OFF" side of the **ON OFF** button.

Volume adjustment

To reduce volume, press volume button **VOLUME** downward; to increase volume, press volume button **VOLUME** upward.

A fader control, installed in the center console, allows for balancing the sound level between the front and rear speakers.

To adjust the tone characteristic

Base **B** and treble **T** can be adjusted independently.

To set the radio to a “flat” response (bass and treble at mid-range setting), briefly press both tone controls **B** and **T** simultaneously. The tone setting indicator shows the selected response:

 = Flat Response

Upon pressing either tone button, the level for that function (either **B** or **T**) will begin increasing. It stops increasing when the button is released or when the maximum tone level is reached:

 = Maximum Treble

 = Maximum Bass

After reaching the maximum tone level, the tone control will stay at that level unless the tone button is released and pressed again, at which point the tone level will start decreasing. It will stop decreasing when the button is released or when the minimum tone level is reached.

 = Minimum Treble

 = Minimum Bass

After reaching the minimum tone level, the tone control will stay at that level unless the tone button is released and pressed again. After pressing the tone button again the tone level will begin to increase and the cycle is repeated.

Note: It takes approximately 5 seconds to go from minimum tone level to maximum tone level.

To select AM or FM

Press any of the buttons marked **1 FM** through **6 FM** to tune the radio to the FM band.

Press any of the buttons marked **7 AM** through **0 AM** to tune the radio to the AM band.

The selected wave band is shown in the digital display.

To tune in a station

Stations can be tuned in by using automatic seek, direct frequency tuning, manual tuning, or by preset pushbuttons. The frequency of the station selected is indicated on the digital display.

Automatic station seeker


Switch to the wave band desired by pressing any of the following buttons: for FM, buttons **1 FM** through **6 FM** for AM, buttons **7 AM** through **0 AM**

By pressing the automatic station seeker bar **AUTOMATIC** upward the radio will seek stations in ascending frequencies, by pressing down it will do so in descending frequencies. The direction of automatic seeking can be reversed by pressing the bar **AUTOMATIC** in the respective direction. In order to arrive at a desired station without stopping, the bar must be held in the desired direction.

Tuning sensitivity button

By pressing the tuning sensitivity button  once or twice, you can select the desired sensitivity level of the automatic station seeker. The sensitivity indicator shows the selected sensitivity level:

 = least sensitive (the automatic seeker only stops at strong stations)

 = average (the automatic seeker stops at strong and moderate strength stations)

 = most sensitive (the automatic seeker also stops at weak stations)














When switched off, the radio returns to the “least sensitive” level.

Direct frequency tuning

In order to select a station with a known frequency, select the wave band (AM or FM), press the function control button  and then enter the frequency by pressing the corresponding pushbuttons.

Example:

Press any button marked

FM 98.5 MHz	AM 1050 kHz
 through 	 through 
	
  	   

Press the function control button

Enter frequency by pressing

When tuning a frequency directly, the number of the pushbutton is not displayed on the panel. The wave band is indicated by showing “MHz” for FM or “kHz” for AM.

Note:

All AM stations have allocated frequencies ending with a “0”.

All FM stations have allocated frequencies ending with an odd (uneven) digit after the decimal point.



Broadcasters sometimes may not give their exact frequency but the next closest whole number.

US radio frequency ranges:

AM 540 – 1600 kHz

FM 88.1 – 107.9 MHz





Manual tuning (used to fine tune a station or for manual scanning)

After selecting the desired AM or FM wave band, press the manual tuning button  (decreasing station frequency) or  (increasing station frequency).

The frequency will increase or decrease respectively in increments of 0.1 MHz for FM or 1.0 kHz for AM. Release the button when the desired station is tuned in.

Please note: It is recommended that manual tuning operations be performed by the driver while the vehicle is not in motion.

Pushbutton tuning

Six FM stations and four AM stations can be stored in memory and recalled by pressing the appropriate buttons marked  through  for FM or  through  for AM stations.

To store stations in memory

Any FM station can be stored on any button marked  through  by first tuning in the desired station, depressing the button desired and holding it until the display has changed from the “old” setting to a “blank” and then to the new station to be stored.

Showing the “old” setting first allows for reconsideration of the decision to store. If it is desirable to leave the “old” station in memory rather than exchanging it with the “new” one, quickly release the button. The “old” station will remain in memory.

Any AM station can be stored similarly on any button marked **7 AM** through **0 AM**.

Stereo reception

The stereo indicator **STEREO** lights up if a stereo program in the AM or FM band is received.

Note: Since some AM stereo broadcasting is not compatible with your car radio reception capabilities, you may experience limited AM stereo reception in some areas. The radio receives AM stereo programs which are broadcast via the C-Quam®* AM stereo system.

The radio is equipped with an automatic stereo/mono switch that electronically switches to mono for clear reception if a weak signal is received.

The stereo indicator will remain lit even if the receiver has changed to the mono mode and will turn off at an antenna signal considered insufficient to provide acceptable reception quality.

*C-Quam® is a registered trademark of Motorola, Inc.

Note: Although FM is normally static free, reception quality can be limited by geographic and atmospheric conditions, station strength and distance from transmitter. Buildings or other obstructions can cause momentary static, flutter or station swapping. If good reception cannot be obtained, tune to a stronger station.

Tape cassette playback

It is recommended to use only good quality cassettes with a playback time of not more than 90 minutes (C 90).

To start playback, insert a cassette (tape side first, side “1” or “A” facing up) through the cassette door. Push the cassette in until it is locked in its playing position.

When the end of one playing side is reached, the unit switches automatically to reverse for playing the second track.

The tape track can be selected by depressing the cassette track button **1 2**. The built-in indicators show which track of the cassette the unit is playing back.

To stop playback, press the eject button **EJECT**. The unit will automatically eject the cassette and switch to radio reception.

For fast tape rewind press the fast rewind button **REW**. The button will lock into position until the end of the tape is reached or until the eject **EJECT** or fast forward button **FF** is activated.

Accordingly, for fast forward of the tape, press the fast forward button **FF**.

To replay cassettes recorded using the Dolby B noise reduction system, the Dolby NR button **DB** should be pressed in. This reduces tape hiss.

When the radio is turned off by pressing the “OFF” side of the **ON OFF** button or by turning the key to steering lock position 0, the cassette will automatically be ejected.

Tape equalization

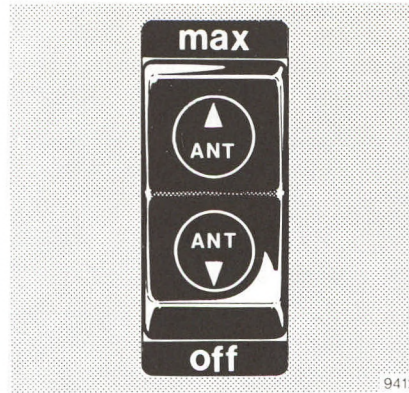
For good reproduction quality it is necessary to adjust the tape player for the particular type of tape being used. Press the CR button **CR** for Chromium dioxide (CrO₂) or “metal” cassette tapes only. For all other types of tapes, the CR button **CR** should be out.

Care and maintenance

To avoid deterioration of the tone quality, clean the tape head with the special cleaning tape available through your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Radio anti-theft protection

Removal of the radio with the vehicle anti-theft alarm armed will render the radio inoperative indicated by a dashed line across the display.



Automatic Antenna

The antenna switch can be actuated with the radio switched on.

- If the antenna switch is engaged in the "max" position, the antenna extends fully.

Note:

For most conditions the antenna should normally be in this position.

- If the antenna switch is in the center position, the antenna extends automatically to medium height,
- if the antenna switch is engaged in the "off" position, the antenna will not extend or will retract completely.

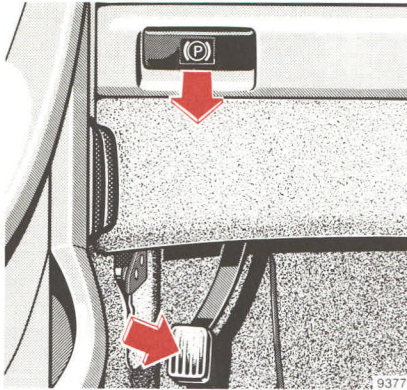
The height of the antenna can be adjusted to any intermediate position by actuating the antenna switch:

- If the antenna switch is in the center position, the antenna will extend to medium height. The antenna can be further extended or retracted to any height by rocking the switch (not engaging it).
- If the antenna is to be retracted, e.g. going through car wash, etc., engage switch in "off" position.

When the key is turned to steering lock position 0 or the radio is turned off, the antenna will retract completely.

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Parking Brake

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

To release the parking brake, pull handle on instrument panel. The brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster should go out.

Automatic Transmission

The automatic transmission selects individual gears automatically, dependent 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 shortly 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.

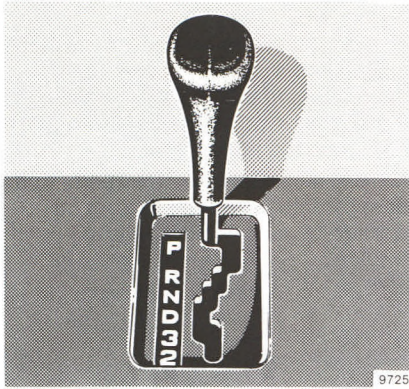
When starting off on a slippery surface, do not allow one driving wheel to spin for an extended period.

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” when driving except when the vehicle is in danger of skidding (e.g. on icy roads, see page 17).

“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 down-grades.

“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.

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. Overrevving 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 RPMs 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.

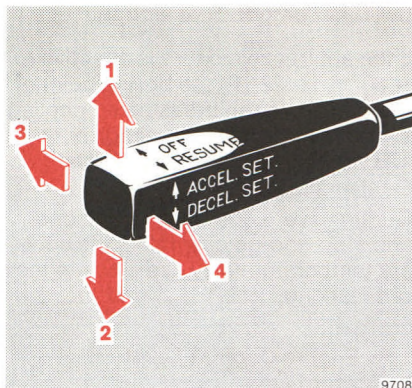
For longer stops with the engine idling, shift into "N" or "P".

When stopping the car on a slope, 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.



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.

Normally the vehicle is accelerated to the desired speed with the accelerator. Speed is set by briefly pushing the lever to position 1 or 2. The accelerator can then be released.

The speed can be increased (e.g. for passing) by using the accelerator. As soon as the accelerator is released, the previously set speed will be resumed automatically.

If a set speed is to be increased or decreased slightly, e.g. to adapt to the traffic flow, hold lever in position 1 or 2 until the desired speed is reached. When the lever is released, the newly set speed remains.

- 3 Cancelling
To cancel the cruise control, briefly push lever to position 3.

When you step on the brake pedal or the vehicle speed falls below approx. 40 km/h (25 mph), for example when driving upgrade, the cruise control will be cancelled.

- 4 Resume
If the lever is briefly pulled to position 4 when driving at a speed exceeding approximately 40 km/h (25 mph), the vehicle resumes the speed which was set prior to the cancellation of the cruise control. The last memorized speed is cancelled when the key is turned to steering lock position 1 or 0.

Note:

If the engine does not brake the vehicle sufficiently while driving on a downgrade, the speed you set on the cruise control may be exceeded. As soon as the grade eases, the cruise controlled speed will again be maintained as long as the brakes were not applied.

If the set speed was sufficiently exceeded such that the brakes had to be applied, the cruise control can be resumed by pulling the lever to position 4.

Warning!

Only use the cruise control if the traffic and weather conditions make it advisable to travel at a steady speed.

The "Resume" function should only be operated if the driver is fully aware of the previously set speed and wishes to resume this particular preset speed.

When driving with the cruise control, the transmission selector lever must not be shifted to position "N" as otherwise the engine will overrev.

Charge Indicator Lamp

Should the charge indicator lamp fail to come on prior to starting when the key is in steering lock position 2 or should it fail to go out after starting or during operation, this indicates a fault which must be repaired at an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer as soon as possible.

When the charge indicator lamp glows while the engine is running, the V-belt may have broken (which also makes the water pump inoperative). This will cause overheating and damage to the engine. In this case the V-belt must be replaced immediately.

Oil Pressure Gauge

The oil pressure at idle speed may drop to 0.3 bar (4.4 psi) if the engine is at operating temperature. This will not jeopardize its operational reliability.

Pressure must, however, rise immediately upon acceleration.

Low Engine Oil Level Indicator Lamp

The indicator lamp comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out when the engine is running.

If it comes on with the engine running and at operating temperature, the oil level has dropped to the minimum mark on the dipstick. When this occurs, the indicator lamp will first come on intermittently and then stay on if the oil level drops further. If no oil leaks are noted and there is no loss in engine oil pressure, continue to drive to the nearest service station where the engine oil should be topped to the "full" mark of the dipstick (see page 66).

In addition to the indicator lamp, the engine oil level should be periodically checked with the dipstick, for example during a fuel stop, or before a long trip (see page 66).

Engine Oil Consumption

Engine oil consumption can only be determined after a certain mileage has been covered. During the break-in period, higher oil consumption may be noticed and is normal.

Coolant Temperature Gauge

If the antifreeze mixture is effective to -30°C (-22°F) the boiling point of the coolant in the pressurized cooling system of your vehicle is approx. 125°C (257°F) (see also "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.").

During severe operating conditions and stop-and-go city traffic, the coolant temperature may rise close to the red marking.

Low Engine Coolant Level Indicator Lamp

The indicator lamp comes on with the key in steering lock position 2, and should go out when the engine is running.

If it comes on with the engine running, the coolant has dropped below the required level. If no leaks are noticeable and the engine temperature does not increase, continue to drive to the nearest service station and have coolant added to the coolant system (see page 65).

Fuel Reserve Warning Lamp

The fuel reserve warning lamp will come on when the key is turned to steering lock position 2, and will go out after the engine is running.

If the warning lamp stays on after the engine starts, or comes on while driving, it indicates that the fuel level is down to the reserve quantity (12.5 l [3.3 US gal]).

Low Windshield and Headlamp Washer Fluid Level Indicator Lamp

The indicator lamp comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out when the engine is running.

If it comes on with the engine running, the level of the reservoir has dropped to about 1/4 of the total volume and should be filled again with washer fluid to which about 1 capful of MB auto-shampoo has been added.

Exterior Light Failure Indicator Lamp

The light failure indicator comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and will go out when the engine starts.

If it comes on with the engine running, it indicates a light failure.

If an exterior light fails, the indicator will come on only when that light is switched on.

If a brake or turn signal light fails, the light failure indicator will come on when applying the brake or actuating the turn signal and stay on until the engine is turned off.

Caution!

If additional lighting equipment is installed (e.g. auxiliary headlamps etc.) be certain to connect into the fuse before the failure indicator monitoring unit in order to avoid damaging the system.

Outside Temperature Indicator

The temperature sensor is located in the front bumper area. Due to its location, the sensor can be affected by road or engine heat during idling or slow driving. This means that the accuracy of the displayed temperature can only be verified by comparison to a thermometer placed next to the sensor, not by comparison to external displays (i.e., bank signs, etc.).

Adaptation to ambient temperature takes place in steps and depends on the prevailing driving conditions (stop and go or moderate, constant driving) and amount of temperature change.

Warning!

The outside temperature indicator is not designed to serve as an Ice-Warning-Device and is therefore unsuitable for that purpose. Indicated temperatures just above freezing point do not guarantee that the road surface is free of ice.

Brake Pad Wear Indicator Lamp

The brake pad wear indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on when the key is turned to steering lock position 2 and it should go out when the engine is running. If the indicator lamp lights up during braking, this shows that the front wheel brake pads are worn.

Have the brake system checked at an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer as soon as possible.

Brake Warning Lamp

The brake warning lamp will come on if insufficient brake fluid is in the reservoir (key in steering lock position 2 and parking brake released). When the minimum mark on the reservoir is reached, have the brake system checked (brake pad thickness, leaks).

To test the brake warning lamp, depress the parking brake pedal. Turn key to steering lock position 2 and the brake warning lamp should come on; release parking brake and the lamp should go out.

ABS (Antilock Brake System)

The ABS prevents the wheels from locking up above a speed of approx. 3 km/h (2 mph) independent of road surface conditions. It is necessary, however, that a speed of approx. 8 km/h (5 mph) has been exceeded at least once after start-up.

At the instant one of the wheels is about to lock up, you will feel a slight pulsation in the brake pedal, indicating that the ABS is in the regulating mode.

On slippery road surfaces, the ABS will respond even with only slight brake pedal pressure. The pulsating brake pedal can be an indication of hazardous road conditions, and it functions as a reminder to take extra care while driving.

The ABS (ANTILOCK) indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on with the key in steering lock position 2 and should go out with the engine running.

If the charging voltage falls below 10 volts, the indicator lamp comes on and the ABS is switched off. When the voltage is above this value again, the indicator lamp should go out and the ABS will be operational.

If the ABS indicator lamp does not go out or comes on while driving, it indicates that the ABS has detected a malfunction and has switched off. In this case, the brake system functions in the usual manner, but without anti-lock assistance. We recommend that you visit an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer as soon as possible to have the system checked.

Warning!

Even the ABS cannot prevent the natural laws of physics from acting on the vehicle. The ABS cannot prevent accidents, including those resulting from excessive speed in turns, following another vehicle too closely, or aquaplaning. Only a safe, attentive, and skillful driver can prevent accidents. The capabilities of an ABS equipped car must never be exploited in a reckless or dangerous manner which could jeopardize the user's safety or the safety of others.

Emission Control

Certain systems of the engine serve to keep the toxic components of the exhaust gases within permissible limits required by law.

These systems, of course, will function properly only when maintained strictly according to factory specifications. Any adjustments on the engine should, therefore, be carried out only by qualified MERCEDES-BENZ technicians. The adjustments of the engine should not be altered in any way.

Moreover, the specified service and maintenance jobs must be carried out regularly according to MERCEDES-BENZ servicing requirements. For details refer to the Maintenance Booklet.

Warning!

Inhalation of exhaust gas is hazardous to your health. All exhaust gas contains carbon monoxide, and inhaling it can cause unconsciousness and lead to death.

Do not run the engine in confined areas (such as a garage) which are not properly ventilated. If you think that exhaust gas fumes are entering the vehicle while driving, have the cause determined and corrected immediately. If you must drive under these conditions, drive only with at least one window fully open.

High Altitude Correction Device

The engine is equipped with an automatic high altitude correction device.

Traveling Abroad

Abroad, there is a widely-spread MERCEDES-BENZ service network at your disposal. If you plan to travel into areas which are not listed in the index of your dealer directory, you should request pertinent information from your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Winter Driving

Have your car winterized at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer before the onset of winter.

- Engine oil change: If “year-round” multigrade engine oil is not used, be sure to use an SAE grade based on ambient temperature. For recommended engine oil viscosities refer to “Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.” and last page.
- For diesel fuels, refer to page 97 and last page.
- Anticorrosion/antifreeze in the coolant: Check anticorrosion/antifreeze protection periodically. For capacity refer to “Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.”.
- Additive in the windshield washer and headlamp cleaning system: Add winter windshield washer concentrate to the water. Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer can advise you on the mixing ratios.

- Test battery: Battery capacity drops with decreasing ambient temperature. A well charged battery ensures that the engine can always be started, even at low ambient temperatures.
- Tires: We recommend M + S radial tires on all four wheels for the winter season. Observe permissible maximum speed for M + S radial tires and the legal speed limit.
- Blockheater: The engine is equipped with a block heater. The electrical cable may be installed free-of-charge at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer by using the coupon in the “Owner’s Service and Warranty Policy” booklet. The coupon is valid for 12 months from date of vehicle delivery.
After installation, the electrical plug is located at the side of the radiator (behind the grill) and can be plugged into ordinary household outlets. One or two hours of operation is usually sufficient to pre-warm the engine before starting. The block heater can be left plugged in overnight, if desired.

Tire Chains

Use only tire chains that are tested and recommended by MERCEDES-BENZ. Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will be glad to advise you on this subject.

Chains should only be used on the rear wheels. Adhere to the manufacturer’s mounting instructions.

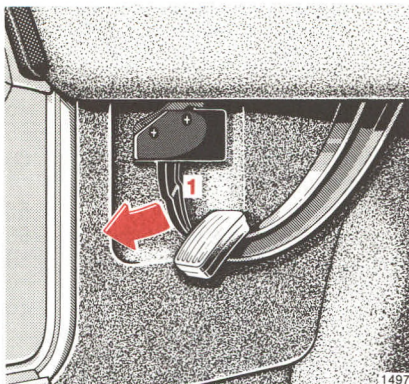
After driving a short distance retighten the mounted chains.

Tire chains should only be driven on snow at speeds not to exceed 50 km/h (30 mph). Remove chains as soon as possible when driving on roads without snow.

For tips on driving on slippery winter roads refer to page 17.

Practical Hints

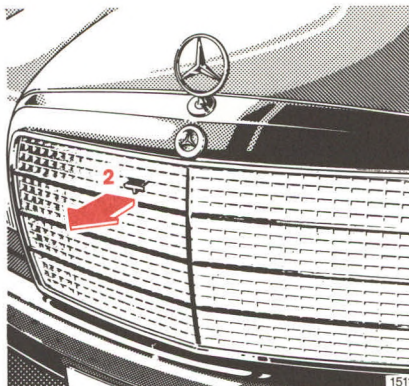
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Hood

To open:

To unlock the hood, pull release lever (1) under the driver's side of the instrument panel. At the same time handle (2) will pop out of the radiator grill (it may be necessary to lift the hood up slightly).



Pull handle (2) completely out of radiator grill and open hood (do not pull up on handle).

Caution!

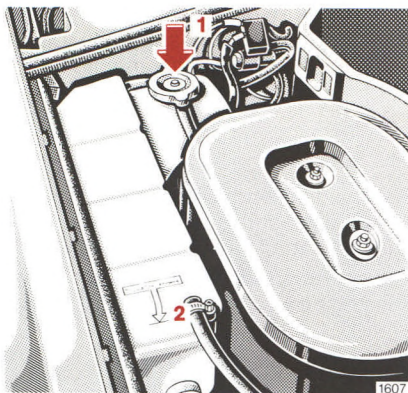
To avoid damage to the windshield wipers or hood, open the hood only with wipers in the parked position.

To close:

Close hood by depressing it firmly.

Warning!

To help prevent personal injury, stay clear of moving parts when the hood is open and the engine is running. Be sure the hood is properly closed before driving.



- 1 Coolant reservoir cap
- 2 Marking for coolant level

Checking Coolant Level

The coolant level can be checked visually at the transparent coolant reservoir.

To check the coolant level, the vehicle must be parked on level ground.

The coolant level must reach:

The marking (2, arrow) on the reservoir when the engine is cold.

Approx. 2 cm (0.8 in) higher when the engine is at operating temperature.

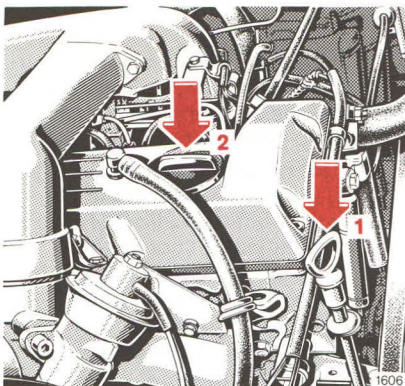
Adding Coolant

If coolant has to be added, a 50/50 mixture of water and MB anticorrosion/antifreeze should be used.

Warning!

- Use extreme caution when opening the hood, in case there are any signs of steam or coolant leaking from the cooling system.
- Do not remove pressure cap on coolant reservoir if engine temperature is above 90° C (194° F). Allow engine to cool down before removing cap. The coolant reservoir contains hot water/anticorrosion/antifreeze mixture and is under pressure.
- Using a rag, turn cap to first notch to relieve excess pressure. If opened immediately, hot scalding fluid and steam will be blown out under pressure.

The drain plugs are located on the right side of the engine and on the radiator bottom.

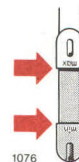


- 1 Oil dipstick
- 2 Oil filler cap

Engine Oil Level Check

The best time to check the engine oil level is when the oil is warm, such as during a fuel stop. With the vehicle on level ground, stop the engine and wait a few minutes for the oil to drain back to the oil pan.

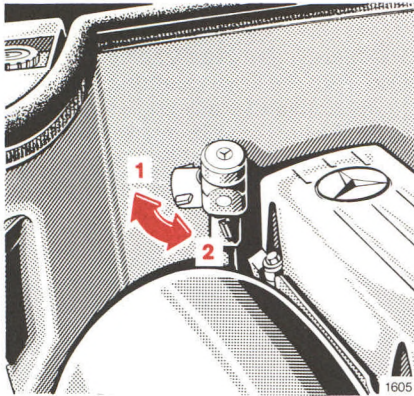
Wipe the dipstick clean before checking.



Add oil, if needed, only to the upper mark (max). Do not overfill the engine.

For viscosity and capacity, see “Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.” and last page.

For low engine oil level indicator lamp, see page 58.



Fluid Level – Automatic Transmission

Check the fluid level in the automatic transmission regularly and prior to an extended trip.

Check transmission fluid level with the engine idling, parking brake engaged and selector lever in position “P”. The vehicle must be parked on level ground. Prior to the check, allow engine to idle for approx. 1 to 2 minutes.

Measure fluid level with the dipstick completely inserted and the locking lever released (1).

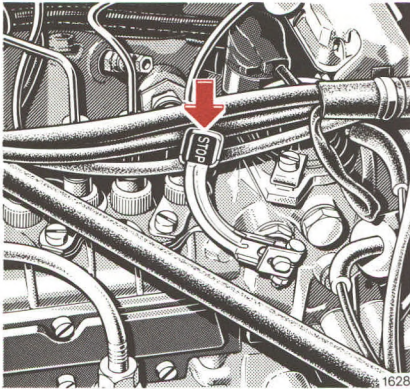
Extreme cleanliness must be observed! To wipe the dipstick, use a clean, lint-free cloth. To fill the transmission with fluid, pour it through a fine-mesh filter into the dipstick opening. Even the slightest impurity may cause operational troubles.

The fluid level in the transmission is dependent upon its temperature. The maximum and minimum fluid level marks on the dipstick are applicable references only if the transmission fluid has reached its normal operating temperature of 80° C (176° F).

Important!

If the transmission fluid cools down to 20 – 30° C (68 – 86° F), which is the normal shop temperature range, then the maximum fluid level will be approximately 10 mm (0.4 in) below the minimum mark on the dipstick. We stress this point because a fluid change is normally performed when the transmission fluid has cooled down to shop temperature.

The fluid level must not exceed the dipstick maximum mark with the fluid at operating temperature. Drain or siphon off excess fluid, if required. Then push dipstick all the way in and swing locking lever downwards (2).



Turning off Engine Manually

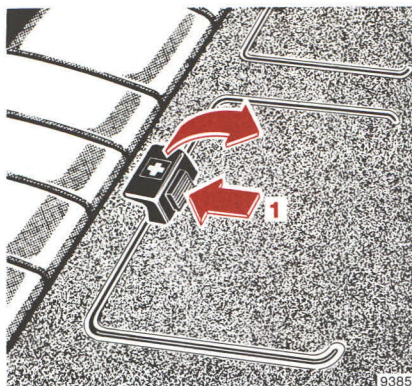
If the engine continues to run after the key is turned to steering lock position 0, open the hood and push down the lever marked "STOP" until the engine stops running.

Warning!

To help prevent personal injury, stay clear of moving parts when the hood is open and the engine is running. Be sure the hood is properly closed before driving.

Bleeding of Fuel System

The fuel system is a self bleeding system. Turn the key in steering lock fully to the right and crank engine (for up to one minute maximum). Push accelerator pedal to the floor while cranking engine. Only release key after engine fires evenly.



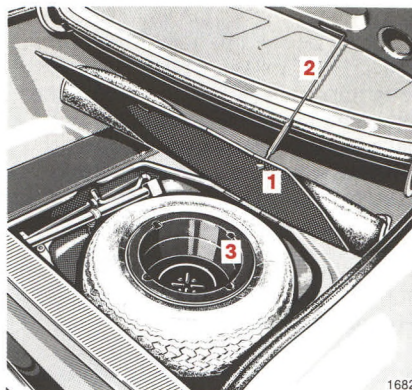
First Aid Kit

The first aid kit is stored in the shelf below the rear window. To open the lid, push button (1).

Stowing Things in the Vehicle

Warning!

To help avoid personal injury during a collision or sudden maneuver, exercise care when stowing things. Put luggage or cargo in the trunk if possible. Do not pile luggage or cargo higher than the seat backs. Do not place anything on the shelf below the rear window.



Spare Wheel, Jack, Vehicle Tool Kit

The spare wheel, jack and vehicle tool kit are stored in a compartment below the trunk floor (1).

Prior to lifting up the cover, fold back mats and engage strap (2) in trunk lid.

To remove the spare tire, turn luggage bowl (3) to the left and lift up.

Warning!

The jack is designed exclusively for jacking up the vehicle at the jack tubes built into either side of the vehicle. Use the jack only to lift the vehicle during a tire change. Never get beneath the vehicle while it is supported only by the jack. Keep hands and feet away from area under the lifted tire. Jack stands must be used when working under the vehicle. Always set parking brake before raising vehicle with the jack. For details, refer to "Changing Wheels".

Wheels, Tires

Replace wheels or tires with the same designation, manufacturer and type as shown on the original part. See your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for further information.

Warning!

Do not mix different tire construction types (i.e. radial, bias, and bias-belted) on your car because handling may be adversely affected and may result in loss of control.

See your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for information on tested and recommended wheels and tires for summer and winter operation. They can also offer more advice concerning tire service and purchase.

Front tires should be replaced in sets. If possible, the spare tire should be used on the rear wheels. We recommend that you break in new tires for approx. 100 km (60 miles) at moderate speed.

It is imperative that the wheel mounting bolts be retightened after approx. 800 km (500 miles). On new vehicles retightening is carried out during the 1st inspection. Retightening is also necessary whenever wheels are fitted, e.g. when the spare wheel is used for the first time or when a set of wheels with M + S tires are installed.

Tightening torque: 110 Nm (80 lb-ft).

For tire specifications, refer to "Technical Data".

Rotating wheels:

The wheels can be rotated according to the degree of tire wear while retaining the same direction of travel. Rotating, however, should be carried out before the characteristic tire wear pattern (shoulder wear on front wheels and tread center wear on rear wheels) becomes visible at a mileage of 5000 – 10 000 km (3000 – 6000 miles) as otherwise the driving properties deteriorate.

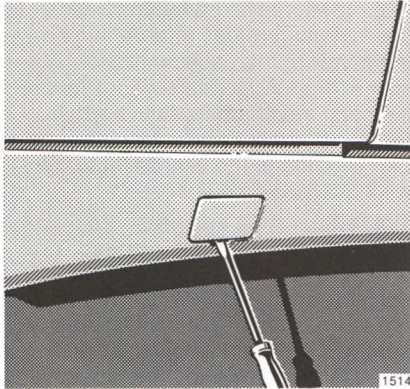
Underinflated tires due to a slow leak (e.g. due to a nail in the tire) may cause damage such as tread separation, bulging, etc. Regular tire pressure checks (including the spare tire) at intervals of no more than 14 days are therefore essential. Keep in mind that warm tires have a higher pressure than cold tires. (See tire pressure chart on fuel filler door and the last page.) If a tire constantly loses air, it should be inspected for damage.

Use only genuine MERCEDES-BENZ wheel bolts (identified by Mercedes-Star on bolt shaft).

Thoroughly clean the inner side of the wheels any time you rotate the wheels or wash vehicle underside.

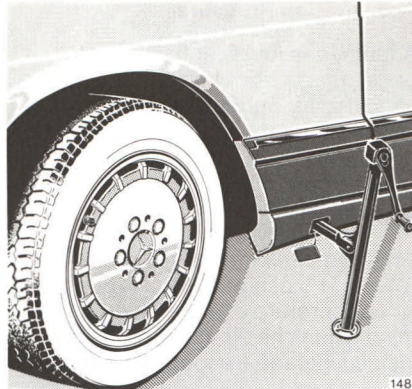
Dented or bent rims cause tire pressure loss and damage to the tire beads. For this reason, check rims for damage at regular intervals.

The rim flanges must be checked for wear before a tire is mounted. Remove burrs, if there are any.



Changing Wheels

1. Set parking brake.
2. Move selector lever to position "P".
3. Prevent vehicle from rolling away by blocking wheels with wheel chocks: When changing a wheel on a hill, place chocks on the downhill side of each wheel of the other axle; on a level road, place one chock in front of and one behind the wheel that is diagonally opposite to the wheel being changed.



4. Using the combination wrench, loosen but do not yet remove the wheel bolts.
5. Remove cap from the jack support tube. (The tube openings are located directly behind the front wheel housings and in front of the rear wheel housings.)
6. Insert jack arm fully into the tube hole up to the stop. Position the jack so that it will always be vertical as seen from the side, even on inclines. Jack up the vehicle until the wheel is clear off the ground.

Warning!

The jack is designed exclusively for jacking up the vehicle at the jack tubes built into either side of the vehicle. Use the jack only to lift the vehicle during a tire change. Never get beneath the vehicle while it is supported only by the jack. Keep hands and feet away from the area under the lifted tire. Jack stands must be used when working under the vehicle. Always set parking brake before raising vehicle with jack.

7. Then unscrew wheel bolts completely. Keep bolt threads protected from dirt and sand. While removing last bolt, hold wheel against hub to avoid paint damage on rim.
8. Remove wheel.
9. Screw the alignment bolt (supplied in tool kit) into an upper threaded hole.
10. Adjust the jack height so that the wheel can be slipped on without being lifted.

11. Install spare wheel on wheel hub. Insert wheel bolts and tighten them slightly.

To avoid paint damage, place wheel flat against hub and hold it there while installing first wheel bolt. Unscrew the alignment stud to install the last wheel bolt.

12. Lower car, remove jack.
13. Engage jack tube cover hooks on top and snap bottom into place.
14. Tighten the five bolts evenly, always skipping one, until all bolts are tight. Observe a tightening torque of 110 Nm (80 lb-ft).
15. Correct tire pressure.

Important!

Retighten wheel mounting bolts after approx. 800 km (500 miles). Observe a tightening torque of 110 Nm (80 lb-ft).

Tire Inflation Pressure

A table (see fuel filler flap or last page) lists the tire inflation pressures specified for summer and winter tires as well as for the varying operating conditions.

Important!

Tire pressure differs by approx. 0.1 bar (1.5 psi) per 10° C (18° F) of air temperature change. Keep this in mind when checking tire pressure inside a garage – especially in the winter.

Example:

If garage temperature = approx. +20° C (+68° F) and, ambient temperature = approx. 0° C (+32° F) then the adjusted air pressure = specified air pressure + 0.2 bar (+ 3 psi).

Tire pressures listed for light loads are minimum values offering high driving comfort. Increased inflation pressures for heavy loads produce favorable handling characteristics with lighter loads and are perfectly permissible. The ride of the vehicle, however, will become somewhat harder.

Tire temperature and pressure increase with the vehicle speed. Tire pressure should therefore only be corrected on cold tires. Correct tire pressure in warm tires only if pressure has dropped below the pressure listed in the table and the respective operating conditions are taken into consideration.

Battery

Check electrolyte level in each cell approximately every four weeks, and more frequently during the summer and in hot climates.

Refill battery with distilled or tap water. Do not use metal funnels or push through the overflow-protection diaphragms in the filler holes.

The battery is completely filled when the water stops draining through the overflow-protection diaphragm.

To check the battery charge with a hydrometer, push its tip through the overflow-protection diaphragm and take an electrolyte sample.

Coat battery terminal clamps with acid-proof grease. Keep battery clean and dry.

The service life of the battery is also dependent on its condition of charge. It must always be sufficiently charged for the battery to last an optimum length of time.

Therefore, we recommend that you have the battery charge checked frequently if you use the vehicle mostly for short distance trips, or if it is not used for long periods of time.

Only charge a battery with a battery charger after it has been disconnected from the vehicle electrical circuit.

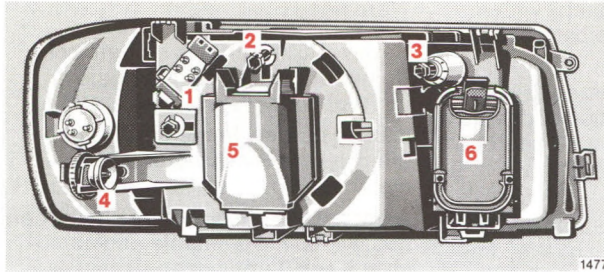
Warning!

Battery fluid contains sulfuric acid. Do not allow this fluid to come in contact with eyes, skin or clothing. In case it does, immediately flush affected area with water and seek medical help.

A battery will also produce hydrogen gas, which is flammable and explosive. Keep flames or sparks away from battery, i.e. improper connection of jumper cables, smoking, etc..

While the engine is running the battery terminal clamps must not be loosened or detached as otherwise the alternator and other electronic units would be damaged.

Only tow vehicle with the battery connected.



1477

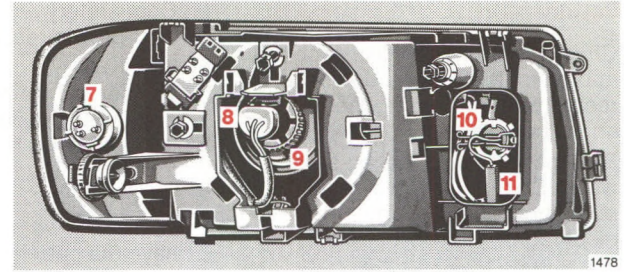
Headlamp Adjustment

Correct headlamp adjustment is extremely important. Check and readjust headlamps at regular intervals and when a lamp has been replaced.

Replacing Bulbs

Only handle new Halogen type bulbs with tissue paper or similar.

Install only 12 volt bulbs with the specified watt rating.



1478

Headlamp Assembly

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Headlamp horizontal adjustment screw 2 Headlamp vertical adjustment screw 3 Fog lamp adjustment screw 4 Plastic nut for housing of turn signal, parking, side marker and standing lamps 5 High and low beam headlamp cover | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6 Fog lamp cover 7 Turn signal, parking, side marker and standing lamp bulb 8 Electrical connector for high and low beam headlamp bulb 9 Clamping ring for high and low beam headlamp bulb 10 Fog lamp bulb 11 Electrical connector for fog lamp bulb |
|--|--|

Replacing bulbs:

Bulb for turn signal, parking, side marker and standing lamp (21/5 W/32/3 cp):

Loosen plastic nut (4) and remove housing towards the front.

Turn bulb socket (7) with bulb counterclockwise and pull out. Push bulb into socket, turn counterclockwise and remove.

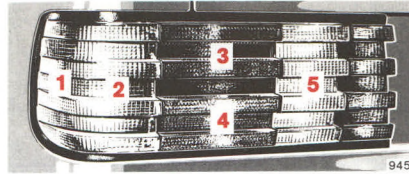
Bulb for high and low beam (Halogen type 9004):

Compress cover (5) at the top and remove upwards. Pull off electrical connector (8). Turn clamping ring (9) counterclockwise and pull out bulb together with clamping ring. Remove bulb.

Insert new bulb (flat side facing up), mount clamping ring (9) (with tab facing down) and turn clockwise. Push electrical connector on securely.

Fog lamp bulb (Halogen type H3):

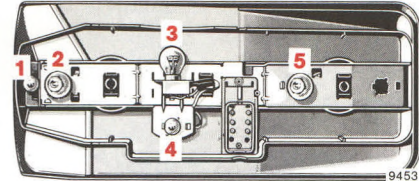
Compress the retaining clip of the cover (6) at the top while removing it upwards. Pull off electrical connector (11). Disengage retaining clip and remove bulb (10). When replacing cover (6), make sure it clicks into place.



9452

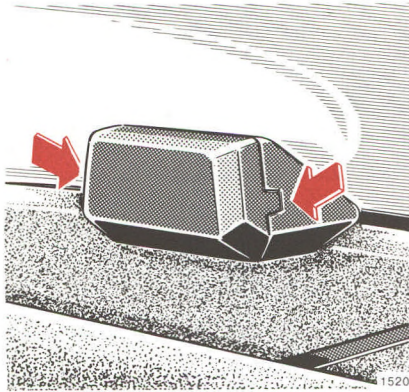
Taillamp Assemblies

- 1 Side marker lamp (10 W/6 cp bulb)
- 2 Turn signal lamp (21 W/32 cp bulb)
- 3 Stop lamp (21 W/32 cp bulb)
- 4 Tail, parking and standing lamp (10 W/6 cp bulb)
- 5 Backup lamp (21 W/32 cp bulb)



9453

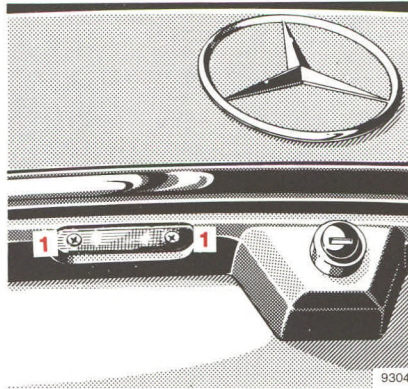
Turn both locks in the trunk to the left as far as the stop and detach bulb carrier. To replace the bulbs, depress, turn to the left and remove.



High Mounted Stop Lamp (21 W/32 cp bulb)

To replace the bulb, pull tabs on both sides (arrows) – using a screwdriver – to release cover.

Press bulb down, turn counterclockwise and remove.

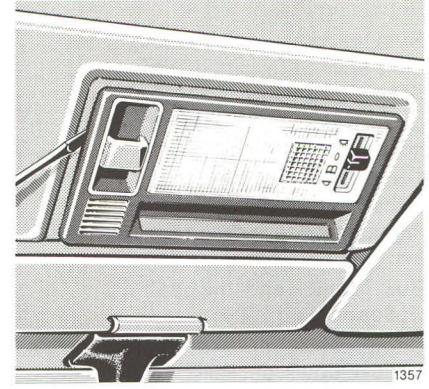


License Plate Lamps (5 W bulb)

Loosen both the securing screws (1), remove lamp and take out bulb.

Reading Lamps in the Rear Passenger Compartment (4 W/2 cp bulb)

To change the bulbs, pull out lamps.



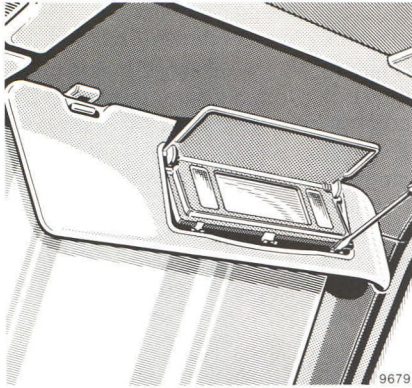
Interior Lamps

To replace the bulb, push the lamp assembly to the right, lift off the cover on the left side with a screwdriver and pull the lamp assembly out.

Unsnap the reflector to replace the bulb (10 W bulb) for the front and rear dome lighting respectively.

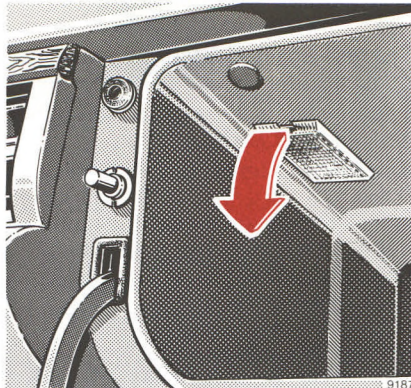
The reading lamp is located inside the front dome lamp assembly. To replace the reading lamp bulb (Halogen 5 W) push it in, turn it and remove.

To remove the seat belt reminder lamp bulb (1.2 W) located under the front dome lamp, lift off the cover with the outlined symbol and replace the bulb.



Sun Visor Lamps (5 W bulb)

To replace a bulb, pry off the cover by inserting a screwdriver in the left and right slots located on the lower edge. To reinstall the mirror assembly, the cover must be closed.



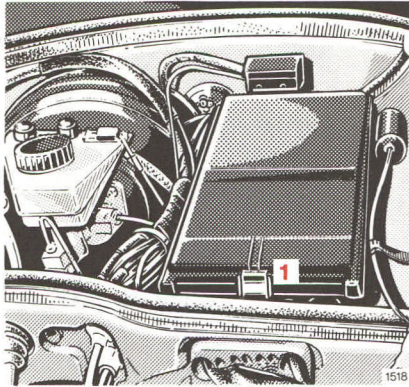
Glove Compartment Lamp (5 W bulb)

To replace, pull down cover and remove bulb.



Trunk Lamp (10 W bulb)

Trunk lamp bulb (1) is easily accessible when trunk lid (2) is open.



Fuses

The fuse box is located in the engine compartment.

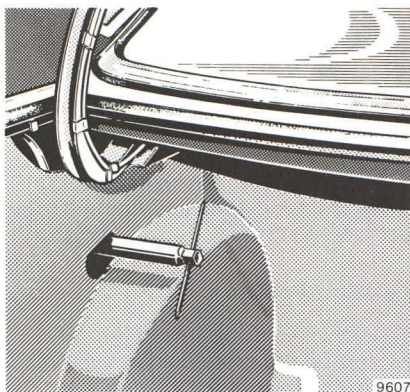
To exchange a fuse, release clamp (1) and remove fuse box cover.

All equipment protected by fuses is listed by number and letter on a label in the lid of the fuse box. The numbers and letters above the fuses correspond to the ones on the label.

Before replacing a blown fuse, determine the cause of the short circuit. Spare fuses are furnished inside the fuse box. Observe amperage and color of fuse.

Always use a new fuse for replacement. Never attempt to repair or bridge a blown fuse.

After replacing a fuse, replace fuse box cover and secure with clamp (1).



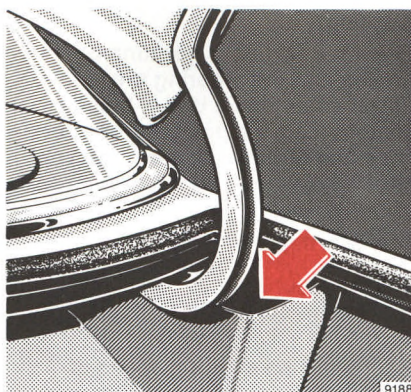
Emergency Operation of Sliding Roof

The sliding roof can be opened or closed manually should an electrical malfunction occur.

Fold back access cover in left side panel of trunk with a screwdriver. Insert socket wrench (from tool kit) through opening in panel and place on the hex-drive of the electric motor. Turn socket wrench (manually) to open or close roof as desired.

To slide the roof closed or to raise the roof at the rear: turn clockwise.

To slide the roof open or to lower the roof at the rear: turn counterclockwise.



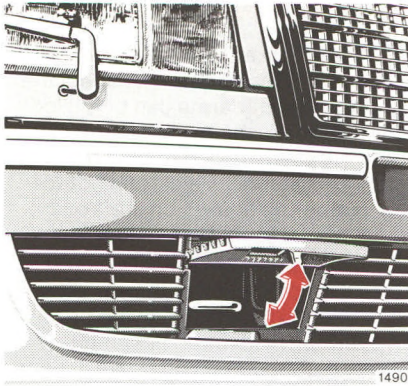
Unlocking of Fuel Filler Flap

If the central locking system does not release the fuel filler flap automatically, pull back the knob on the vacuum element on the right side of the trunk while opening the filler flap.

Windshield Wipers

To release frozen windshield wiper blades or to replace worn blades, the windshield wiper arms can be pulled out of their recess by hand. Sufficient force must be applied to overcome spring resistance. Be careful not to tear rubber blades which are frozen to the glass, as this will reduce the effectiveness of the wipers.

To ensure operation of the windshield wiper even when it is snowing heavily, an overload protection has been installed. It becomes effective if a certain wiping resistance is exceeded as a result of snow accumulation. The windshield wiper arm will then no longer return completely to its initial position, although the windshield wiper motor continues to run a full cycle. If this condition is encountered, the accumulated snow should be manually removed when it is safe.



Tow-starting and Towing the Vehicle

The front towing eye is located on the passenger side behind a flap in the bumper panel and the rear towing eye on the passenger side below the bumper.

Caution!

For tow-starting your vehicle we only recommend using a tow bar. Serious damage can result when using chains, steel ropes or similar devices.

Only tow-start vehicle with the battery cables connected and the key in steering lock position 2.

Warning!

When the engine is not running, the brakes and the steering are without power assistance. Under these circumstances, a much greater effort is necessary to stop or steer the vehicle.

Tow-starting a Vehicle

Shift selector lever to position “N”. Turn key to steering lock position 2 and have vehicle towed.

After attaining a towing speed of 30 km/h (18 mph) (with cold transmission) or 50 km/h (30 mph) (with warm transmission), shift selector lever to position “2” to tow-start the engine. Touch the accelerator only when the engine starts firing. As soon as the engine has started, immediately return selector lever to “N”.

It is important to allow the engine to idle for at least 1 minute before starting off because the preglowing process starts when the key is in steering lock position 2 and is not immediately disrupted after the engine has been tow-started. During this time the preglow process is cut out automatically.

If the engine has not fired after a few seconds, shift the selector lever to “N” to protect the transmission from damage.

For another starting attempt bring the car to a full stop first, move selector lever to position “N”, wait for a short while and repeat the tow-starting procedure again.

Towing a Vehicle

The vehicle may be towed with all wheels on the ground and the selector lever in position “N” for distances up to 120 km (75 miles) and at a speed not to exceed 50 km/h (30 mph).

To positively avoid a possibility of damage to the transmission, however, we recommend to disconnect the drive shaft at the rear axle drive flange on any towing beyond a short tow to a nearby garage.

Do not tow with sling-type equipment.

Towing with sling-type equipment over bumpy roads will damage radiator and supports.

Use wheel lift or flat bed equipment.

Jump Starting

If the battery is discharged the engine can be started with jumper cables and the (12 V) battery of another vehicle. Proceed as follows:

1. Position the vehicle with the charged battery so that the jumper cables will reach, but never let the vehicles touch. Make sure the jumper cables do not have loose or missing insulation.
2. On both vehicles:
 - Turn off engine and all lights and accessories, except hazard flashers or work lights.
 - Apply parking brake and shift selector lever to position "P".
 - Be sure the vent caps are tight and level. Place a damp cloth over the vent caps, making certain it is clear of all moving parts.
3. Clamp one end of the first jumper cable to the positive (+) terminal on the discharged battery and the other end to the positive (+) terminal on the charged battery. Make sure the cable clamps do not touch any other metal parts.
4. Clamp one end of the second jumper cable to the grounded negative (–) terminal of the charged battery and the final connection to a grounded heavy metal bracket in the engine compartment or on the engine of the disabled vehicle. Make sure the cables are not on or near pulleys, fans, or other parts that will move when the engine is started.
5. Start engine of the vehicle with the charged battery and run at high idle. Then start engine of the disabled vehicle in the usual manner.
6. After the engine has started, remove jumper cables by reversing the above installation sequence exactly, starting with the jumper cable connected to a heavy metal bracket in the disabled vehicle's engine compartment. When removing each clamp, make sure that it does not touch any other metal while the other end is still attached.

Important!

A discharged battery can freeze at approx. -10°C ($+14^{\circ}\text{F}$). In that case it must be thawed out before jumper cables are used.

Jumper cable specifications:

- Minimum cable cross-section of 25 mm^2 or approx. 2 AWG
- Maximum length of 3500 mm (11.5 ft).

Warning!

Never lean over batteries while jump starting, you might get burned.

Battery fluid contains sulfuric acid. Do not allow this fluid to come in contact with eyes, skin, or clothing. In case it does, immediately flush affected area with water, and seek medical help.

A battery will also produce hydrogen gas, which is flammable and explosive. Keep flames or sparks away from battery, i.e. improper connection of jumper cables, smoking, etc..

Cleaning and Care of the Vehicle

In operation, your vehicle is subjected to varying external influences which, if gone unchecked, can attack the paintwork as well as the underbody and cause lasting damage.

Such damage is caused not only by extreme and varying climatic conditions, but also by air pollution, road salt, tar, gravel and stone chipping. Grease and oil, fuel, coolant, brake fluid, bird droppings, tree resins, etc. should be removed immediately to avoid paint damage. Frequent washing, however, reduces and/or eliminates the aggressiveness and potency of the above adverse influences.

More frequent washings are necessary to deal with unfavorable conditions; for example, near the ocean, in industrial areas (smoke, exhaust emissions), or during winter operation.

You should check your vehicle from time to time for stone chipping or other damage. Any damage should be repaired as soon as possible to prevent the start of corrosion.

In doing so, do not neglect the underside of the car. A prerequisite for a thorough check is a washing of the underbody followed by a thorough inspection. Damaged areas need to be re-undercoated.

Your vehicle has been treated at the factory with a wax-base rustproofing in the body cavities which will last for the lifetime of the vehicle. Post-production treatment is neither necessary nor recommended by MERCEDES-BENZ because of the possibility of incompatibility between materials used in the production process and others applied later.

After every engine cleaning you should have the engine compartment re-rustproofed with MB anticorrosion wax. Before rustproofing, all control linkage bushings have to be lubricated with hydraulic oil (check with your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for recommended brands).

We have selected car-care products and compiled recommendations which are specially matched to our vehicles and which always reflect the latest technology. You can obtain MB car-care products at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Scratches, corrosive deposits, corrosion or damage due to negligent or incorrect care cannot always be removed or repaired with the car-care products recommended here. In such cases it is best to seek aid at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

The following topics deal with the cleaning and care of your vehicle and give important "how-to" information as well as references to recommended MB car-care products.

Car Washing

Before washing your vehicle, remove insect residues. MB insect remover is recommended. Do not use hot water or wash your car in direct sunlight. Use only a mild car wash detergent, such as MB auto shampoo.

Thoroughly spray the car with a diffused jet of water. Direct only a very weak spray towards the ventilation intake. Use plenty of water and rinse the sponge and chamois frequently.

Rinse with clear water and thoroughly wipe dry with a chamois. Do not allow cleaning agents to dry on the finish.

If the vehicle has been run through an automatic car wash – in particular one of the older installations – rewipe the recessed sections in the taillamps (designed to prevent soiling) if necessary. No solvents (fuels, thinners etc.) must be used.

In the winter, thoroughly remove all traces of road salt as soon as possible.

When washing the underbody, do not forget to clean the inner sides of the wheels.

Tar Stains

Quickly remove tar stains before they dry and become more difficult to remove. MB tar remover is recommended.

Window Cleaning, Wiper Blades

Use a window cleaning solution on very dirty or oil-stained windows. Clean windshield wiper blades with a clean cloth and detergent solution.

Replace blades at least once or twice a year.

To assist with the removal of accumulated road film on the windshield and improve wiping ability, a cap of MB auto shampoo can be added to the 5 liter container of washer solvent.

Headlamp Cleaning System

The condition of the wiper blades is important for satisfactory cleaning of the headlamp lenses. We therefore recommend that the blades be inspected regularly.

Replace damaged wiper blades.

Plastic Parts, Headliner and Rubber Parts

Do not use oil or wax on these parts.

Seat Belts

The webbing must not be treated with chemical cleaning agents. Use only clear, lukewarm water and soap. Do not dry the webbing at temperatures above 80° C (176° F) or in direct sunlight. Never bleach or re-dye the webbing as this may severely weaken the belts.

Steering Wheel, Instrument Cluster and Selector Lever

Use a gentle dish-washing detergent or mild detergent for delicate fabrics as a washing solution. Wipe with a cloth moistened in lukewarm solution. Do not use scouring agents.

Upholstery

Using aftermarket seat covers or wearing clothing that have the tendency to give off coloring (e.g. when wet, etc.) may cause the upholstery (velour for example) to become permanently discolored. By lining the seats with a proper intermediate cover, contact-discoloration will be prevented.

Leather Upholstery

Wipe leather upholstery with a damp cloth and dry thoroughly or clean with MB leather care. Exercise particular care when cleaning perforated leather as its underside should not become wet.

Velour Upholstery

Pressure marks resulting from dampness and heat may appear to be stains. Such marks can be removed by wiping with a moistened brush, ironing with a wet cloth or by treating with a dry shampoo. Do not sit on damp upholstery. Quick drying is achieved by applying hot air – for example, by using a hair dryer. If in doubt, please consult your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Amaretta Upholstery

Use a mild detergent and water solution for cleaning.

Clean and brush the upholstery regularly. Dirt and stains should be removed as soon as possible.

Removing dirt, cigarette ashes, etc.: Remove loose dirt with a vacuum cleaner. If dirt cannot be picked up with a vacuum cleaner, press a piece of tape against the dirt spot and lift it off with the tape. Afterwards use a nylon brush (do not use a metal bristle brush) to brush up the fabric.

Cleaning water soluble stains: Soft drinks, juices, etc., can be treated with a solution of a mild detergent and water, such as used for fine fabrics. Before treating the stain itself, the solution should be tested on the material in an area hidden from direct view.

With a clean piece of cloth dabbed in the washing solution, rub the stain lightly, working towards its center. Do not use excessive pressure. Using a fresh, clean piece of cloth, rinse the spot with clean water. Let the upholstery dry and brush it.

Cleaning oil and grease stains:

These stains can be treated with a powder spray cleaner. Vacuum the area once the powder is dry. Repeat the process if necessary.

Caution!

Avoid using chemical cleaning agents since they may affect the color of the upholstery.

Paintwork, Painted Body Components

MB-Gloss Preserver should be applied when water drops on the paint surface do not “bead up”; normally in 3–5 months depending on climate and washing detergent used.

MB-Polish should be applied if paint surface shows signs of dirt embedding (i.e. loss of gloss).

MB-Fine-Polishing Paste must be used when the paint surface shows signs of excessive fading/chalking due to lack of care, etc..

Do not apply any of these products or wax if your car is parked in the sun or if the hood is still hot.

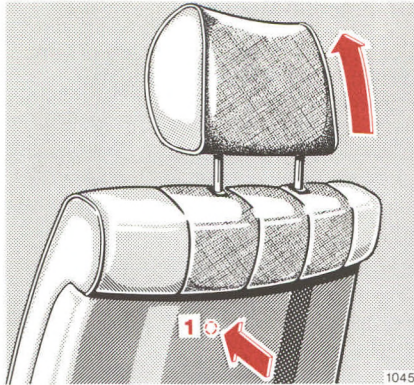
Use the appropriate MB Touch-Up Stick for quick and provisional repairs of minor paint damage (i.e. chips from stones, car doors, etc.).

Light Alloy Wheels

If possible, clean wheels once a week with MB-alloy wheel cleaner and sealer. Use an ample supply of water.

Ornamental Moldings

For regular cleaning and care of very dirty chrome-plated parts, use a chrome cleaner.



Head Restraints

Removing front seat head restraints:
Bring the head restraint to its highest position.

Depress release button (1) under the seatback covering material and pull head restraint up sharply, holding it by the left head restraint post (viewed in driving direction). Then pull out head restraint completely with both hands.

The release button (1) is located below the left head restraint post on both front seats.

Installing front seat head restraints:
Insert the head restraint and push it down to the stop.

Check if the highest position can be reached by pushing the switch up for approximately 5 seconds (see page 29).

Adjust head restraint to the desired position.

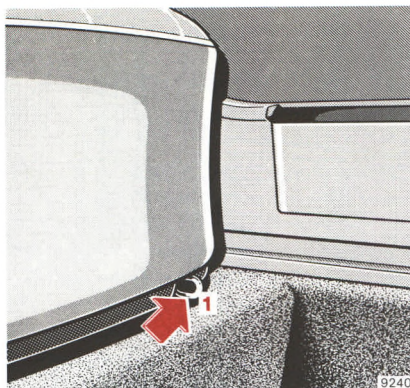
Removing rear seat head restraints:
Pull head restraint up until detent is felt. Then pull it out sharply using both hands.

Installing rear seat head restraints:
Insert the head restraint, push it down and adjust as desired.

Warning!

For your protection, drive only with properly positioned head restraints. Do not drive the vehicle without the head restraints. Head restraints are intended to help reduce injuries during an accident.

For positioning of head restraints refer to pages 29 and 30.



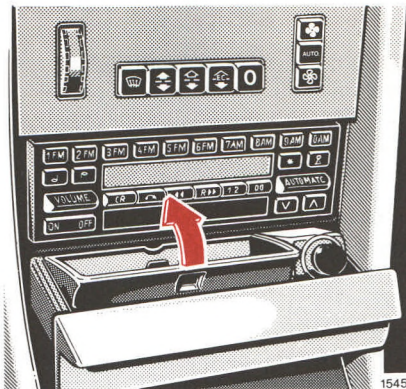
Rear Seat Cushion

Removal: Push buttons (1) (left and right side of seat) down while slightly lifting the front corner of the seat cushion. Then pull the seat cushion forward.

Installation: Push rear of seat cushion under seat back as far as it will go and press down on the front section until it engages.

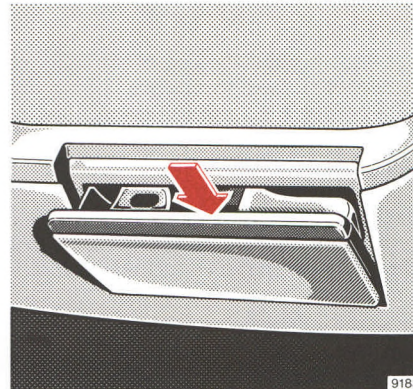
Note:

On vehicles with power rear seats, the rear seat cushion can best be removed and installed by an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.



Ashtrays

To remove front ashtray:
Pull ashtray out to the stop, lift up insert and remove.



To remove rear ashtray:
Push the ashtray down while opening and remove.

To install ashtray:
Position ashtray squarely and push in.



Luggage or Ski Racks

We recommend the use of drip rail mounted ski and roof racks. These racks do not require additional supports (suction cups or legs). Such supports may lead to marring of the paint or even denting of the roof if excessive weight is placed on the rack. Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer can give further advice.

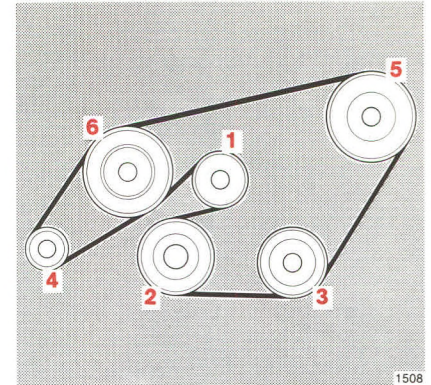
Spare Parts Service

All authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealers maintain a stock of original spare parts required for maintenance and repair work. In addition, strategically located parts distribution centers provide quick and reliable parts service.

More than 200 000 different spare parts, even for older models, are available.

MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts are subjected to the most stringent quality inspections. Each part has been specifically developed, manufactured or selected for and adapted to MERCEDES-BENZ vehicles.

Therefore, MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts should be installed.



Layout of Poly V-belt Drive

- 1 Automatic belt tensioner
- 2 Crankshaft
- 3 Air conditioning compressor
- 4 Alternator
- 5 Power steering pump
- 6 Coolant pump – fan

Install the poly V-belt by starting at the belt tensioner (1) and proceed with the other pulleys in numerical order.

For dimensions of the poly V-belt, see page 93.

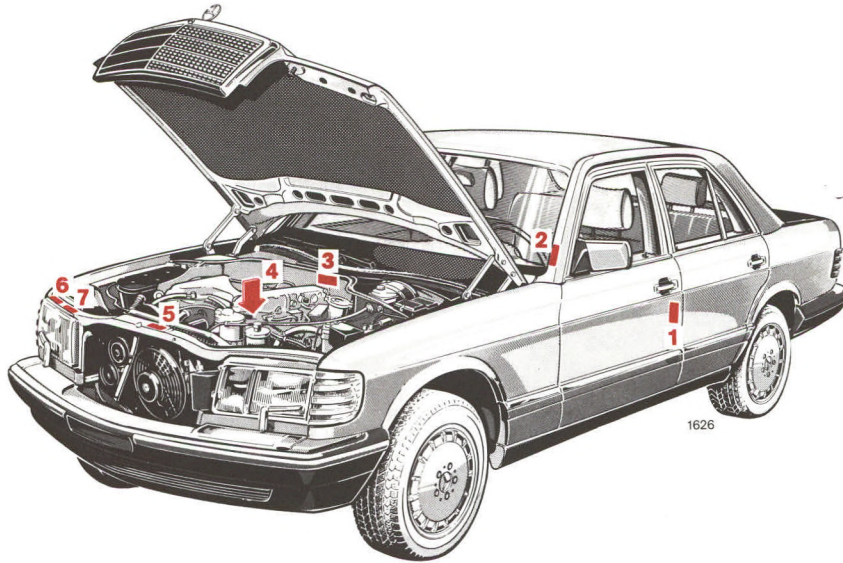
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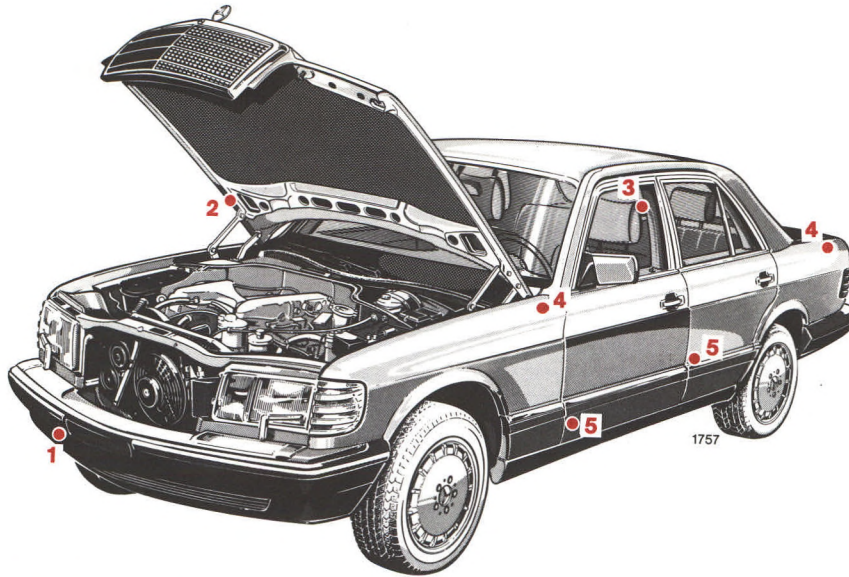


Identification Plates

When ordering spare parts, please specify chassis and engine numbers.



- 1 Certification Tag
(left door pillar)
- 2 Identification Tag
(left window post)
- 3 Vehicle Identification No.
- 4 Engine No.
- 5 Body No. and Paintwork No.
- 6 Emission Control Tag
- 7 Information Tag
California version
Vacuum line routing
for emission control system



Location of labels

- 1 Bumper front/rear
- 2 Engine hood
- 3 Trunk lid
- 4 All fenders
- 5 All doors

Engine*:

on engine block, rear

Transmission*:

on transmission, left front

* not shown in illustration

Theft Prevention

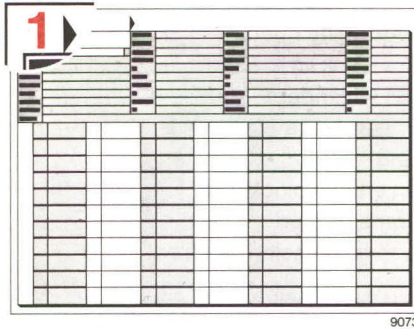
This vehicle complies with the Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard (49 CFR Part 541). Engine, transmission and certain body parts (see illustration) are labeled ex factory, the labels show the VIN-number of this vehicle.

Spare parts are similarly labeled ex factory in a different location. The labels show the letter R (for replacement) instead of the VIN-number.

Note:

Do not remove these labels. These labels are intended for parts identification in case of theft. When replacing parts subject to labeling, please make sure that the parts you receive are labeled properly. This is especially important when work is performed outside of the United States.

Vehicle Data Cards



The vehicle data cards bear all the important data relating to your vehicle.

Data card No. 1 bears the key number and should never be left in the vehicle. Submit this card to your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer to request a replacement key in case of loss.

Data card No. 2 has no key number information and should be kept in the Maintenance Booklet where indicated.

Warranty Coverage

Your car is covered under the terms of the “warranties” printed in the Owner’s Service and Warranty Policy Booklet and your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will exchange or repair any defective parts in accordance with the terms of the following warranties:

1. New vehicle limited warranty
2. Emission systems warranty
3. Emission performance warranty
4. California emission control systems warranty (state of California only unless purchased optionally for diesel models).

Loss of Owner’s Service and Warranty Policy

Should you lose your Owner’s Service and Warranty Policy Booklet, have your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer arrange for a replacement. It will be mailed to you.

Technical Data

Model	300 SDL-TURBO (126 125) ¹
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Engine

Engine type	603
Mode of operation	Diesel four stroke
No. of cylinders	6
Bore	87.00 mm (3.43 in)
Stroke	84.00 mm (3.31 in)
Total piston displacement	2996 cm ³ (182.8 in ³)
Compression ratio	22
Output acc. to SAE J 1349	107 kW/4600 rpm (143 hp/4600 rpm)
Maximum torque acc. to SAE J 1349	265 Nm/2400 rpm (195 ft-lb/2400 rpm)
Injection order	1-5-3-6-2-4
Poly V-belt (single drive belt)	2145 mm

Rims-Tires

Rims (forged light alloy rims)	7 J × 15 H 2
Wheel offset	25 mm (1.0 in)
Summer tires: Radial-ply tires	205/65 R 15 93 H
Winter tires: Radial-ply tires	205/65 R 15 93 T M + S

Electrical System

Alternator	14 V/70 A
Starter motor	12 V/2.2 kW
Battery	12 V/92 Ah

Weights

See certification tag

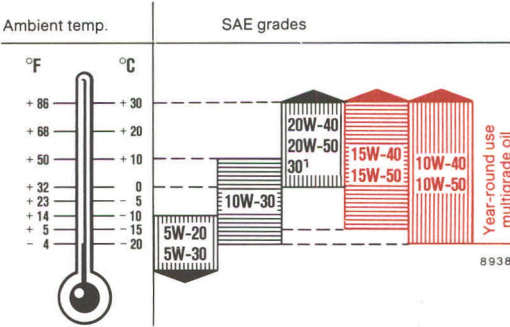
Main Dimensions

Overall vehicle length	5285 mm (208.1 in)
Overall vehicle width	1820 mm (71.7 in)
Overall height	1441 mm (56.7 in)
Wheel base	3075 mm (121.1 in)
Track, front	1555 mm (61.2 in)
Track, rear	1527 mm (60.1 in)

¹ The quoted data apply only to the standard vehicle. See an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for the corresponding data of all special bodies and special equipment.

Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. Capacities

Vehicle components and their respective lubricants must match. Therefore use only brands tested and recommended by us. Inquire at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

	Capacity	Fuels, coolants, lubricants, etc.
Engine with oil filter	8.0 l (8.5 US qt)	<p>Recommended engine oils</p>  <p>Ambient temp. SAE grades</p> <p>°F °C</p> <p>+86 +30 +68 +20 +50 +10 +32 0 +23 -5 +14 -10 +5 -15 -4 -20</p> <p>5W-20, 5W-30, 10W-30, 20W-40, 20W-50, 30W-40, 15W-40, 15W-50, 10W-40, 10W-50</p> <p>Year-round use multigrade oil</p> <p>8938</p> <p>¹ SAE 40 may be used if ambient temperatures constantly exceed +30° C (+86° F).</p>

	Capacity	Fuels, coolants, lubricants, etc.
Automatic transmission	Initial fill: 7.3 l (7.7 US qt) Fluid change: 6.2 l (6.6 US qt)	MB Automatic transmission fluid
Rear axle	1.1 l (1.2 US qt)	Hypoid gear oil SAE 90, 85 W 90 ¹
Accelerator control linkage		Hydraulic fluid ¹
Power steering	1.2 l (1.3 US qt)	MB Power steering gear oil
Front wheel hubs	approx. 60 g (2.1 oz) each	High temperature roller bearing grease
Grease nipples		Multipurpose or lubrication grease
Door locks		Powdered graphite
Battery terminals		Bosch special grease
Brake reservoir	approximately 0.5 l (0.5 US qt)	MB Brake fluid (DOT4)
Windshield washer system and headlamp cleaning system	approximately 5.0 l (5.3 US qt)	MB Windshield washer concentrate
Fuel tank including a reserve of	approximately 90 l (23.8 US gal) approximately 12.5 l (3.3 US gal)	Diesel fuels acc. to ASTM D 975 grades 1 and 2 as well as VV-F-800 a grades 1 and 2
Cooling system	approximately 10.0 l (10.6 US qt)	MB Anticorrosion/antifreeze

¹ Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will advise you on recommended brands.

Engine Oils

Engine oils are specifically tested for their suitability in our engines. Therefore, use only engine oils recommended by us. Information on recommended brands is available at your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Brake Fluid

During vehicle operation, the boiling point of the brake fluid is continuously reduced through the absorption of moisture from the atmosphere. Under extremely hard operating conditions, this moisture content can lead to the formation of vapor in the system thus reducing the system's efficiency.

The brake fluid must therefore be replaced annually, preferably in the spring.

It is recommended to use only brake fluid approved by MERCEDES-BENZ. Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer will provide you with additional information.

Diesel Fuels

Use only commercially available vehicular diesel fuels No. 2 or No. 1 (ASTM D 975 No. 2-D or No. 1-D).

Caution!

The diesel engine is equipped with a Trap Oxidizer. If you use non-approved fuel additives, the Trap Oxidizer could be damaged, resulting in severe engine power loss and expensive repairs, not covered under the new vehicle warranty.

See your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer to find out if a list of approved additives is available.

If diesel fuels are used with a sulphur content exceeding 0.5 % by weight, refer to the "Engine Oil Change and Oil Filter Service" section. Marine diesel fuel, heating oil or the like must not be used.

At very low temperatures the fluidity of No. 2 diesel fuel may become insufficient due to paraffin separation.

To avoid malfunctions, No. 2 diesel fuel of a lowered cloud point is marketed during the cold season.

At temperatures below 0° C (32° F) use winterized or No. 1 diesel fuel only. If not available, a certain quantity of kerosene may be added. Mixing only to be done within the cars' fuel tank. Kerosene has to be filled in before the diesel fuel.

Engine power may drop according to the proportion of kerosene. For this reason, keep percentage of kerosene added to the minimum necessitated by the ambient temperature.

The following table can be used as a reference, if adding of kerosene becomes necessary. The mixing ratios shown refer to the total mixture. Even in extreme climatic conditions, the maximum mixture ratio should not exceed 50 %.

Ambient temperature	No. 2 Diesel Fuel %	Kerosene %
0° C to -10° C (+32° F to +14° F)	70	30
below -10° C (+14° F)	50	50

Adding of kerosene to No. 1 diesel fuel is not recommended even at low temperatures.

Warning!

Under no circumstances should gasoline be added to diesel fuel. This will destroy the Trap Oxidizer.

Always follow basic safety rules when working with any combustible material. Do not fill the fuel tank or mix diesel fuel and kerosene when smoking, near an open flame or while the vehicle's engine is running. An explosion or fire can result.

Coolants

The engine coolant is a mixture of water and anticorrosion/antifreeze, which provides:

- corrosion protection
- freeze protection
- boiling protection (by increasing the boiling point).

The cooling system was filled at the factory with a coolant providing freeze protection to -30°C (-22°F) and corrosion protection. The red area of the temperature gauge is matched to the heating properties of this coolant solution.

The coolant solution must be used year round to provide the necessary corrosion protection and increase in the boil-over protection. You should have it replaced every 3 years.

To provide the important corrosion protection, the solution must be at least 33 % anticorrosion/antifreeze (equals a freeze protection to -20°C [-4°F]). If you use a solution that is more than 55 % anticorrosion/antifreeze (freeze protection to

-45°C [-49°F]), the engine temperature will increase due to the lower heat transfer capability of the solution. Therefore, do not use more than this amount of anticorrosion/antifreeze.

If the coolant level is low, water and MB anticorrosion/antifreeze should be used to bring it up to the proper level (have cooling system checked for signs of leakage).

The water in the cooling system must meet minimum requirements, which are usually satisfied by normal drinking water. If you are not sure about the water quality, consult your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Anticorrosion/antifreeze

Your vehicle contains a number of aluminium parts. The use of aluminium components in motor vehicle engines necessitates that anticorrosion/antifreeze coolant used in such engines be specifically formulated to protect the aluminium parts.

(Failure to use such anticorrosion/antifreeze coolant will result in a significantly shortened service life.)

Therefore the following product is strongly recommended for use in your car: MERCEDES-BENZ Anticorrosion/Antifreeze Agent.

Before the start of the winter season (or once a year in the hot southern regions), you should have the anticorrosion/antifreeze concentration checked. The coolant is also regularly checked each time you bring your vehicle to your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer for maintenance service.

Freeze protection	Anticorrosion/antifreeze
-30°C } (-22°F) }	4.50 l (4.8 US qt)
-45°C } (-49°F) }	5.50 l (5.8 US qt)

Consumer Information

This has been prepared as required of all manufacturers of passenger cars under Title 49, Code of U.S. Federal Regulations, Part 575 pursuant to the “National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966”.

Uniform Tire Quality Grading

Relevant tire grade information on tire flanks.

All passenger car tires must conform to federal safety requirements in addition to these grades.

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 (1½) 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 “A”, “B”, “C”

The traction grades, from highest to lowest, are “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 of “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.

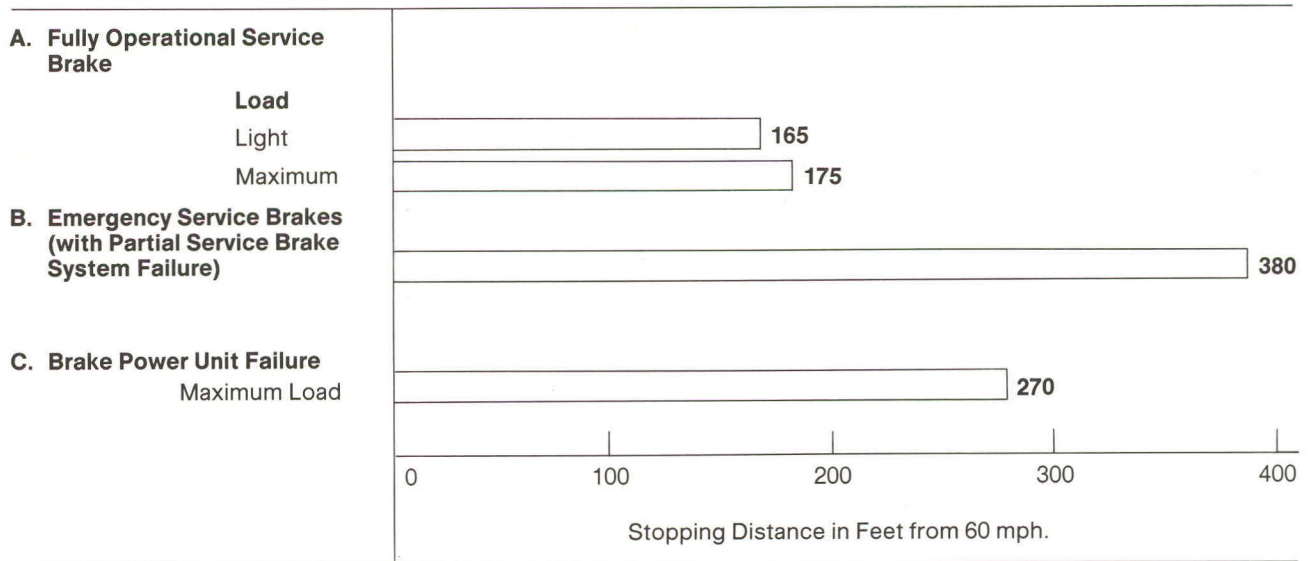
Warning!

The temperature grade for this tire is 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 build up and possible tire failure.

Vehicle Stopping Distance

This figure indicates braking performance that can be met or exceeded by the vehicles to which it applies, under different conditions of loading and with partial failures of the braking system. The information presented represents results obtainable by skilled drivers under controlled road and vehicle conditions, and the information may not be correct under other conditions.

Description of the vehicles to which this table applies: **300 SDL-TURBO**





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Service Literature

Your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer has trained technicians and original MERCEDES-BENZ parts to service your vehicle properly. For expert advice and quality service, see your authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Customers who are interested in ordering service literature for their vehicles are advised to contact MERCEDES-BENZ distributors in the U.S. or Canada at the following addresses, respectively

for U.S.A.: Mercedes-Benz of North America Inc.
One Mercedes Drive
P.O. Box 350
Montvale, New Jersey 07645
Att: Technical Publications
Tel: (201) 573-0600

for Canada: Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc.
849 Eglinton Ave., East
Toronto, Ont., Canada
M4G 2L5
Att: Technical Publications
Tel: 416-425-3550
Telex: 065-24232

The above companies will be happy to handle any such requests from customers.

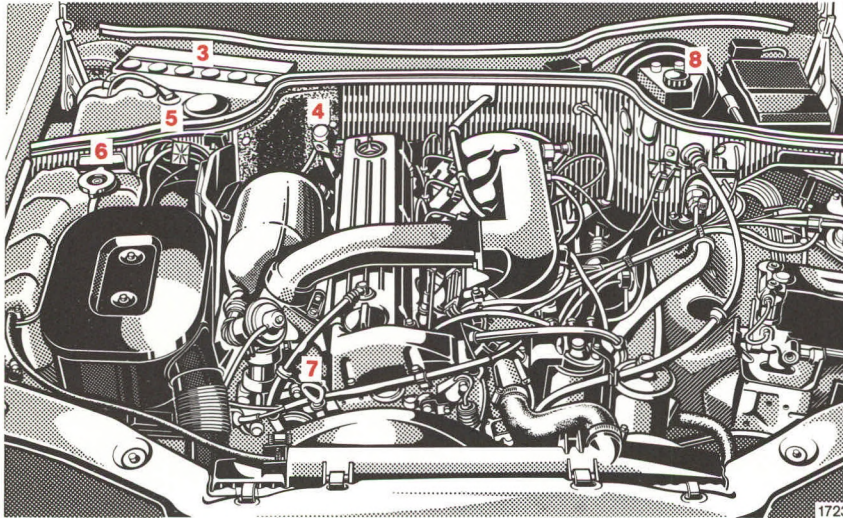
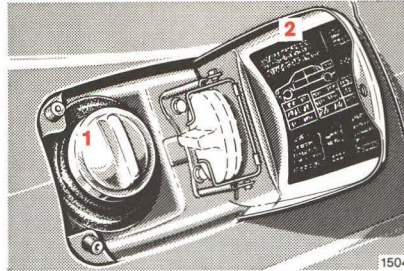
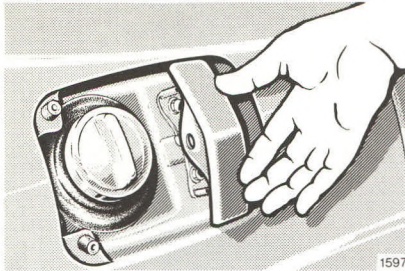
We consider this to be the best way to obtain accurate information for your vehicle.

Warning!

To help avoid personal injury, be extremely careful when performing any maintenance work or repairs. Improper or incomplete service may damage the vehicle or its equipment, which may in turn result in personal injury.

If you have any question about carrying out some service, turn to the advice of an authorized MERCEDES-BENZ dealer.

Check Regularly and Before a Long Trip



- 1 Fuel Supply:** Turn fuel filler cap to the left and hold on to it until possible pressure in tank has been released, then remove the cap.
- 2 Tire Inflation Pressure:** Check at least every two weeks. For details see page 72.
- 3 Battery:** Add distilled or tap water only, see page 73.
- 4 Fluid Level in Automatic Transmission:** See page 67.
- 5 Windshield Washer System and Headlamp Cleaning System:** See pages 59 and 95.
- 6 Coolant Level:** See page 65.
- 7 Engine Oil Level:** See page 66.
- 8 Brake Fluid:** See pages 95 and 96.

Vehicle Lighting: Check function and cleanliness. For replacement of light bulbs, see pages 74, 75 and 76.

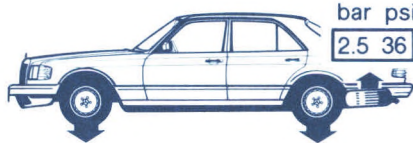
What You Should Know at the Gas Station

- **Fuel:** Diesel fuels acc. to ASTM D 975, grades 1D and 2D as well as VV-F-800a grades 1 and 2. See page 97.
Fuel tank capacity approx. 90 l (23.8 US gal), this includes approx. 12.5 l (3.3 US gal) reserve.
Only fill fuel tank until the filler nozzle unit cuts out — do not overfill.
- **Engine Oil:** Engine oil level check, see page 66.
Quantity differential between upper and lower dipstick marking level: 2.0 l (2.1 US qt).
Year-round multigrade oils 10 W-40, 10 W-50, 15 W-40, 15 W-50.
For further information, refer to page 94.

- **Automatic Transmission:** MB Automatic transmission fluid.
For level checks and replenishment, refer to page 67.
- **Coolant:** For normal replenishment, use water (potable water quality).
For further information (e.g. anticorrosion/anti-freeze), refer to page 98.
- **Bulbs:** High and low beams: Halogen, type 9004, tail, parking and standing lamps 10 W/6 cp, turn signal, standing, side marker and parking lamps, front 21/5 W/32/3 cp, turn signal lamps, rear 21 W/32 cp, stop lamps 21 W/32 cp, license plate lamps 5 W.

- **Tire Pressure:**
For driving up to 160 km/h (100 mph)

Cold tires:



Warm tires:

Pressure may rise by up to +0.5 bar (+7 psi).

Never release any air from a warm tire to offset this pressure increase!

Summer tires	normal load
	maximum load
Winter tires	

bar	psi
2.0 ¹	29 ¹
2.1 ¹	30 ¹
2.3 ¹	33 ¹

bar	psi
2.1 ¹	30 ¹
2.4 ¹	35 ¹
2.6 ¹	38 ¹

¹ For driving above 160 km/h (100 mph) +0.6 bar (+9 psi).

DAIMLER-BENZ AG
Stuttgart-Untertuerkheim
Zentralkundendienst



Mercedes-Benz
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