F

OWNER'S HANDBOOK

Instruktieboekje

Manuel du Conducteur

Betriebsanleitung

Manuale di Istruzioni

Manual del Conductor

Manual do Proprietário

In addition to this handbook, your literature pack contains the following documents:

- **Service Portfolio**
  - this book includes important information about the MG warranty and vehicle maintenance requirements, as well as containing a unique record of your own car's service history. Ensure that your MG dealer completes the appropriate service record slip after every service.

- **Security Information Card**
  - Your MG dealer should have filled in all the relevant serial numbers concerning your car before delivery. These are important aids to vehicle security; keep the card in a safe place - NOT IN THE CAR.

The literature pack is an important part of the car. Keep it in the car where it is easy to find.

As part of the Rover Cars environmental policy, this publication is printed on paper made from chlorine-free pulp.

BEFORE YOU DRIVE

DRIVING CONTROLS

MAINTENANCE

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

TECHNICAL DATA

Introduction

Welcome to your new MG. This handbook, together with the other publications that make up the literature pack, provides all the information you need to gain maximum pleasure from owning and driving your new car.

For your convenience, the handbook is divided into the following sections, each dealing with a particular aspect of driving or caring for the car. You will find it worthwhile to take a little time to read each one, and get to know your new car as soon as you possibly can.

'Before you drive' - this section covers seat adjustment, seat belts and heating controls and deals with everything you need to know to settle comfortably into the car before you drive.

'Driving controls' - here the functions and operation of the switches, instruments and driving controls are explained.

'Owner maintenance' - this part includes information about the maintenance checks that you, the owner, should carry out on a daily or weekly basis.

'Emergency information' - this section will help to solve those unavoidable little emergencies that occur from time to time; like replacing bulbs and fuses, or changing a wheel.

'Technical data' - here you will find the technical specification for your car.

Please note that references in this handbook to the left or right side of the car assume the reader is seated in the driver's seat facing ahead.

WARNING!

Safety warnings are included in this handbook. These indicate either a procedure which must be followed precisely, or information that should be considered with great care in order to avoid the possibility of personal injury or serious damage to the vehicle.

The specification of the new MGF may vary according to territorial requirements and also from model to model within the vehicle range. Some of the information published in this handbook, therefore, may not apply to your car. If you are in any doubt, then contact your dealer.

Rover operate a policy of constant product improvement and therefore reserve the right to change specifications without notice at any time. Whilst every effort is made to ensure complete accuracy of the information in this handbook, no liabilities for inaccuracies or the consequences thereof, including loss or damage to property, or injury to persons, can be accepted by the manufacturer or the dealer who supplied the handbook, except in respect of personal injury caused by the negligence of the manufacturer or the dealer.

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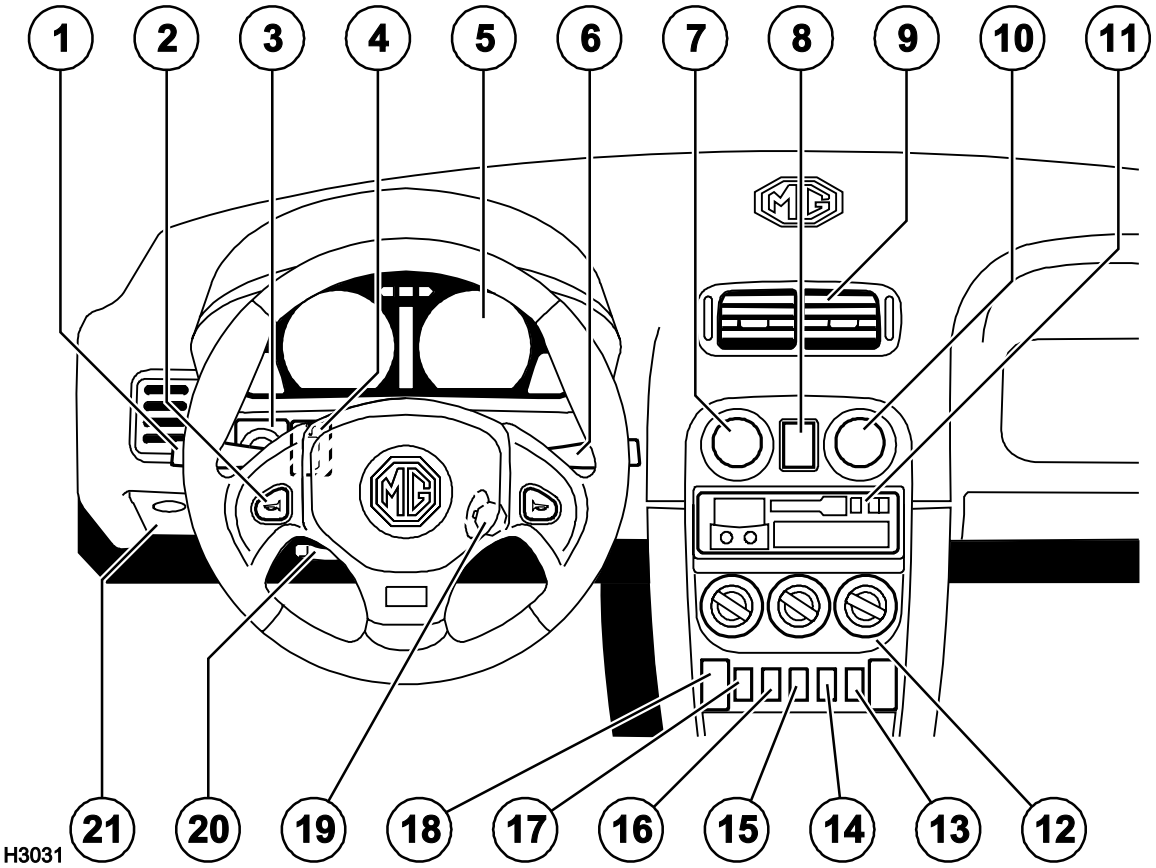


1. Lighting and direction indicator controls
2. Horn switches (2)
3. Exterior mirror control
4. Instrument panel dimmer
5. Instrument and warning light panel
6. Windscreen wiper/washer controls
7. Oil temperature gauge
8. Hazard warning light switch
9. Fresh air vents
10. Clock
11. Radio/cassette player
12. Heating and ventilation controls
13. Air recirculation switch
14. Air conditioning switch (if fitted)
15. Rear fog guard lights switch
16. Rear screen demister switch (if fitted)
17. Snow mode switch (if fitted)
18. Window switches (2)
19. Starter switch
20. Steering column height adjuster
21. Fuse box

Security Card

The cards, supplied as part of the Service Portfolio book, contain important emergency information. It is ESSENTIAL that you keep the cards safe from theft and ensure that they are passed to the new owner if you sell the car.

- ***Key number:*** This is the number of the starter/door key - essential if you ever need to obtain a replacement.
- ***Emergency key access code:*** You will need this code in order to start the car if the handset has been lost or damaged (see *'Emergency key access'* in the *'Locks & alarm'* section).
- ***Locking wheel nut number:*** If your car has locking wheel nuts, you will have been provided with a special wheel nut socket to remove them. This is the number you will need to obtain a replacement socket.
- ***VIN (vehicle identification number):*** This identity number is unique to your car and is essential proof of its specification. The number can also be found in various locations around the car (see *'Vehicle Identification'*).
- ***Radio serial number:*** Most radio/cassette players have a unique number stamped into the unit's chassis - proof of the unit's specification and your ownership in the event of theft.
- ***Radio security code number:*** Some radio/cassette players have a unique code that must be entered into the radio whenever the power supply has been disconnected. Without this code, the radio unit will not operate.

WARNING!

NEVER leave the card inside the car when it is unattended.

Memorise the emergency key access code, or keep the card on your person while driving, in case of emergencies.

ANTI-THEFT SECURITY PRECAUTIONS

Always adopt this simple "five point" drill whenever you leave your car - even for just a few minutes:

- Raise the hood and fully close the windows.
- Remove any valuables (or hide them in the luggage compartment).
- Remove the starter key and handset.
- Engage the steering lock (by slightly turning the steering wheel until it locks).
- Lock the doors and activate the alarm.

Even when you have done all these things, there is still much you can do to make your car a less inviting target for the thief.

BE SAFE, NOT SORRY!

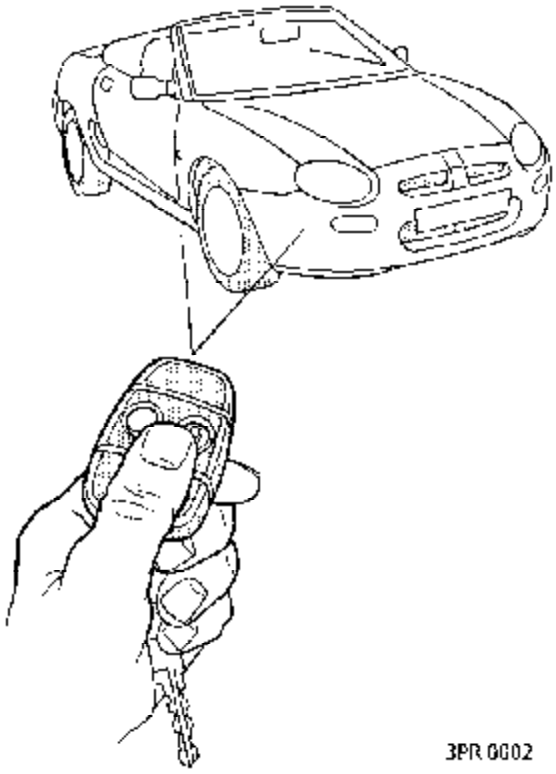
- Try to park where your car can be seen by householders or passers-by.
- At night always park in well lit areas and try to avoid dimly lit side streets.
- Never leave vehicle documents in the car - these are a real bonus for the thief.
- If you have a garage, use it - and don't risk leaving the key in the starter switch.

ALARM SYSTEM

Your MG is fitted with a sophisticated electronic anti-theft alarm and engine immobilisation system. In order to ensure maximum security and minimum inconvenience, you are strongly advised to gain a full understanding of the alarm system by thoroughly reading this section of the handbook.

Features of the alarm system

- *Perimeter protection:* This part of the alarm system protects the doors, bonnet and boot lid - the alarm will sound if any one of these apertures is opened improperly.
- *Interior protection:* Also known as volumetric protection, this part of the system protects the space inside the car - even when the hood is lowered, by detecting movements within the passenger compartment or intrusions through the windows or hood, any of which will cause the alarm to sound.
- *Engine immobilisation:* The engine is immobilised automatically whenever the car is locked, whenever the key is removed from the starter switch and also thirty seconds after the starter switch has been turned to position '0' and the driver's door has been opened.
- *Superlocking:* Includes all of the above features and, additionally, disables the sill locking buttons, thereby prohibiting operation of the door locks (from outside or inside the car).



WARNING!

DO NOT use the handset to lock or superlock the car if a passenger or animal is to be left inside - the handset activates interior protection, which will trigger the alarm if movement is detected inside the car.

LOCKING THE CAR AND ARMING THE ALARM

Before locking the car, ensure the doors, windows, bonnet and luggage compartment apertures are securely closed.

There are three ways to lock the car and arm the alarm. Always use the method offering the greatest security for any given circumstance.

1. Locking with the handset

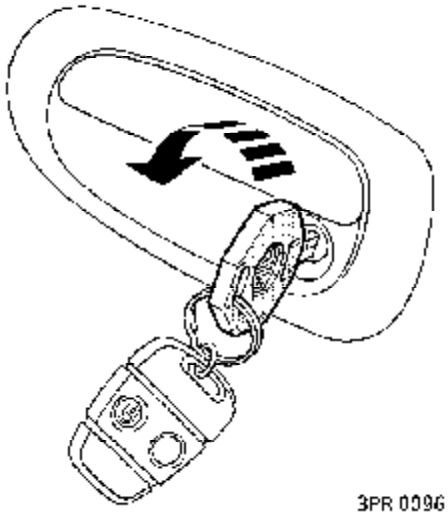
Aim the handset at the car and briefly press the lock button (PADLOCK SYMBOL) once: Both doors lock automatically, the perimeter and interior protection are both activated and the engine is immobilised. If the doors lock correctly, the direction indicator lights will flash once.

Press the left handset button to unlock (the alarm is disarmed, the engine re-mobilised and the direction indicators flash once).

2. Superlocking with the handset

Aim the handset at the car and press the lock button (PADLOCK SYMBOL) twice within 1 second: In addition to the features described above, superlocking also inhibits the door locks, making it impossible to operate the sill locking buttons from either inside or outside the car. If the doors lock correctly, the direction indicator lights flash once, and then an additional three times.

Press the left handset button to unlock (the alarm is disarmed, the engine re-mobilised and the direction indicators flash once).



3. Locking using the key

Turn the key towards the front of the car: both doors lock automatically, perimeter protection is activated and the engine is immobilised.

Interior protection will NOT be active. Use this method if a passenger or animal is to remain inside the car after it is locked.

NOTE: *Unlocking the car with the key will disarm the alarm, but will NOT enable the engine to be started (see 'Engine immobilisation' on the following page).*

FOR MAXIMUM SECURITY
ALWAYS SUPERLOCK THE CAR
(except when the car is to be locked with a passenger or animal inside)

Once armed, the alarm will sound if any door or aperture is opened, or if (after an initial checking period of 15 seconds) any movement is detected inside the car.

If the doors lock but the direction indicators do not flash:
This indicates that either the bonnet, boot lid or one of the doors is not fully closed. In this case the perimeter alarm will still be armed and the engine immobilised, but the interior (volumetric) protection will not have been activated.

Once the open door or aperture is located and closed, the direction indicators will flash and the alarm system will arm itself fully.

If the handset fails to unlock the car:
Unlock the car with the key instead (both doors will unlock and the direction indicators will flash once). The handset must then be resynchronised *(see 'Handset resynchronisation').*

If the key unlocks the driver's door only and the direction indicators fail to flash, either the car battery is flat or there is a fault with the alarm system.

If the alarm sounds:
To silence the alarm, press either handset button, or operate the door locks using the key. Once activated the alarm will sound for approximately 30 seconds before switching itself off, and can be triggered up to three times in total before needing to be reset. Note that the engine will still be immobilised after the alarm has sounded.

Handset resynchronisation
Each time the handset is used to lock the car, a coded signal is transmitted to a receiver inside the car. Intentionally, the code changes each time the button is pressed and, in the event of a power failure (a flat car battery for example), this 'rolling' code will become unsynchronised with the receiver unit and the handset will fail to operate the locks and alarm system.

If this occurs, resynchronise the handset as follows:

1. Unlock the car with the key.
2. Press the handset 'LOCK' button at least four times, or until the door locks operate.
3. The handset will now operate normally.

Anti-theft alarm indicator light
After locking, the RED indicator light on the instrument panel flashes rapidly while the alarm system is arming itself.

After 10 seconds, the indicator light adjusts to a slower frequency, and continues flashing as an anti-theft deterrent until such time as the alarm is disarmed.

Interior protection
Interior (volumetric) protection is activated only when the car is locked using the handset. Sensors monitor the interior space and activate the alarm if an intrusion into the passenger compartment is detected (entry gained through a window or the hood, for example).

NOTE: *When the alarm is armed a 15 second delay occurs before the interior protection part of the alarm system is active.*

ENGINE IMMOBILISATION
Engine immobilisation is an important aspect of the car's security system, that occurs automatically whenever the car is locked (with handset or key). The system also includes a feature known as passive immobilisation, whereby the engine is immobilised automatically thirty seconds after the starter switch has been turned off and the driver's door opened and closed - even if the driver leaves the key in the starter switch, or forgets to lock the doors and arm the alarm!

The engine is re-mobilised by a signal transmitted from the handset to the starter switch. This occurs automatically whenever the key is inserted into the starter switch and turned to position II, provided the handset is in close proximity to the switch.

For this reason, it is important that the handset is kept on the same ring as the starter key. If the handset has become detached, the re-mobilistation signal can only be transmitted by pressing the handset button.

IMPORTANT

It is almost impossible to leave the car unattended without the engine being immobilised. It is therefore important that all drivers are fully aware of the following:

1. The engine will remobilise itself automatically whenever the starter switch is turned on, provided the key and handset are on the same keyring.

2. The engine can also be re-mobilised by pressing one of the handset buttons.

3. Automatic re-mobilisation will not occur if BOTH handsets are kept on the same keyring.

4. The engine will NOT re-mobilise if the car is unlocked with the key, unless one of the handset buttons is pressed.

EMERGENCY KEY ACCESS

If the handset is lost or fails to operate and the key is, therefore, the only means of unlocking the car, the engine can be re-mobilised by using the starter key to enter the four digit key access code (this is recorded on the Security Information card) as follows:

1. Insert the key into the driver's door lock, turn the key to the LOCK position, then release the key.

2. Turn the key to the UNLOCK position the required number of times to enter the first digit of the code (if the first digit is 4, turn the key to the unlock position four times).

3. Turn the key to the LOCK position the required number of times to enter the second digit of the code.

4. Turn the key to the UNLOCK position the required number of times to enter the third digit of the code.

5. Turn the key to the LOCK position the required number of times to enter the fourth digit of the code.

6. Finally, turn the key once more to the UNLOCK position to unlock the door.

If the correct code has been entered: the alarm indicator light will stop flashing and the engine can be started.

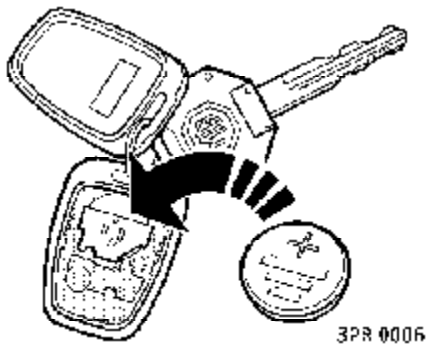
If an incorrect code has been entered: a warning bleep will sound when the key is turned to the final unlocked position. In this case, open and close the door (this will cancel the error), and enter the code again.

After three incorrect entries, a ten minute delay period is invoked during which the security system will not accept any further attempts to enter a code.

NOTE: *Entering the key access code deactivates the engine immobiliser, which then remains in a deactivated condition until such time as the handset is next used to lock the car.*

WARNING!

- *NEVER leave the Security Information card in the car.*
- *Memorise the key access code or keep the Security Information card on your person in case of emergencies (a damaged handset for example).*



HANDSET BATTERY

The handset battery should last for approximately three years dependent upon use. When the battery needs replacing it will be apparent from the following symptoms:

- *Each time the handset is used to unlock the doors, the indicator light on the instrument panel flashes rapidly until the door is opened.*
- *The operating range of the handset is reduced.*

Fit a Rover YWK10003 (available from an MG dealer) or Panasonic CR2032 replacement battery, as follows:

1) Carefully prise the handset apart, start from the keyring end using a coin or small screwdriver. Avoid damaging the seal between the two halves of the case and DO NOT allow dirt or moisture to get inside the handset.

2) Slide the battery out of its clip, taking care to avoid touching the circuit board or the contact surfaces of the clip.

3) Press and hold each handset button in turn for at least five seconds (this will drain any residual power from the handset).

4) Fit the new battery, ensuring that correct polarity is maintained (positive ('+') side facing up). Finger marks will adversely affect battery life; avoid touching the flat surfaces of the battery or wipe them clean before fitting.

5) Reassemble the two halves of the handset, ensuring they are fully snapped together.

6) Unlock the car using the key.

7) Operate the handset lock button at least four times, until the doors lock. This will resynchronise the handset to the car.

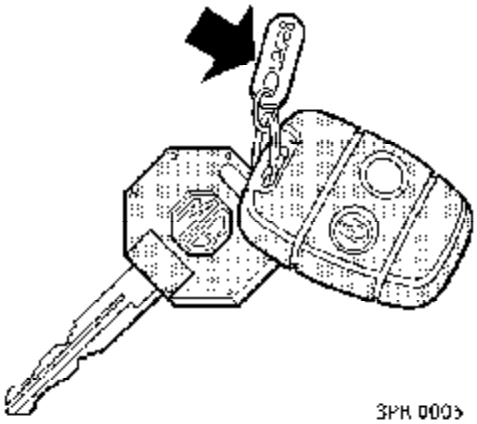
The handset is now ready for use.

WARNING!

The handset contains delicate electronic circuits and must be protected from impact and water damage, high temperatures and humidity, direct sunlight and the effects of solvents, waxes and abrasive cleaners.

Battery disconnection

If the car battery is disconnected for any reason, the status of the security system prior to disconnection will be memorised and automatically reset when the battery is reconnected.



KEY AND HANDSET NUMBERS

You have been supplied with two identical remote control handsets and a pair of identical keys.

The key number is stamped on a tag (arrowed in illustration) attached to the key ring. Check that the key number has been entered in the space provided on your Security Information card.

NOTE: *This is not the key access code.*

WARNING!

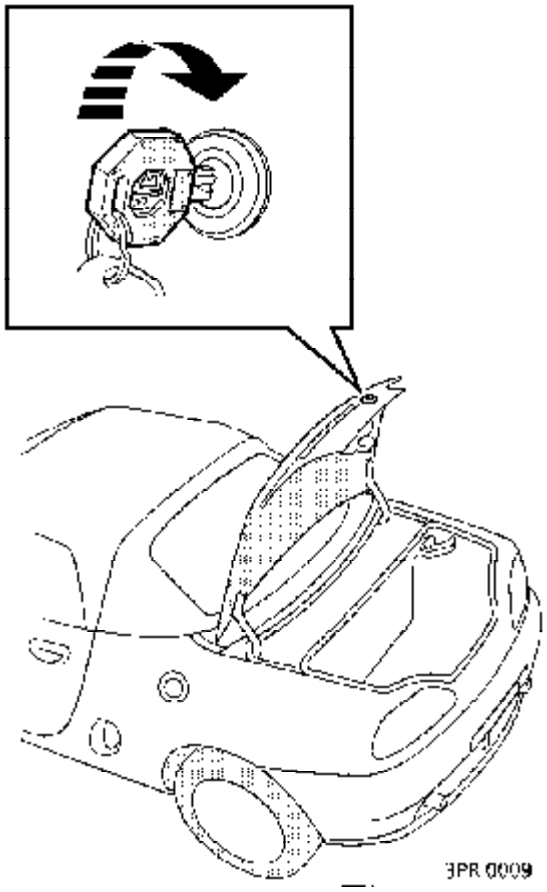
Keep the Security Information card, key tag, spare key and handset in a safe place - NOT IN THE CAR!

If the key or handset is lost, contact an MG dealer, who can supply replacement or additional keys and handsets.

Door sill locking buttons

Both doors can be locked from inside the car by pushing down the locking button on each door sill.

NOTE: *When the driver's door locking button is operated, the central locking system operates both door locks together.*



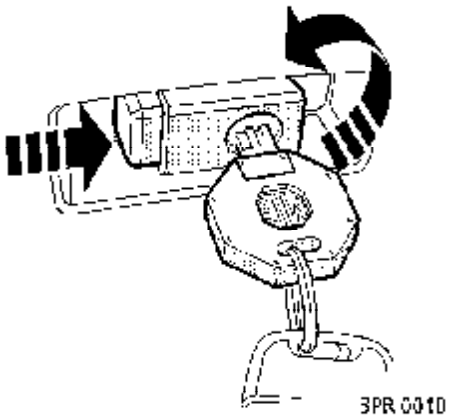
Luggage compartment
To open, turn the key clockwise. The luggage compartment light illuminates automatically when the boot lid is opened.

The luggage compartment is automatically locked when the boot lid is closed.

For convenience, with the alarm system armed, the boot lid can be unlocked and opened without activating the alarm (the rest of the car will remain protected and the engine immobilised during this process). The alarm will automatically rearm as soon as the boot lid is closed.

WARNING!

- *Take precautions to avoid accidentally locking the key and handset in the luggage compartment or under bonnet area.*
- *The exhaust system may be hot; avoid contact with the tailpipes while standing behind the car.*

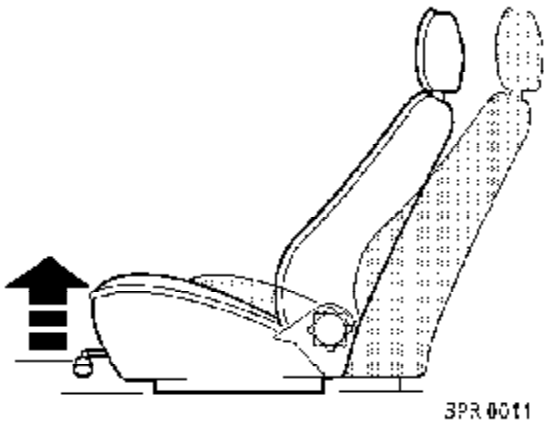


Glovebox lock
Turn the key a quarter turn anti-clockwise to lock the glovebox. To unlock the glovebox, turn the key clockwise. Squeeze the catch to the left of the lock to open (see illustration).

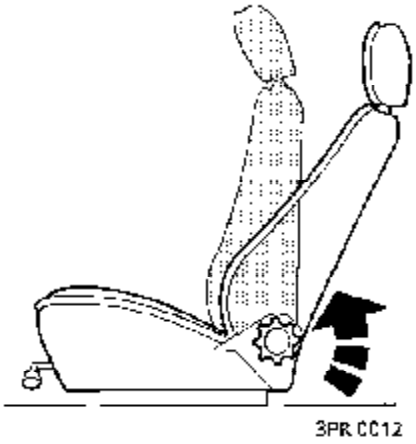
WARNING!

DO NOT drive with the glovebox open. An open glovebox could cause injury to your passenger in the event of a collision.

Seats



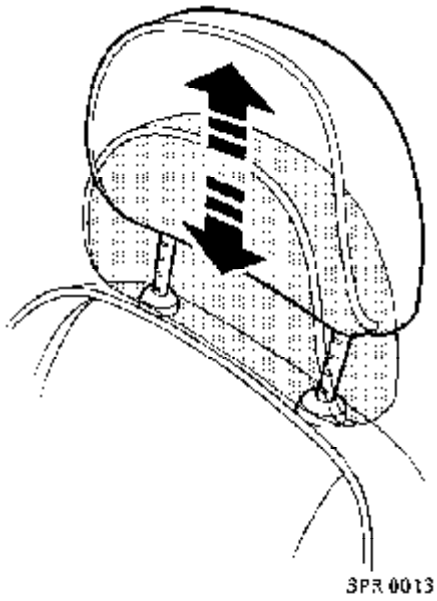
Forward/backward adjustment
Lift the handle to slide the seat forward or back. Ensure that the seat is locked in position before driving (see warning below).



Backrest adjustment
Rotate the handwheel to adjust the backrest to the required angle (see warning below).

WARNING!

- *DO NOT adjust the seats while the car is in motion.*
- *DO NOT allow occupants to travel with the seat backs reclinded steeply rearwards. Optimum benefit is obtained from the seat belt with the seat back angle set to 25 degrees from the upright (vertical) position.*



HEAD RESTRAINTS

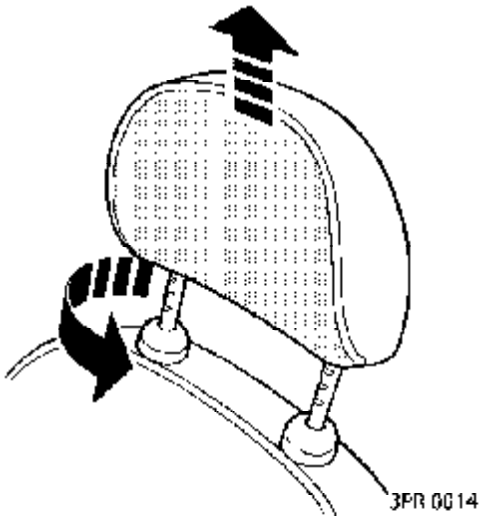
Head restraints are designed to restrain rearward movement of the head in the event of an accident or sudden stop - a properly adjusted head restraint can considerably reduce the risk of neck and head injuries.

Adjustment

Lift or push down on the padded cushion to adjust the height of a restraint, so that the padded cushion is level with the back of the head.

Removal

Turn the right hand bevelled mounting a quarter turn anti-clockwise; this will unlock the head restraint and enable it to be removed from the seat. After replacement, turn the mounting clockwise to lock the head restraint to the seat.



WARNING!

DO NOT drive if the head restraint is removed from an occupied seat.

Where possible, adjust the height of a head restraint so that the cushion is level with the back of the head - NOT THE NECK!

SEAT BELT SAFETY

The seat belts supplied with your car are intended for use by adult sized occupants, and must be used by one occupant ONLY. Seat belts are life saving equipment. In a collision unrestrained occupants can be thrown around inside, or possibly thrown out of the car, resulting in injury to themselves and to other occupants as well.

All occupants must be securely strapped in at all times.

- ALWAYS adjust seat belts to eliminate any slack in the webbing. DO NOT slacken the webbing by pulling the belt away from the body - to be fully effective, the seat belt must remain in full contact with the body at all times.
- ALWAYS fit the lap strap across the pelvis (never across the abdomen), and ensure that the diagonal strap passes across the chest without slipping off the shoulder or pressing against the neck.
- DO NOT fit more than one person into a belt, or use a seat belt that is twisted or obstructed in any way that could impede its smooth operation.
- DO NOT allow occupants to travel with the seat backs reclined steeply rearwards. Optimum benefit is obtained from the seat belt with the seat back angle set to 25 degrees from the upright (vertical) position.
- DO NOT wear seat belts over hard or fragile items in clothing, such as pens, keys, spectacles etc.
- DO NOT wear seat belts directly over bare skin.
- DO NOT allow a baby or infant to be carried on the lap. The force of a crash can increase effective body weight by as much as 30 times, making it impossible to hold on to the child.
- DO NOT allow foreign matter (particularly sugary food and drink particles) to enter the seat belt buckles - such substances can render the buckles inoperative.
- Always replace a seat belt assembly that has withstood the strain of a severe vehicle impact, or one where the webbing shows signs of fraying.
- In most countries, all occupants are required by law to wear a seat belt, unless they have been issued with a medical exemption certificate.
- During pregnancy, women should wear the lap belt across the hips below the baby, with the diagonal belt passing across the shoulder, between the breasts and to one side of the baby - if in doubt, consult a doctor.

WARNING!

The airbag supplementary restraint system (SRS) is designed to add to the overall effectiveness of the seat belts, it DOES NOT replace them. SEAT BELTS MUST ALWAYS BE WORN!

Ensure that all seat belts are worn correctly - an improperly worn seat belt increases the risk of death or serious injury in the event of a collision.

CHILD SEATS

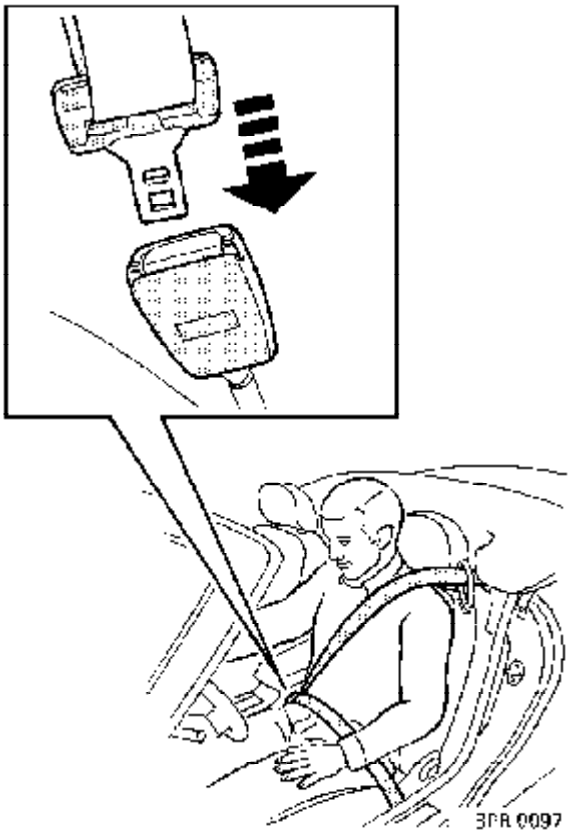
The seat belts fitted to the car are designed for adults and larger children. For safety, it is very important that all infants and young children are restrained in a child safety seat appropriate to their age and size. A range of suitable safety seats approved for use in your MG is available from your dealer.

The above symbol affixed to the fascia panel of your car, warns against the use of a REAR FACING child seat in the passenger seat, when a passenger airbag is fitted. Fitting this type of child seat could cause serious injury to your child in the event of an airbag deployment.

If a passenger airbag is fitted and it is necessary for a child to travel in the passenger seat, set the seat fully rearward and use ONLY an approved, FORWARD FACING, child restraint.

WARNING!

DO NOT install a rearward facing child seat in the passenger seat if a passenger airbag is fitted to the car.



To minimise injury in the event of an accident, it is important that seat belts are worn correctly. Read the instructions below and the advice contained under the heading 'Seat belt safety' on a previous page.

Fastening the belt
Pull the seat belt steadily across the body and, ensuring the webbing is not twisted, insert the metal tongue plate into the buckle nearest the wearer - a 'click' indicates that the belt is securely locked.

Seat belts are designed to bear upon the bony structure of the body (pelvis, chest and shoulders) and can only be worn safely with the seats in a near UPRIGHT position (see *'Seat belt safety'*).

Position the lap belt as low as possible across the hips, ensuring it does NOT cross the abdomen.

Releasing the belt
Press the RED button attached to the seat belt buckle to release the belt.

SEAT BELT PRE-TENSIONER

The seat belts are fitted with pre-tensioners that, in the event of a severe frontal impact, automatically pull the seat belt buckles down (towards the floor), to reduce any slack in both the lap and diagonal belts.

If the pre-tensioners are activated, the SRS warning light on the instrument panel will illuminate, and it is likely that the severity of impact will also cause the airbag module(s) to be activated.

If the pre-tensioners have been activated, the seat belts will still function as conventional restraints, and must be worn in the event that the car remains in a driveable condition.

NOTE: *The belt pre-tensioners will NOT be activated by impacts to the rear or side of the car, nor by minor frontal impacts.*

WARNING!

- *The belt pre-tensioners will only operate once, after which they MUST BE REPLACED by an MG dealer. Failure to replace the pre-tensioners will reduce the effectiveness of the car's restraint systems.*
- *After any frontal impact the seat belts and pre-tensioners MUST be checked and, if necessary, replaced, by an MG dealer.*
- *In the interests of safety, it is recommended that the seats and seat belt assemblies should be removed or replaced ONLY by an MG dealer.*

CARING FOR SEAT BELTS

Regularly inspect the belt webbing for signs of fraying, cuts and wear, also paying attention to the condition of the fixing points and adjusters.

Care should be taken to avoid contamination of the webbing from the affects of polish, oil and chemicals (see *'Cleaning & car care').*

Three tests for checking seat belts

1) With the seat belt fastened, give the webbing near the buckle a quick upward pull - the buckle should remain securely locked!

2) With the seat belt unfastened, unreel the webbing to the limit of its travel. Check that unreeling is free from snatches and snags.

3) With the webbing half unreeled, hold the tongue plate and give it a quick forward pull - the mechanism must lock automatically and prevent any further unreeling!

If a seat belt should fail any of these tests, contact your dealer immediately.

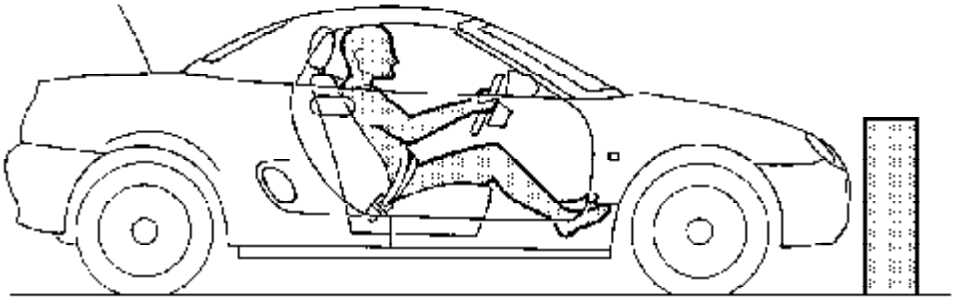
WARNING!

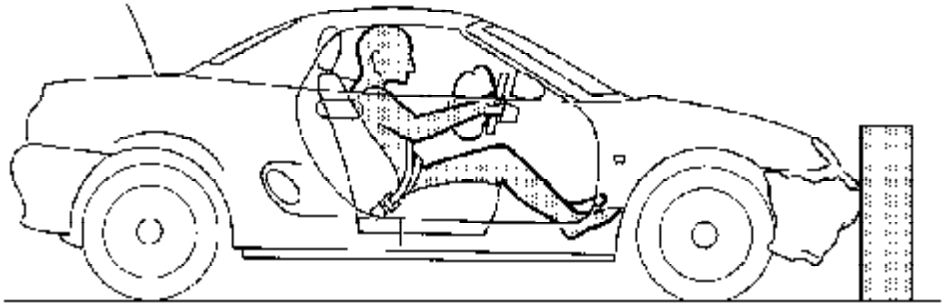
A seat belt assembly that has withstood the strain of a severe vehicle impact, or one where the webbing shows signs of fraying must be replaced.

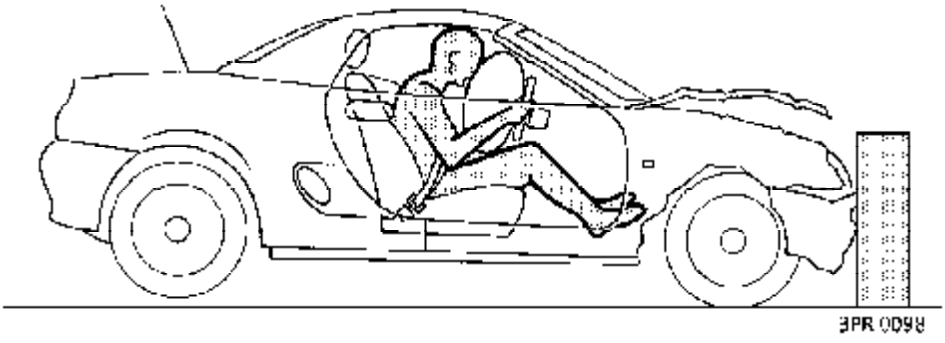
Airbag SRS

The airbag supplementary restraint system (SRS) provides additional protection for either the driver, or the driver and passenger, in the event of a severe frontal impact on the vehicle.

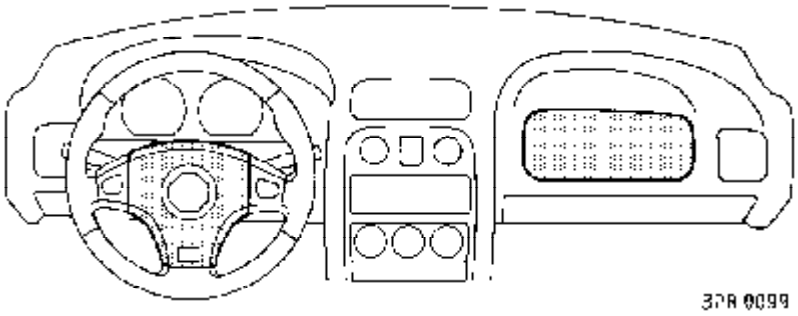
Always remember; the airbag is a supplementary restraint system that provides ADDITIONAL protection in a frontal impact only; it does not replace the need to wear a seat belt. For maximum safety protection in all crash situations, a seat belt MUST be worn.







Airbag SRS



How the airbag SRS works

The airbag supplementary restraint system includes either; a single airbag module (mounted in the steering wheel centre pad) for the driver, or twin airbag modules (where shown in illustration) for both the driver and the passenger.

In the event of a collision involving a frontal impact, a sensor monitors the force of the impact to determine whether the airbag(s) should be inflated. Airbags will only inflate in severe frontal collisions and will not inflate at all in the event of side or rear impacts, roll over accidents, or minor frontal impacts.

Inflation is instantaneous and accompanied by a loud noise. Also evident may be traces of smoke and powder, neither of which are injurious or indicative of a malfunction of the airbag system.

After inflation, an airbag module will deflate immediately, thereby ensuring that the driver's visibility is not impaired.

WARNING!

After inflation some airbag components are hot - DO NOT touch until they have cooled.

An airbag inflates with considerable force and can cause facial abrasions and other injuries. The injurious affects of airbag inflation can be minimised by ensuring driver and passenger are seated correctly with both seats moved back as far as is practical, and wearing seat belts correctly.

NEVER attach accessory items to an airbag module cover (steering wheel centre pad or fascia panel) which could interfere with the inflation of the airbag or, if the airbag inflates, be propelled inside the car causing injury to the occupants.

Safety information
Even with an airbag SRS, the driver must ALWAYS wear a seat belt, because:

- Inflation and deflation take place very quickly and will not provide protection against the effects of secondary impacts that can sometimes occur during multiple collisions.

In addition:

- DO NOT allow your passenger to obstruct the operation of the airbag by placing feet, knees or any other part of their person in contact with, or in close proximity to, the airbag module.
- If a passenger airbag is fitted and it is necessary to carry a child, set the seat fully rearward and seat the child in an approved, FORWARD FACING, child seat. DO NOT use a rear facing child seat - an inflating airbag could impact with the seat and cause serious injury to the child!

Airbag SRS warning light
The warning light mounted in the instrument panel will alert you to any malfunction of the airbag SRS. The system should be checked by your MG dealer if:

- The warning light fails to illuminate when the starter switch is turned to position 'II'.
- The warning light fails to extinguish once the engine is running.
- The warning light illuminates continuously or flashes while the car is being driven.

Service information
After a period of 10 years from the date of registration (or date of installation of a replacement airbag SRS), some components will need to be replaced (*see the airbag modules replacement date shown on page 2 of the Service Portfolio book).* To ensure absolute safety, this work must ONLY be carried out by an MG dealer who should stamp and sign the appropriate page of the Service Portfolio once the work is complete.

In addition, ALWAYS contact your dealer if:

- an airbag module inflates.
- the front of the car is damaged (even if the airbag has not inflated).
- any part of an airbag module cover (the steering wheel pad or fascia panel) shows signs of cracking or damage.

WARNING!

DO NOT attempt to service, repair, replace or modify any part of the airbag SRS; tampering with any airbag component or wiring in the vicinity of an airbag component could cause inadvertent activation of the system resulting in personal injury.

NOTE: *All SRS wiring is identified by a yellow sheath.*

IMPORTANT

The components that make up the airbag SRS are sensitive to electrical or physical interference, either of which could easily damage the system, causing inadvertent operation or malfunction of the airbag.

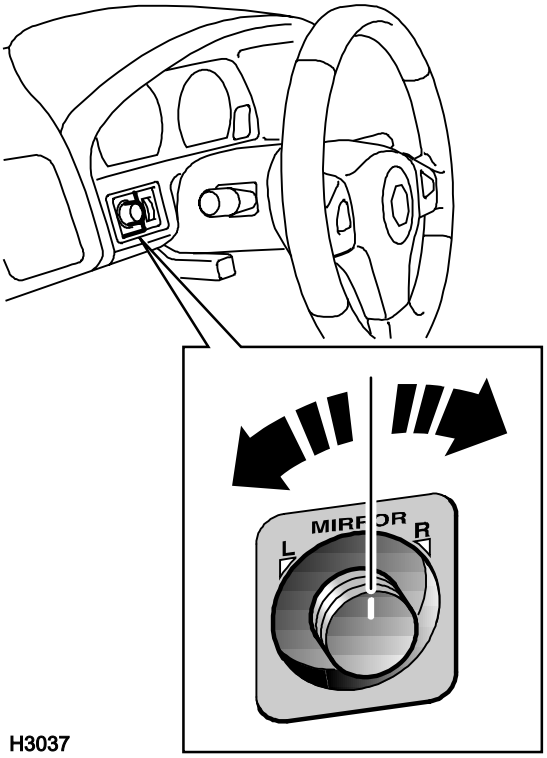
ALWAYS seek the assistance of an MG dealer to carry out any of the following:

- Removal or repair of any wiring or component in the vicinity of the airbag SRS components (yellow wiring harness), including; the steering wheel, steering column, seats, instrument and fascia panels.
- Installation of electronic equipment such as; a mobile telephone, two-way radio or in-car entertainment system.
- Attachment of accessories to, or modification of, the front of the car.

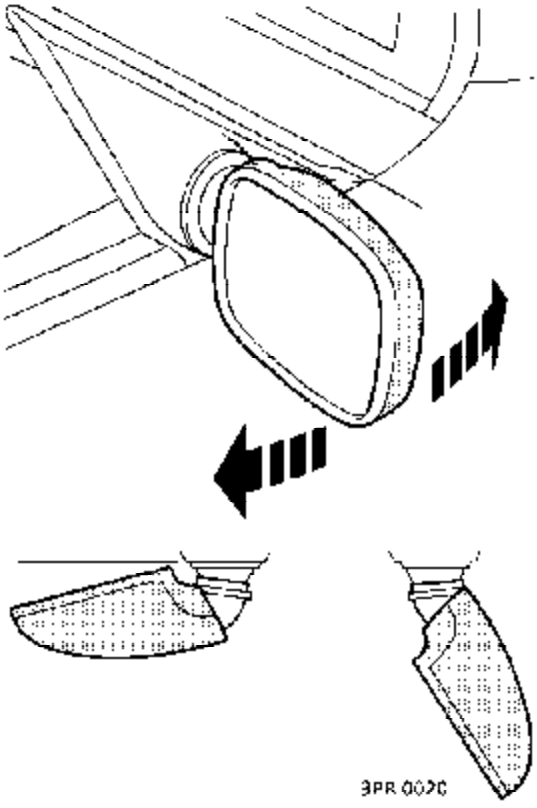
In addition:

If you sell your car, be sure to inform the new owner that the car has an airbag SRS system, and make the new owner aware of the airbag module replacement date shown in the Service Portfolio.

If the car is to be scrapped; uninflated airbags are potentially very dangerous and must be safely deployed in a controlled environment before a vehicle is scrapped.



H3037



3PR 0020

EXTERIOR MIRRORS

Adjustment

1) Turn the mirror selector switch to the 'L' or 'R' position (to adjust either the left or right mirror).

2) With the starter switch turned to position 'II', press the appropriate side of the selector switch to tilt the mirror glass up/down/left or right.

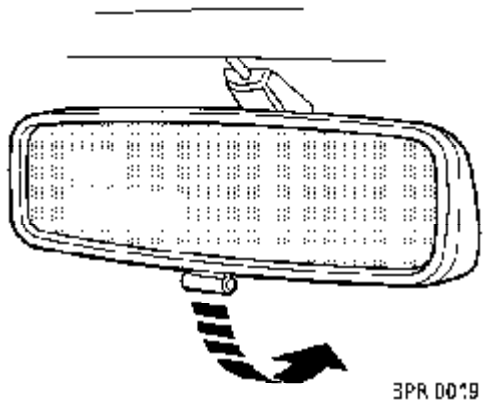
3) When adjustment is complete, return the selector switch to the OFF position (midway between 'L' and 'R').

Heating elements

Both mirrors are equipped with heating elements for dispersing ice and mist; these operate continuously while the starter switch is turned to position 'II'.

Mirror folding

The exterior mirrors are designed to fold rearwards or forwards on impact. They can also be manually folded back (towards the side windows) into a 'park' position; thereby enabling the car to negotiate narrower openings. Afterwards, pull the mirrors forward to reset them to their normal viewing positions.



INTERIOR MIRROR

The interior mirror can be dipped to reduce glare from following vehicles. At night, move the lever at the base of the mirror forward to 'dip' the mirror. Normal visibility is restored by pulling the lever back to its original position.

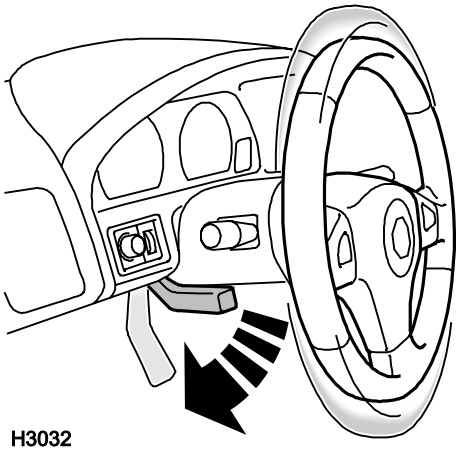
WARNING!

In some circumstances the view reflected in a 'dipped' mirror can confuse the driver as to the precise position of following vehicles. Remember to take additional care!

VANITY MIRROR

To use the vanity mirror, pull down the passenger's sun visor.

To avoid possible scorching of the seat by the sun reflected in the vanity mirror, always return the visor to its stowed position when not in use.



STEERING COLUMN ADJUSTMENT

The angle of the steering column can be adjusted to suit your driving position:

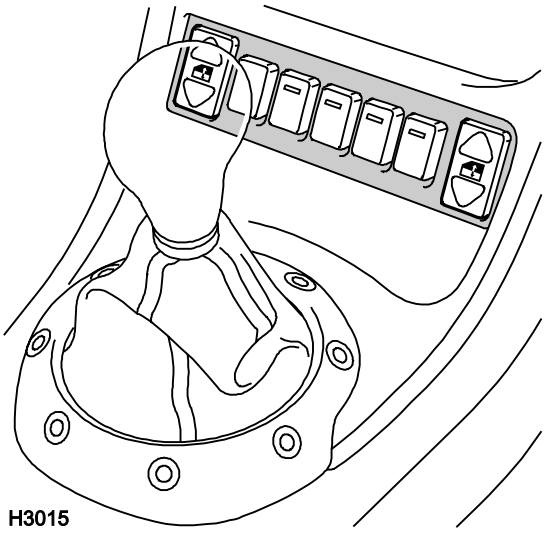
1) With the car stationary, push the locking lever fully down to free the steering column.

2) Move the steering wheel (up or down) into a position which is comfortable, making sure the instrument panel is clearly visible.

3) When adjustment is complete, pull the locking lever fully up to lock the steering column into the new position.

WARNING!

DO NOT adjust the angle of the steering column while the car is in motion. This is extremely dangerous!


H3015

WARNING!

Accidental closing of the electrically operated windows on fingers, hands or on any other vulnerable parts of the body, can result in serious injury!

Always heed the following precautions:

- *ENSURE children and animals are kept clear whilst raising or lowering windows.*
- *DO NOT leave children alone in the car.*
- *ENSURE that your passenger is familiar with the controls and the potential dangers of electrically operated windows.*

OPERATING THE WINDOWS

The window switches are situated in the centre console and can only be operated when the starter switch is at position 'II'.

Driver's window

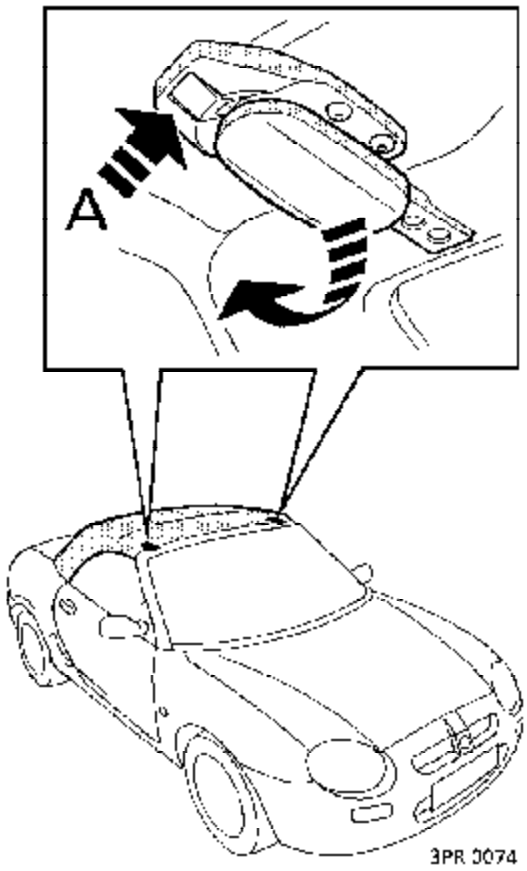
To partially open the window, press and hold the lower part of the switch on the driver's side of the car - the window will stop moving as soon as the switch is released.

To fully open the window, press FIRMLY and then immediately release the lower part of the switch - the window will continue opening until either: it is fully open, or movement is stopped by pressing the upper part of the switch.

To close the window, press and hold the upper part of the switch - window movement will stop as soon as the switch is released.

Passenger window

Press the lower part of the switch to open and the upper part to close - the window will stop moving as soon as the switch is released.



THE HOOD

Unlocking the hood
Two catches secure the hood to the top of the windscreen. Release each catch as follows:

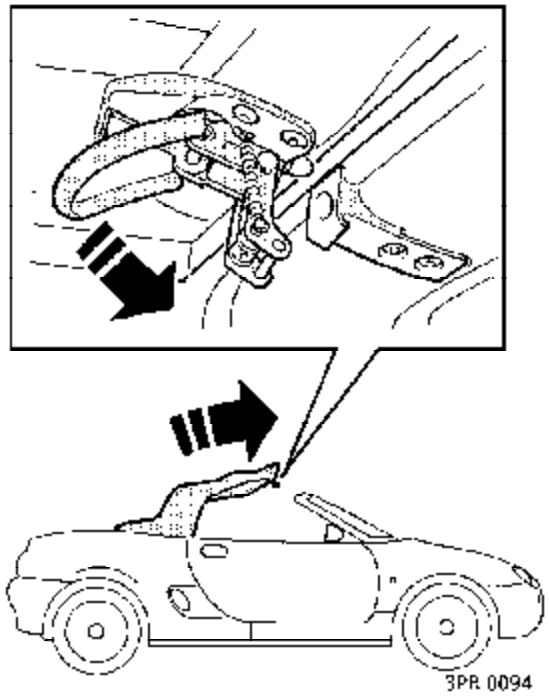
1. Press the release button (arrow 'A').

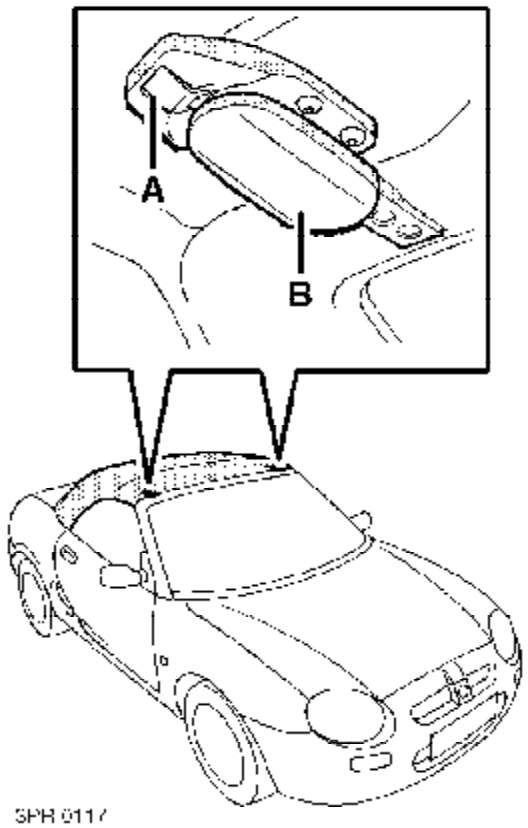
2. Keeping the release button pressed, pull the locking catch down.

Lowering the hood
With the catches unlocked, lift the leading edge and steadily push the hood back towards the rear of the car until it lies flat in the stowed position behind the seats. Take care to prevent the rear screen from creasing and, for safety, ensure the locking catches are folded flat. If the hood is to remain in the stowed position for longer than 24 hours, THE REAR SCREEN MUST BE UNZIPPED (this will enable the screen to lie flat and reduce the possibility of creasing).

WARNING!

NEVER attempt to open or close the hood while the car is moving, nor drive with the hood in the closed position but with the locks released.





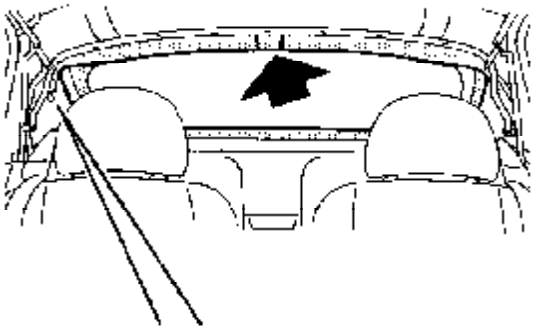
Raising and locking the hood
Raise and pull the hood fully forward. Press both release buttons, and then pull the locking catches fully down and to the rear (as in lower illustration). Holding the catches open, pull the hood down to meet the windscreen and then push the catches forward; as the catches are pushed forward they will engage with the hooks on the top edge of the windscreen surround and draw the hood tight.

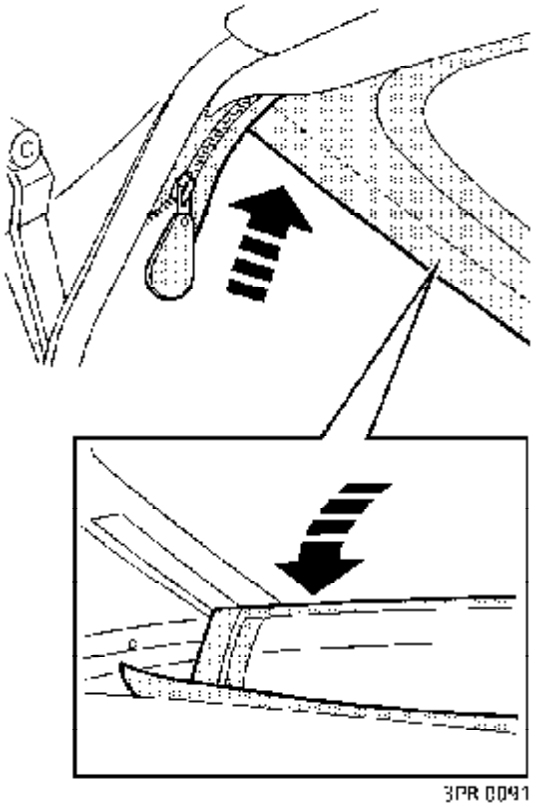
When the hood catches are secured correctly, the locking catches (B) will lie flat and the release button (A) will be reset (as shown in lower illustration).

WARNING!

ENSURE both hood catches are fully engaged before attempting to drive the vehicle.

Failure to secure the hood catches correctly, could result in the hood opening accidently whilst driving.





3PR 0091

Unzipping the rear screen
To unzip the rear screen the hood must be in the raised position with both catches unlocked.

1. Detach the velcro fastening at the top centre of the screen (arrowed in illustration).

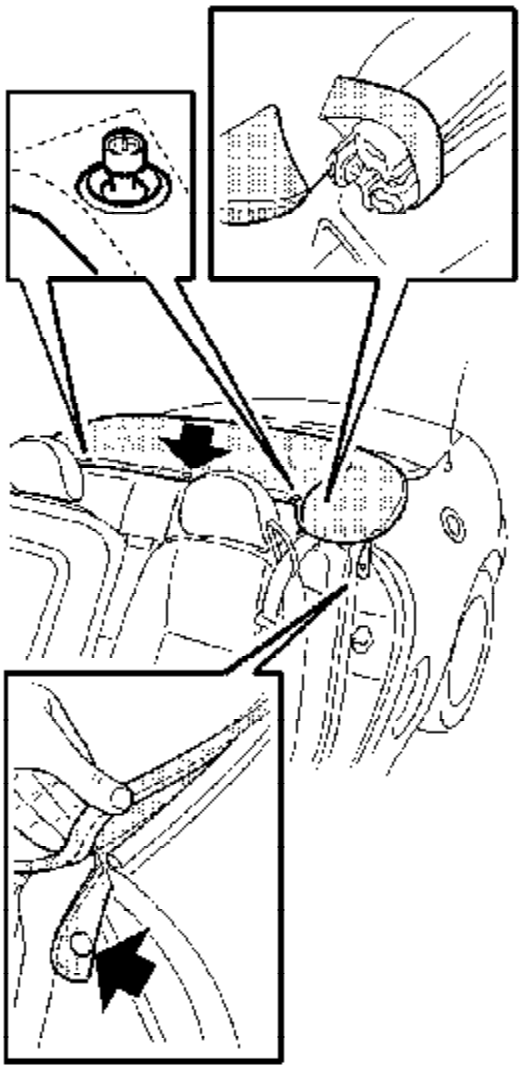
2. From inside the car, unzip the top edge of the screen.

3. Pull apart the velcro fastenings on both sides of the screen and, keeping the screen as flat as possible, carefully lower it into the area behind the seats.

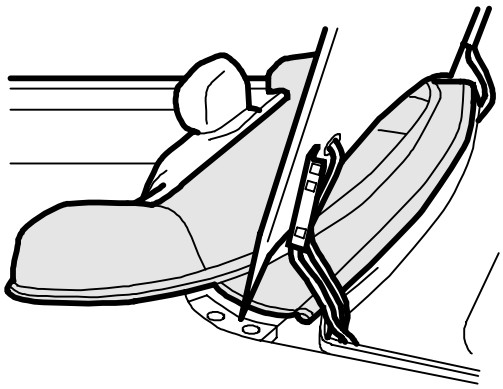
NOTE: *Driving at moderate speeds or above with the hood raised and the rear screen open is not recommended - loose items can be sucked from the interior of the car.*

Raising the rear screen
Raising the rear screen is a reversal of the opening procedure. However, before closing the zip, attach the velcro fastening (arrowed in the upper illustration) to the hood; this will support the screen while the zip is being closed.

To ensure the seams on either side of the screen are fully weatherproof, make sure the velcro fastenings are securely joined.



3PR0092A



3PR0116

Fitting the hood cover
With the hood lowered, ensure both of the hood locking catches are folded flat, then lay the cover loosely across the hood and proceed as follows:

1) Pull the loops attached to the underside of the cover over the folded struts on each side of the hood assembly (see inset).

2) Attach the fastener in the centre of the hood cover to the centrally mounted press stud (arrowed in main illustration).

3) Stretch each side of the cover in turn, sufficient to hook the eyes over the shouldered studs on each side of the car (see small inset).

4) With the doors open, secure the fasteners on each of the outer 'wings' of the cover to the press studs on the inside of the door shuts (see lower inset).

5) Open the boot lid and pull the padded roll at the rear of the hood cover towards the rear of the car until it can be pushed into the drain channel (see lower illustration). Closing the boot lid holds the rear of the hood cover securely in position.

WARNING!

Do not drive with the hood lowered unless the hood cover is fitted - the hood cover is designed to protect occupants against accidental injury from the hood folding mechanism.

CARING FOR THE HOOD AND SCREEN

The PVC rear screen is particularly susceptible to scratching from the effects of road dirt and grit, and also to creasing.

Similarly, both the appearance and the weatherproof qualities of the hood may be impaired if the fabric is brought into contact with unapproved cleaning agents.

Before washing and cleaning the car, be fully aware of all advice concerning the hood and rear screen contained in the 'Cleaning & car care' section of this handbook.

IMPORTANT

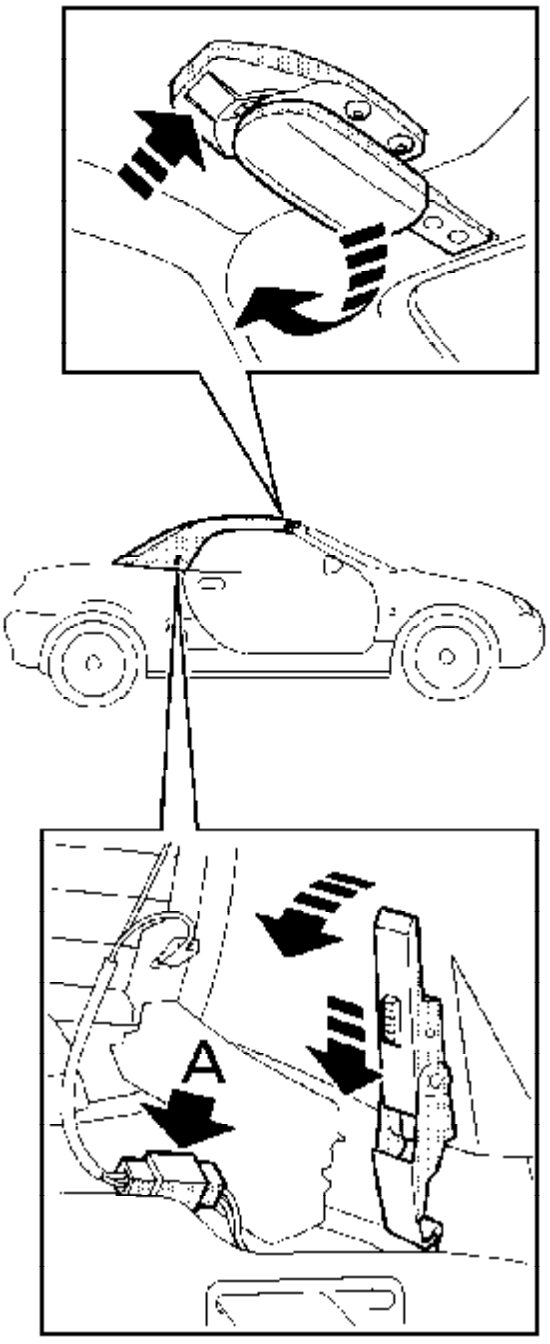
In addition, take heed of the following care points:

ALWAYS unzip the rear screen if the hood is to be lowered for longer than 24 hours.

NEVER lower the hood if the temperature is near to (or below) freezing point - in cold weather the PVC screen will become brittle and, therefore, more prone to creasing.

DO NOT attach stickers to the rear screen.

DO NOT use an automatic car wash unless a hard-top is fitted.



3PR 0075

THE HARD-TOP
(optional fit)

Removing the hard-top

1. From inside the car, detach the heated rear window cable connector (arrow 'A' in lower picture).

2. Unlatch the two side catches, these are fitted with release buttons, which must be held down (arrowed in lower illustration) while the catches are released.

3. Unlock the two catches securing the hard-top to the top of the windscreen. These are identical to those used to attach the hood, and are released in the manner described previously.

4. Finally, lift the hard-top from the car.

NOTE: *With the hard-top removed, the heated rear window switch will operate but not function.*

Refitting the hard-top

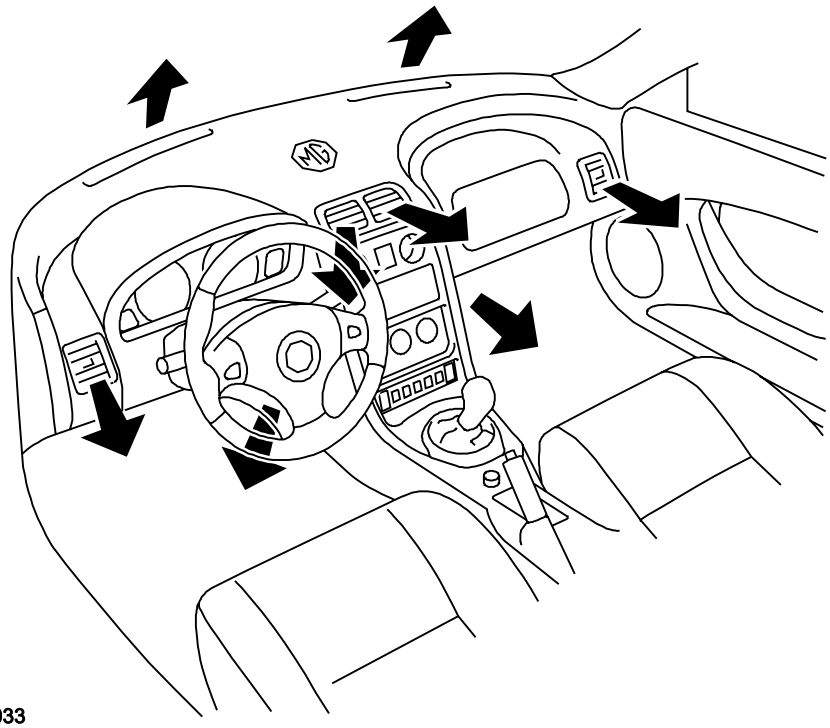
Before refitting the hard-top, unzip the rear screen and lower the hood. Then proceed as follows:

1. Locate the heated rear window cable and place it on top of the lowered hood.

2. With the securing locks released, place the leading edge of the hard-top on top of the windscreen, then carefully lower the rear onto the car (this will require two people).

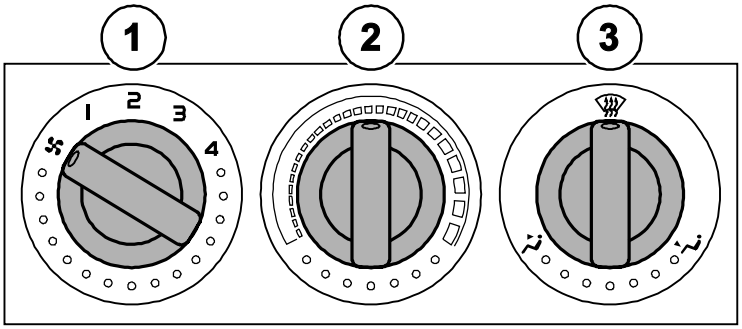
3. Secure the front locks to the top rail of the windscreen surround, before attaching and locking the side catches.

4. Finally, attach the heated rear window cable.



H3033

The heating and ventilation system provides fresh or heated air to the interior of the car. Air outlets are provided to the windscreen, face and feet, and the location of the vents is shown in the illustration above. Information concerning the operation of the heating and ventilation system, as well as the air conditioning system available in some markets, appears on the pages that follow.



H3003

1. Blower switch
Turn the switch clockwise to increase the blower speed.

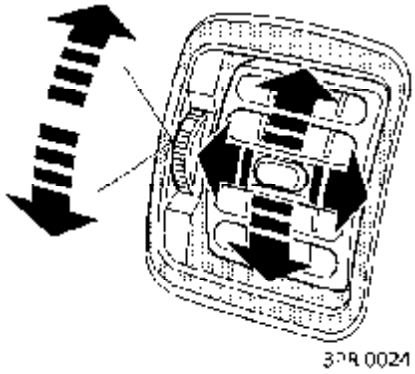
2. Air temperature control
BLUE: Unheated air
RED: Heated air

3. Air distribution control

Face level vents only (to ensure best performance, the face level vents must be open).

Foot level vents (also provides some air to windscreen vents).

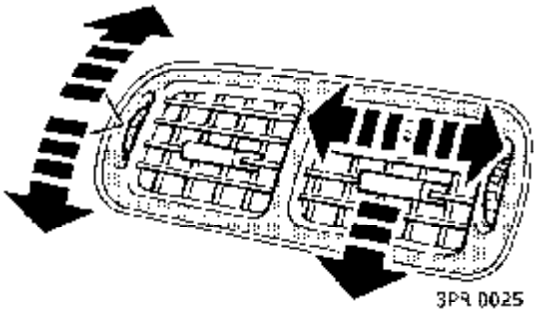
Windscreen.



Face level vents
Rotate the thumbwheel up to open or down to close the vents. Direct the air flow by moving the control in the centre of the louvres either up or down or from side to side.

The smaller face level vents on either side of the fascia panel can also be used to direct air onto the side windows.

NOTE: *When the face level vents are open, airflow to the windscreen and foot vents (if selected) will be reduced.*



WARNING!

Do not use the blower when the face level vents are closed and the air distribution control is set to face level vents only.

USING YOUR HEATER

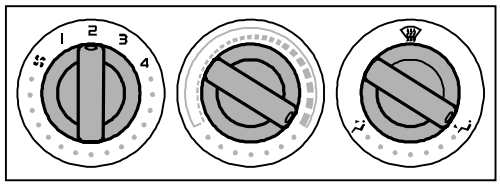
Fresh air enters the heater through the air intake grille in front of the windscreen. This must always be kept clear of obstructions, including leaves, snow and ice.

The heating system uses heat from the engine to warm the air inside the car. For this reason the heater unit will not operate unless the engine is running, and full heating is not available until the engine has reached its normal operating temperature.

The following examples show some basic heating and ventilation settings. Further adjustment of the air distribution, temperature and blower controls, and the face level vents, will result in a wider range of options, enabling you to obtain the best use of the heater at all times.

Heating

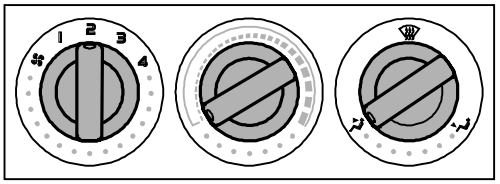
Position the controls as shown, but set the blower at the slowest speed (position 1) until the temperature gauge shows that the engine is warming up. Open the centre face level vents, which will provide heated air if required.



H3004

Ventilation

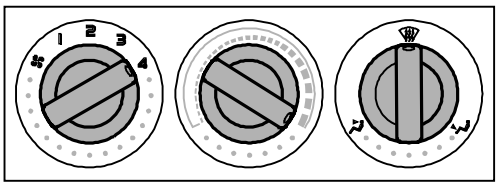
Set the controls as shown. Open all the face level vents and then adjust the direction of airflow to suit your requirements. When the car interior reaches a satisfactory temperature, adjust the blower speed to the most comfortable setting.



H3005

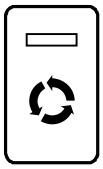
Demist or defrost

Set the controls as shown. To obtain maximum heated air flow from the windscreen vents, keep the face level vents closed. If necessary, direct heated air from the outer face level vents onto the side windows, or from the centre vents onto the rear screen to aid demisting.



H3006

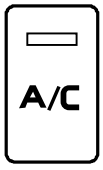
AIR CONDITIONING
(if fitted)



Recirculated air
Press to switch on and off. The indicator light in the switch illuminates when air recirculation is switched on.

With this button pressed, fresh air is prevented from entering the car. Instead, the air conditioner recirculates the air already inside the car. This prevents the entry of traffic fumes, and also enables warmer air to be used to defrost the windscreen in cold weather when the engine is first started.

NOTE: *Leaving the system in recirculation mode can cause the windscreen to mist. If this happens, switch off recirculation immediately.*



Air conditioning
The air conditioner provides additional cooling and also reduces moisture from the air.

Press to switch on and off. The indicator light in the switch illuminates when the air conditioning is switched on. Note that the air conditioning will not operate if the blower switch is turned to '0'.

Using the air conditioning
The air conditioning should only be switched on when the engine is running and with the windows and hood raised.

In very hot conditions, particularly if the engine is required to work unusually hard and at high engine speeds, the air conditioning may automatically switch off. Full air conditioning will return once the engine coolant temperature or engine speed has returned to normal.

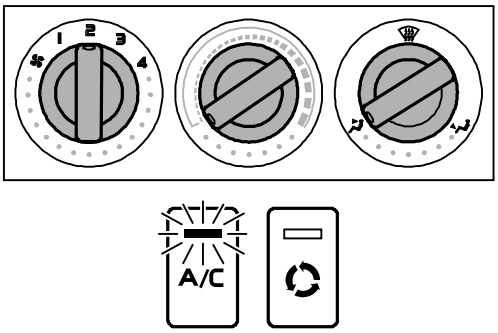
NOTE: *The air conditioner will only operate when the blower is switched on. It will not operate with the blower switched off, nor when the temperature is near freezing point.*

To maintain the system in peak condition, the system should be operated for a short period every week (even during the cold winter months); with the engine at its normal operating temperature, run the air conditioning for at least ten minutes whilst driving at a steady speed.

Surplus water produced by the dehumidifying process is expelled from the system via a drain tube at the front of the car. This may result in water forming beneath the car when stationary and is not a cause for concern.

In conditions of high humidity, slight screen misting may be experienced when the air conditioning system is turned on. This is a natural occurence on most automotive air conditioning systems. It is not a fault; misting will clear after a few seconds once the air conditioning system is operating.

Cooling
After starting the engine, press the switch to operate the air conditioning. Set the air distribution and temperature controls as shown and open the face level vents and vary the blower speed to suit your requirements.



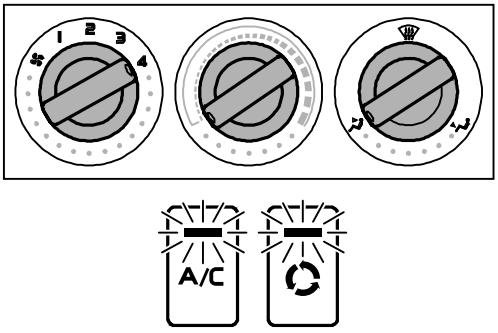
H3007

Rapid cooling
To cool the interior rapidly:

Start the engine and switch on the air conditioning.

Set the controls as for normal cooling but turn the blower to maximum speed and press the recirculated air supply button (this will prevent warm air being drawn into the car from outside).

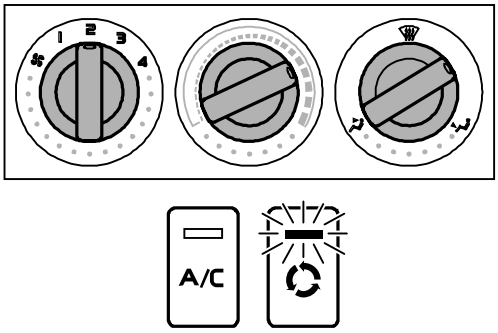
Once the interior is cool, return to fresh air supply by switching off the recirculation control, and reset the blower speed to suit your requirements.



H3008

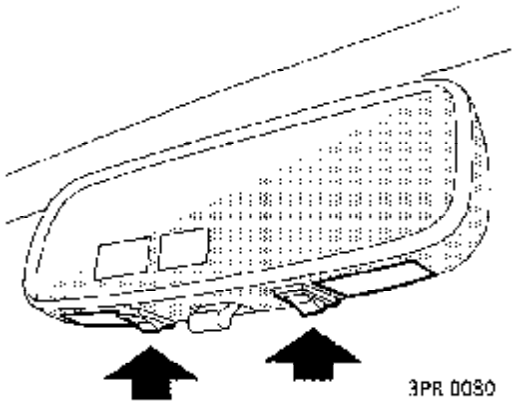
Reducing humidity
Air conditioning reduces moisture from the air and can be used to demist windows quickly in damp weather provided the temperature is above freezing point. Used in conjunction with the heater, it also makes the interior of the car warm and dry.

After switching on the air conditioner, initially set the controls as shown, then progressively adjust the temperature control and blower speed to suit your requirements.



H3009

NOTE: *If the car interior is particularly hot when you start the engine, it will take time for the air conditioner to become fully effective. Before switching on the air conditioning, it is best to ventilate the car for a short while by operating the blower at a fast speed with the windows open. Remember to close the windows whilst operating the air conditioner.*



INTERIOR LIGHTS

Interior lights are situated in the footwell on either side of the centre console and also on the underside of the interior mirror.

All four lights illuminate automatically whenever either door is opened and remain illuminated for approximately 16 seconds after both doors are closed, or until the starter switch is turned on (whichever is the sooner).

Note that the lights fitted to the interior mirror (illustrated) are also individually switched and can therefore be used as map reading lights, regardless of the automatic door open/close illumination.

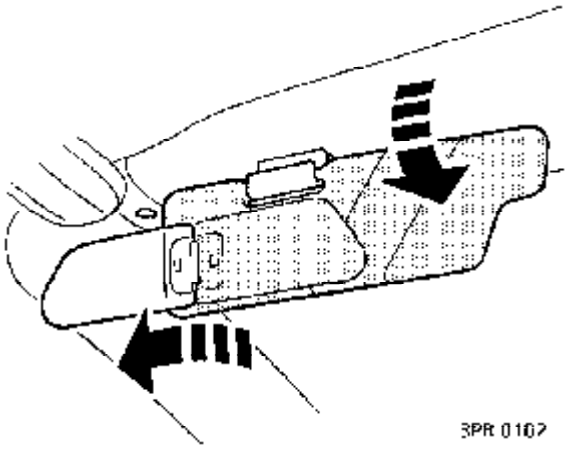
LUGGAGE COMPARTMENT LIGHT

A light attached to the underside of the boot lid illuminates automatically whenever the luggage compartment is opened.

GLOVEBOX

Squeeze the catch to the left of the lock to open the glovebox; a light inside the glovebox illuminates automatically if the side lights are on when the glovebox is opened.

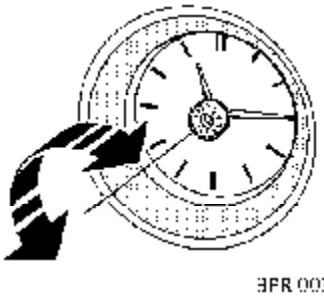
Note the provision for cassette storage on the inside of the glovebox lid.



SUN VISOR

To help shield your eyes from the sun, pull the visor down from its stowed position. To increase the shielded area, swing open the flap to the side of the visor (see illustration) and clip securely in position.

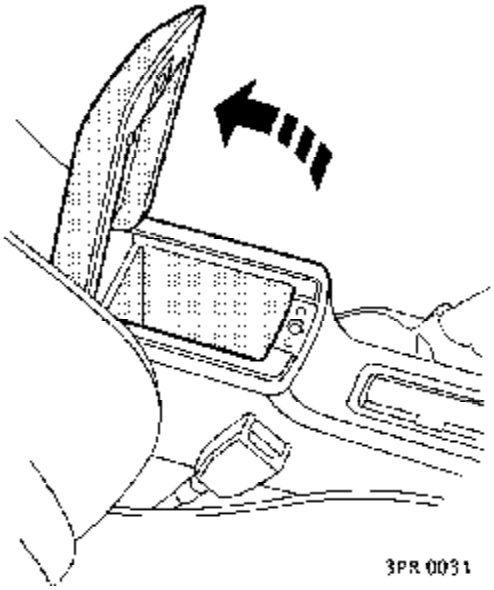
NOTE: *The passenger's sun visor is fitted with a vanity mirror on the underside. To avoid possible scorching of the seat by reflections from the sun, always return the visor to its stowed position when not in use.*



CLOCK

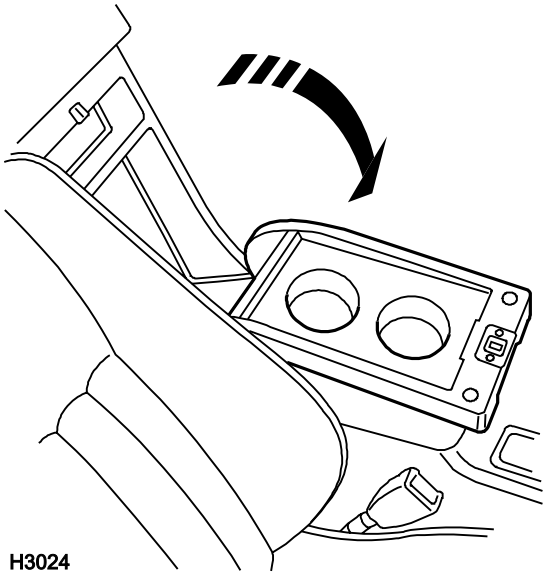
The clock display illuminates when the side lights are switched on. Press and turn the central adjuster to set the hour and minute hands.

NOTE: *If the battery is disconnected, the clock will need to be reset.*



DRIVER'S CUBBY BOX

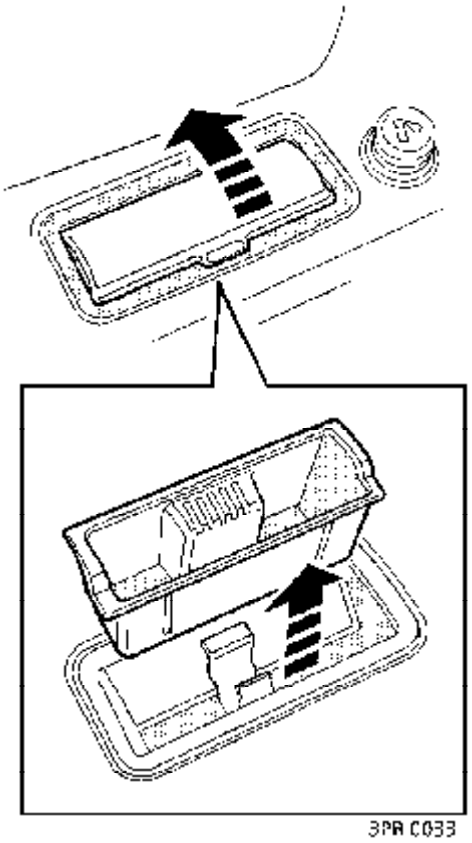
Lift the front edge of the lid to open.



DROP-DOWN STORAGE BOX

Pull down to open.

NOTE: *The recess in the underside of the lid can be used to stand drink cans or cups when the car is stationary.*

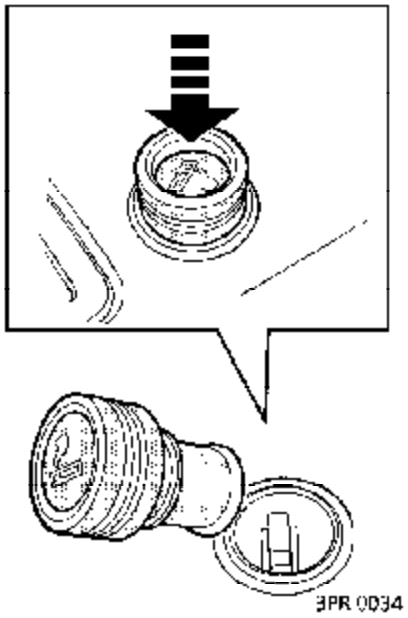


ASHTRAY

Raise flap to open. The inner tray can be lifted out for emptying.

WARNING!

Ashtrays are fire hazards - DO NOT use for waste paper or other combustible material.



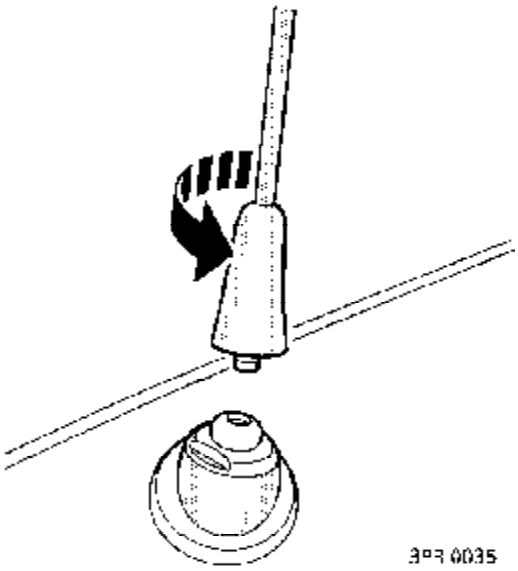
CIGAR LIGHTER

With the starter switch turned to position 'II', push the lighter in to heat up. When ready, the lighter will partially eject and can then be withdrawn for use. DO NOT hold the lighter in while it is heating - this could cause it to overheat.

WARNING!

Hold the cigar lighter by the handle ONLY!

DO NOT plug accessories into the cigar socket unless they are approved for this use by Rover.



RADIO AERIAL

Your car is equipped with a detachable mast aerial mounted on the rear wing.

WARNING!

ALWAYS unscrew and remove the aerial before entering an automatic car wash. DO NOT use an automatic car wash unless a hard-top is fitted.

In-Car telephones

WARNING!

Refrain from operating a telephone fitted with its own aerial inside the car (see main text).

Your car utilises a number of electronic systems designed to provide you with maximum comfort, safety and economy. These systems may be affected by the use of mobile communication equipment inside the vehicle. However, the use of an external aerial will greatly reduce the likelihood of this occurrence.

For your safety, always note the following precautions before fitting or using an in-car telephone, or any electrical equipment.

- *Only use an installation kit incorporating an aerial external to the vehicle.*
- *Ensure that the installation is carried out by a competent installer.*
- *Refrain from operating a mobile phone fitted with its own aerial inside the car - the electromagnetic field radiated by the phone may interfere with the vehicle's electrical systems.*

For your safety

Using any hand-held appliance while driving can be dangerous. Always stop your car before making a call and ensure the telephone is switched off while you are driving.

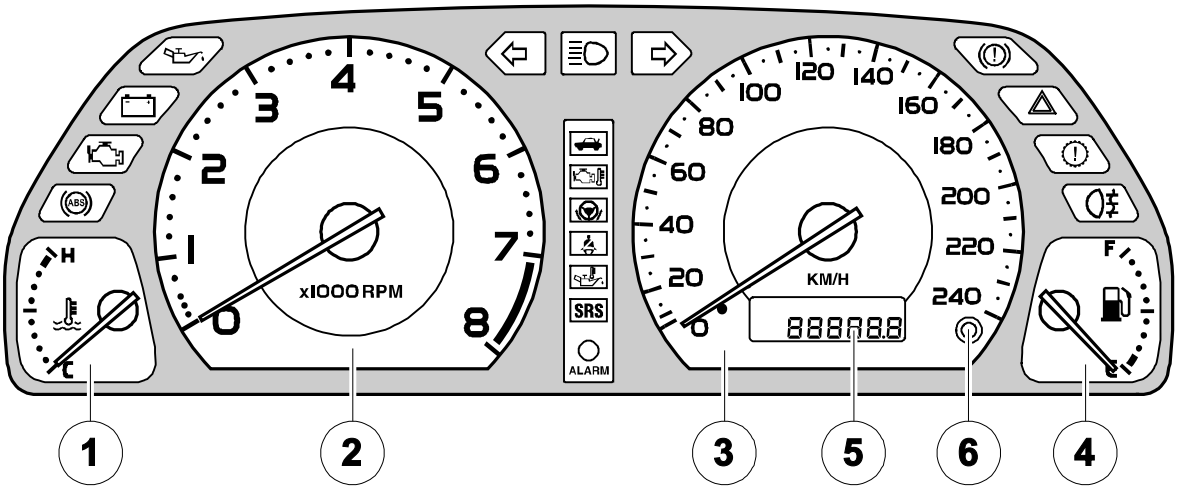
The MGF is not designed as a load carrying vehicle, and owner's should be aware of the following restrictions.

DO NOT fit a tow bar, or use the rear towing eyes for towing a luggage trailer or similar vehicle (the towing eyes fitted to the MGF are for vehicle recovery and lashing purposes only).

DO NOT exceed loads of 35 kg either inside the luggage compartment, on an approved accessory luggage rack secured to the boot lid, or a comibination of both. Loads exceeding this figure will affect the height of the headlight beams, possibly dazzling other road users.

DO NOT use the underbonnet area for carrying luggage; this area of the car is specifically designed to absorb impacts in road accident situations. Items of luggage in the underbonnet area could impair the crash worthiness of the car and also affect the safe operation of airbag SRS equipment.

DO NOT obstruct the wire engine guard when loading the luggage compartment.



H3034

1.8i VVC illustrated

1. Temperature gauge
This gauge indicates the temperature of the engine coolant. When starting the engine from cold, the pointer will gradually rise from the bottom of the gauge, reaching approximately half way once the engine has reached its normal operating temperature.

In severe driving conditions, such as very hot weather or extended hill climbing, the pointer will rise further. However, if the pointer enters the RED sector, this indicates that the coolant is too hot. Severe damage could result from continuing to run the engine; if this occurs, stop the car as soon as safety permits, and allow the engine to idle. If the coolant temperature continues to rise, switch off and seek qualified assistance before continuing. If the temperature returns to normal, proceed with caution and consult your MG dealer at the earliest opportunity.

2. Tachometer
The tachometer indicates the engine speed in revolutions per minute. Speed restriction limiters prevent engine revs from exceeding the engine's maximum operational speed, which is indicated by the start of the RED segment of the gauge.

Note that the safe operational speed range of the engine differs according to the engine/transmission type, as follows:

1.8i (manual): 0 - 6,800 rev/min
1.8i VVC (manual): 0 - 7,100 rev/min
1.8i Steptronic (auto): 0 - 6,000 rev/min

3. Speedometer
Indicates road speed in kilometres per hour.

4. Fuel gauge
The pointer indicates the fuel level, even when the starter switch is turned off. After refuelling, the gauge slowly rises to indicate the new level once the starter switch is turned on. When the pointer enters the RED sector approximately 5 litres of fuel remain in the tank.

NOTE: *Driving on twisting or hilly roads may disturb the accuracy of the gauge. It is advisable to check the fuel level when the car is on level ground.*

WARNING!

NEVER allow the car to run out of fuel, especially at high engine speed (the resultant misfire could destroy the catalytic converter).

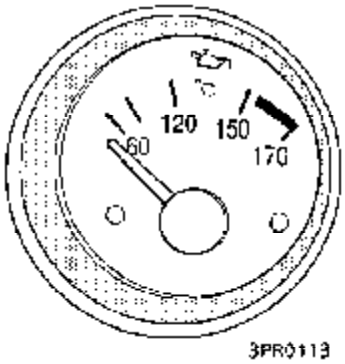
H3029

5. Digital display
The panel displays the following:

- Odometer reading (shows the total distance travelled by the car). The word 'ODO' is also displayed.
- Trip recorder (for recording individual journey distances). The word 'TRIP' is also displayed.
- Automatic gear selector position ('P', 'R', 'N', 'D') - 1.8i Steptronic cars only.
- The word 'SPORT' confirms selection of Sport mode - 1.8i Steptronic cars only.
- Manual mode gear selection information ('1', '2', '3', '4', '5' or '6') - 1.8i Steptronic cars only.

6. Trip recorder reset button
Whenever the starter switch is turned on, the display shows the odometer reading. By pressing the trip recorder reset button briefly, the display will change to show the trip recorder reading (a further press of the button returns the display to the odometer reading).

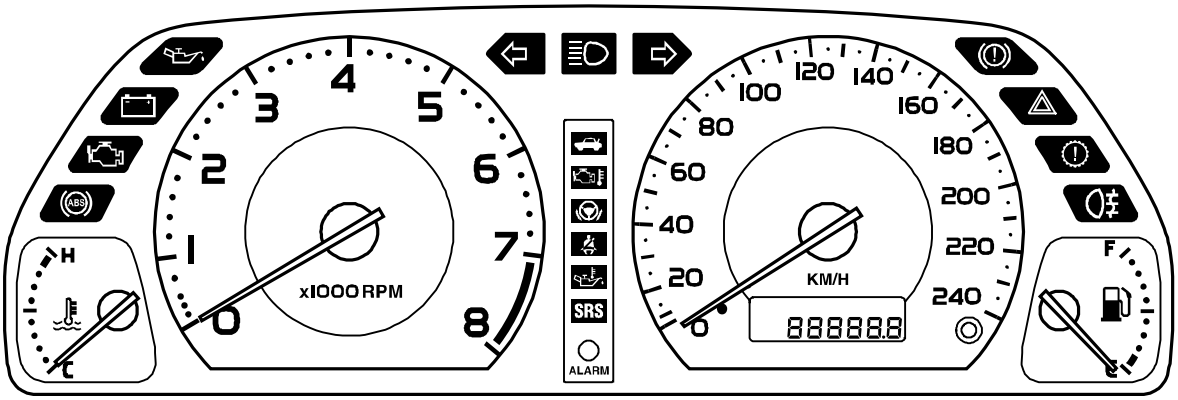
With the trip recorder displayed, press and hold the reset button for two seconds to reset the display to zero.



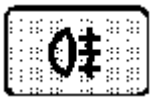
3PR0113

Oil temperature gauge
This gauge indicates the temperature of the engine oil. If the pointer enters the RED sector (the warning light on the instrument panel may also illuminate), the oil temperature is too high; you should reduce speed immediately and drive GENTLY until the pointer falls below 150° C. If the pointer does not fall from the RED sector after a few minutes, stop the car and switch off the engine. Seek qualified assistance before restarting.

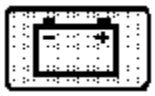
NOTE: *Oil temperatures are only likely to reach the RED sector in the combined circumstance of prolonged high engine speeds in very high ambient temperatures.*



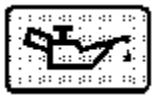
H3035



Rear fog guard lights - AMBER
Illuminates whenever the rear fog guard lights are illuminated (headlights must also be switched on). Remember to switch the lights off as soon as visibility improves - fog guard lights will dazzle other road users in clear conditions.



Battery charging - RED
The light illuminates as a bulb check when the starter switch is turned to position 'II' and should extinguish as soon as the engine is running. If the light remains on, or illuminates whilst driving, a fault with the battery charging system is indicated. Seek qualified assistance urgently.

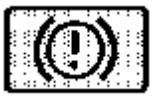


Low oil pressure - RED
Illuminates as a bulb check when the starter switch is turned to position 'II' and extinguishes as soon as the engine is running. If the light remains on, flashes on and off or illuminates either spasmodically or continuously at any time whilst driving, serious engine damage could occur; you should stop the car as soon as safety permits and SWITCH OFF THE ENGINE IMMEDIATELY. Seek qualified assistance before restarting the engine.

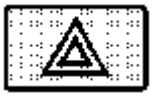
Direction indicators - GREEN
The left or right warning light flashes in time with the left or right direction indicator lights whenever they are operated. If either warning light fails to illuminate or flashes very rapidly, this means that one of the indicator lights is not operating.

NOTE: *If the hazard warning lights are operated, both direction indicator warning lights will flash together.*

Headlight main beam - BLUE
Illuminates when the headlight main beams are selected and extinguishes when they are switched off.

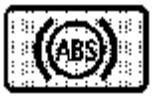


Handbrake & brake system - RED
The light illuminates when the handbrake is applied and extinguishes when it is fully released. If the light remains on after the handbrake is fully released, or illuminates while you are driving, a fault with the braking system is indicated: you should bring the car to a halt as soon as safety permits (DO NOT pump the brake pedal) and seek qualified assistance before continuing.



Hazard warning lights - RED
Illuminates in conjunction with the direction indicator warning lights when the hazard warning lights are operated.

Engine bay overheat - RED
The light illuminates briefly as a bulb check when the starter switch is turned to position 'II' and extinguishes after a few seconds. If the light illuminates while you are driving, this indicates that the engine compartment temperature is too high or that the engine bay cooling system is not working; if this occurs, reduce speed and allow the engine to cool (but avoid very slow road speeds if possible) - the light should then extinguish. If illumination is frequent or persistant, ask your dealer to check the engine bay cooling system.



Anti-lock braking system - AMBER (if fitted)
The warning light illuminates when the starter switch is turned on and extinguishes after the engine starts. If the light illuminates at any other time, there is a fault with the ABS system; if this occurs, ABS will not be available to prevent the wheels from locking, in circumstances where there is insufficient friction between the tyres and road surface. On completion of your journey seek advice from your dealer before further vehicle use.

Power steering - RED (if fitted)
The light illuminates when the starter switch is turned to position 'II' and extinguishes when the engine is started. If the light illuminates while driving or at any other time, there is a fault with the system and power assistance will no longer be available. If this occurs, more steering effort will be required from the driver, particularly at low speeds. You may continue driving but should seek advice from an MG dealer at the earliest opportunity.

NOTE: *The light will also illuminate if high engine speeds are maintained for more than 30 seconds while the car is stationary.*

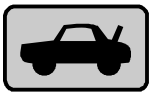
Seat belt (if fitted) - RED
When the starter switch is turned to position 'II', the warning light illuminates for between 4 and 8 seconds as a bulb check. The light will then remain illuminated until the driver's seat belt is fastened. ALWAYS fasten your seat belt before driving.

High oil temperature - RED (1.8i VVC models only)
If the light illuminates while driving, this indicates that the engine oil temperature is too high; you should reduce speed immediately and drive GENTLY until the light has extinguished and the pointer on the oil temperature gauge has fallen below 150° C. If the light fails to extinguish after a few minutes, stop the car and switch off the engine. Seek qualified assistance before restarting.

Airbag supplementary restraint system - RED
The light illuminates when the starter switch is turned on and extinguishes within approximately six seconds. If the light fails to illuminate or illuminates once the engine is started, the system is faulty - seek qualified assistance urgently.

Alarm system - RED
After the car is locked, this light flashes rapidly while the alarm system is being armed. After approximately 10 seconds the light adjusts to a slower frequency and continues flashing as an anti-theft deterrent until the alarm is disarmed.

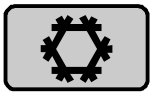
Continuous illumination (while the driver's door is open) indicates that the alarm has been disarmed but the engine is still immobilised. This will occur after the alarm system has been disarmed with the starter key instead of the handset.



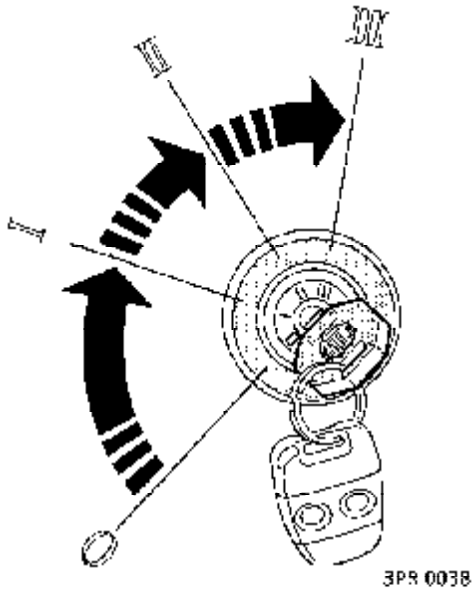
Luggage compartment open - RED
Illuminates if the luggage compartment is open. DO NOT drive if the light is illuminated.

Transmission fault - AMBER(Auto gearbox cars only)
The light illuminates briefly as a bulb check when the starter switch is turned on and extinguishes after a few seconds. If the light fails to extinguish, or illuminates while driving, a fault with the steptronic automatic gearbox is indicated. In this eventuality, reduced performance will be evident and engine speeds will be limited to 3,500 rev/min approx.

You may continue driving but should exercise extreme caution when carrying out any manoeuvre normally reliant upon the car's speed and acceleration. On completion of your journey seek qualified assistance before further vehicle use.



Snow mode - GREEN (if fitted, Japan only)
The light illuminates whenever snow mode is selected and extinguishes when snow mode is deselected.



STARTER SWITCH & STEERING LOCK

The starter switch uses the following sequence of key positions to operate the steering lock, electrical circuits and starter motor:

'O' - Steering locked
With the key removed the steering column will be locked, and most electrical circuits are non-operational.

'I' - Steering unlocked
Turn the switch to position 'I' to unlock the steering.

'II' - Electrical circuits on
With the switch in position 'II', all instruments, lights and electrical circuits are operational.

'III' - Starter motor operates
Turn the switch to position 'III' to operate the starter motor; release the key as soon as the engine starts (the key will automatically return to position 'II').

STEERING LOCK

To unlock the steering:
Insert the key FULLY and turn the starter switch to position 'I' - a small movement of the steering wheel may be necessary to disengage the lock.

To lock the steering:
With the starter switch turned to position 'O', remove the key and turn the steering wheel until the lock engages.

WARNING!

Once the steering lock is engaged, it is impossible to steer the car.

DO NOT remove the key or turn the starter switch to position 'O' while the car is in motion.

WARNING!

Before starting the engine ENSURE you are familiar with the procedures outlined on this page.

Catalytic converters are easily damaged through improper use, particularly if the wrong fuel is used, or if an engine misfire occurs - before starting the engine you should be aware of the precautions detailed under 'Catalytic converter' later in the book.

Never start or leave the engine running in an unventilated building - exhaust gases are poisonous and contain carbon monoxide, which can cause unconsciousness and may even be fatal.

STARTING THE ENGINE

1) Ensure engine immobiliser is disarmed.

2) Check that the handbrake is on and that the gear lever is in the neutral position ('P' Park for automatic transmission).

3) Switch off all unnecessary electrical equipment (including the air conditioning - if fitted).

4) Turn the starter switch to position 'III' and release the key as soon as the engine has started.

DO NOT press the accelerator pedal while starting and DO NOT operate the starter for more than 15 seconds at a time. If the engine fails to start, switch off and wait for at least 10 seconds before trying again.

NOTE: *On manual gearbox cars, when the battery is in a low state of charge, especially in freezing conditions, depress the clutch before starting and hold it down until the engine is running.*

What to do if the engine fails to start or starts but will not continue running:

- Press the accelerator pedal half way down while operating the starter. DO NOT operate the starter for more than 15 seconds and release the accelerator as soon as the engine fires.
- If the engine still fails to start, operate the starter again, this time FULLY depressing the accelerator pedal to clear the engine of excess fuel. Ensure the starter motor is not operated for more than 15 seconds and release the accelerator as soon as the engine has started.
- DO NOT pump the accelerator pedal during starting.

NOTE: *If starting the car in cold weather at high altitudes (above 2,400 m), adopt the above procedure as normal practice.*

Warming up

In the interest of fuel economy, it is advisable to drive the car soon after starting, remembering that harsh acceleration or labouring the engine before the normal operating temperature has been reached can damage the engine.

WARNING!

After switching off, the engine bay fan may continue rotating for several minutes to prevent the engine from overheating. In some circumstances, the fan may not start rotating until AFTER the engine is switched off. If the engine compartment is open, keep clear of fans whenever the engine is warm or the starter switch is turned on.

Parking
After bringing the car to a stop, ALWAYS apply the handbrake and select the neutral gearbox position ('P' Park for automatic transmission) before releasing the footbrake and switching off the engine.

RUNNING-IN

The engine, gearbox, brakes and tyres need time to 'bed-in' and adjust to the demands of everyday motoring. During the first 1,000 km it is essential that you drive with consideration for the running-in process and heed the following advice:

- DO NOT allow the engine to exceed 3,000 rev/min in any gear.
- DO NOT operate at full throttle in any gear.
- DO NOT allow the engine to labour in any gear.
- AVOID heavy braking.

After the running-in distance has been completed, engine speeds may be gradually increased.

FUEL ECONOMY

Fuel consumption is influenced by two major factors:

- How your car is maintained.
- How you drive.

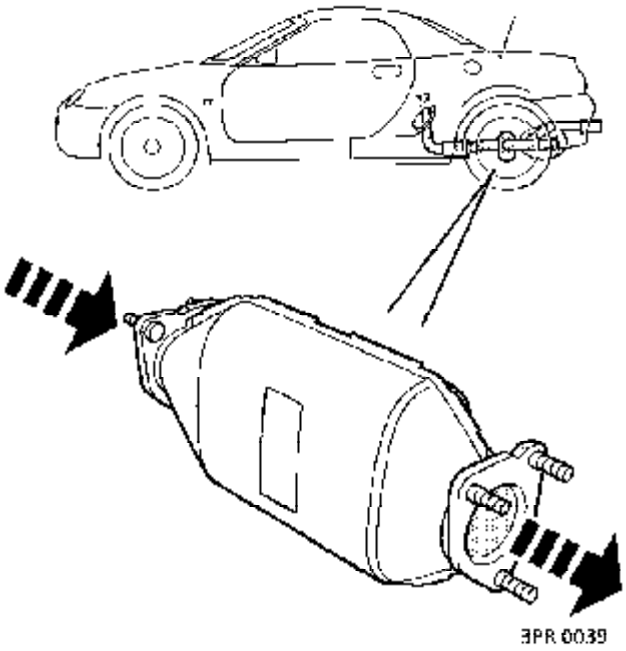
To obtain optimum fuel economy, it is essential that your car is maintained in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations.

Items such as, the condition of the air cleaner element, tyre pressures and wheel alignment can have a significant effect on fuel consumption. But above all, the way in which you drive is most important. The following hints may help you to obtain even better value from your motoring:

- Avoid unnecessary short, start-stop journeys.
- Avoid fast starts by accelerating gently and smoothly from rest.
- Do not drive in the lower gears for longer than necessary.
- Decelerate gently and avoid sudden and heavy braking.
- Anticipate obstructions and adjust your speed accordingly well in advance.

Always remember;
driving gently saves fuel!

Catalytic Converter



The exhaust system on your car incorporates a catalytic converter which converts poisonous exhaust emissions from the engine into environmentally less harmful gases, thereby reducing atmospheric pollution.

WARNING!

The catalytic converter can be easily damaged through improper use, particularly if the wrong fuel is used. For this reason it is VERY IMPORTANT that you heed the following precautions:

Filling up with fuel:

- Use ONLY fuel recommended for your car (see *'Fuel system'*).

Starting the engine:

- DO NOT continue operating the starter if the engine fails to start after a few attempts (unburnt fuel may be drawn into the exhaust system, thereby damaging the catalyst) - if the engine will not start, seek qualified assistance.
- If a misfire is suspected when starting the engine, DO NOT drive the car, or attempt to clear the misfire by pressing the accelerator pedal - switch off immediately and seek qualified assistance.

Catalytic Converter

Driving the car:

- If a misfire is suspected or the car lacks power while driving, it may be driven SLOWLY (at risk of catalyst damage) to an MG dealer for assistance.
- NEVER allow the car to run out of fuel, especially at high engine speed (the resultant misfire could destroy the catalyst).
- An engine burning excessive oil (blue smoke from the exhaust) will progressively reduce catalyst efficiency.
- DO NOT drive over rough terrain if the underside of the car might be subjected to heavy impacts which could damage the catalytic converter.
- Do not overload or excessively 'rev' the engine.

Switching off:

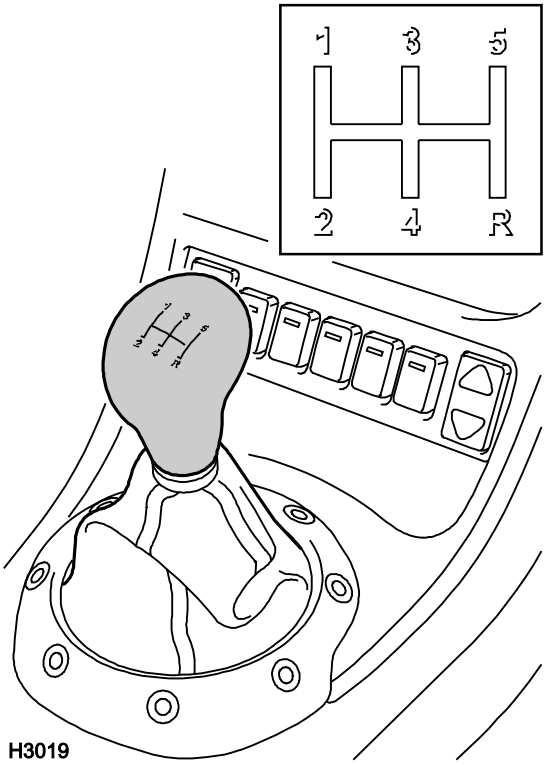
- DO NOT switch off the engine whilst the car is in motion with a forward or reverse drive gear selected.

Vehicle maintenance:

- Any engine misfire, loss of engine performance or engine run-on, could seriously damage the catalytic converter. For this reason, it is vital that unqualified persons do not tamper with the engine, and that regular maintenance is carried out by an MG dealer in accordance with the service interval plan included in the Service Portfolio book.
- DO NOT run the engine with a spark plug or lead removed, or use any device that requires an insert into a spark plug.

WARNING!

Exhaust temperatures can be extremely high; DO NOT park on ground where combustible materials such as dry grass or leaves could come in contact with the exhaust system - in dry weather a fire could result.



The gear positions are indicated on the gear lever knob, as illustrated.

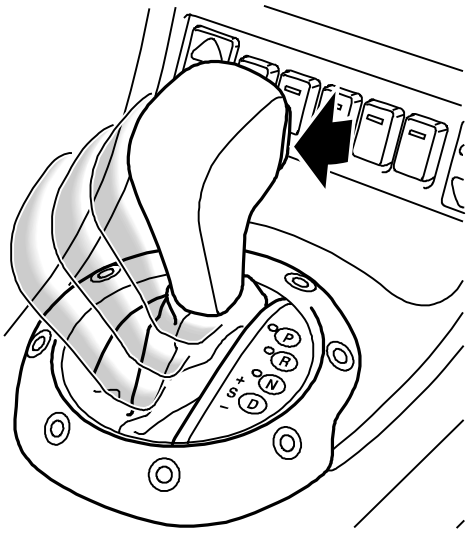
Synchromesh engagement is provided on all forward gears, and in the neutral position the gear lever is spring loaded to rest naturally between 3rd and 4th gears.

Selecting reverse gear

Before selecting reverse gear, ENSURE THE CAR IS STATIONARY. With the car stationary and the gear lever in neutral, fully depress the clutch pedal and pause briefly before moving the gear lever into reverse.

Precautions while driving

- DO NOT rest your hand on the gear lever while driving: pressure transmitted from your hand may cause premature wear to the gear selector mechanism.
- DO NOT rest your foot on the clutch pedal whilst driving: excessive wear to the clutch will result! Note that a foot rest is provided adjacent to the clutch pedal.



H3021

STEPTRONIC CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE TRANSMISSION

The steptronic transmission system provides both automatic and manual operation of the gears.

Automatic operation

The transmission is naturally in automatic mode. With the engine started, selection of 'R' (Reverse), 'N' (Neutral) or 'D' (Drive) can be made by moving the selector lever backward or forward in a similar manner to any other automatic gearbox. However, the MGF gearbox is of the continuously variable transmission (CVT) type. This means that the gearbox has an infinite number of ratios available to provide a continuous and smooth progression from the lowest to the highest ratio (and vice versa) without the apparent gear changes associated with a conventional automatic gearbox.

GEAR SELECTOR LEVER

Selector release button

The gearbox is fitted with a locking mechanism, designed to minimise the risk of accidental selection of the **'P'**(Park) and **'R'** (Reverse) positions.

The selector release button (arrowed in illustration) must be pressed while selecting **'P'** and **'R'** and also to enable the lever to be moved out of the **'P'** and **'R'** positions.

WARNING!

DO NOT select 'P' (Park) or 'R' (Reverse) if the car is moving.

To prevent transmission wear, keep engine speed as low as possible while moving the selector between 'D' (Drive) and 'R' (Reverse).

DO NOT select 'D' (Drive) when the car is moving backwards.

DO NOT press the selector release button, while selecting 'N' (Neutral) from 'D' (Drive).

Selector lever positions

'P' - Park:

This position mechanically locks the transmission and should be selected before starting the engine and before switching the engine off. To avoid transmission damage, ensure the car is completely stationary, with the handbrake applied, before selecting 'P'.

The selector release button MUST be pressed, in order to move the selector lever into, or out of the Park position.

'R' - Reverse:

Before selecting reverse, ensure the car is stationary, with the brakes applied.

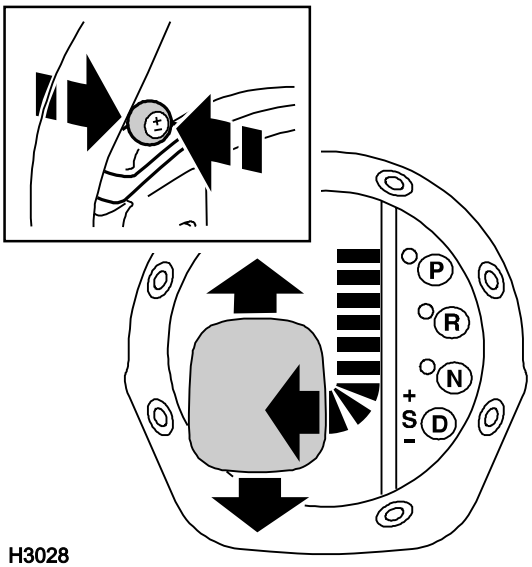
Press the selector release button in order to move the selector lever into reverse.

'N' - Neutral:

Select neutral when the car is stationary and the engine is required to idle for a brief period (at traffic lights for example). In neutral the transmission is not locked, so the handbrake must be applied whenever 'N' is selected. Press the selector release button to move from neutral to reverse.

'D' - Drive:

Select this position for driving; the transmission will adjust to the appropriate ratio, according to vehicle speed and accelerator position.



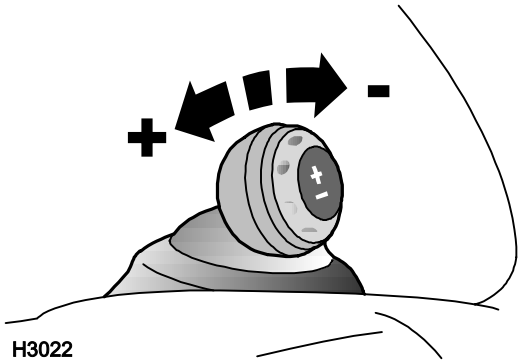
H3028

'S' - Sport:

In Sport mode the CVT characteristics of the gearbox are retained, with full automatic progression through the gear ratios. By selecting Sport mode, however, the power transmitted to the road wheels is increased, resulting in improved acceleration, and engine revs are higher in all driving conditions, which makes the car more responsive to driver demands.

With the 'D' (Drive) position selected, Sport mode can be engaged by pushing the gear selector lever sideways across the gate (away from the Drive position) - 'SPORT' will illuminate in the display.

Sport mode can be manually deselected at any time by returning the selector lever to the 'D' (Drive) position.



H3022

Manual gear selection

With Sport mode selected, the gears can also be selected manually. There are six predetermined gear ratios each selected sequentially by a single forward or rearward movement of the gear selector lever, or by similar forward or rearward movements of either of the steering wheel switches.

When Sport mode is selected, the transmission automatically selects the ratio most appropriate to the car's road speed and accelerator depression. A single forward movement of the gear selector lever (or either steering wheel switch) will change the transmission to a higher gear, while a rearward movement of the lever (or steering wheel switch) will change down to a lower gear. The selected gear will be shown in the digital display.

To deselect manual mode, simply move the selector lever back to the 'D' position.

NOTE: *The steptronic system is able to protect the transmission from damage by disallowing gear changes that are potentially injurious to the power unit and, similarly, by preventing gear changes that may be dangerous (e.g. changing into 1st gear at very high speed). To further protect the transmission, up-changes occur automatically whenever the engine speed reaches 6,000 rev/min and down-changes will occur at predetermined speeds to prevent the engine from stalling.*

USING AN AUTOMATIC GEARBOX

The following information is particularly important for drivers who are unfamiliar with the techniques required to drive cars with automatic transmission.

Starting

The engine can be started with the selector lever in either the 'P' (Park), or 'N' Neutral positions.

- ALWAYS apply the handbrake and foot brake before starting the engine.
- KEEP THE BRAKES APPLIED while moving the selector lever into 'D' (Drive) or 'R' (Reverse). position.
- DO NOT 'rev' the engine or allow it to run above normal idle speed while selecting 'D' (Drive) or 'R' (Reverse), or while the car is stationary with either drive gear selected.
- ALWAYS keep the brakes applied until you are ready to move off - remember, once 'D' (Drive) has been selected, an 'automatic' will tend to creep forward.
- DO NOT allow the car to remain stationary for any length of time, with a drive gear selected and the engine running (always select 'N' (Neutral), if the engine is to idle for a prolonged period).

Driving

While driving, the transmission will automatically adjust to the most appropriate ratio, according to accelerator position, vehicle speed and terrain (whether the car is driving uphill, downhill or on the flat).

When accelerating, the engine speed will increase above the equivalent road speed, as the transmission adjusts to the most appropriate ratio. When the accelerator pedal is released, engine speed will drop independently of road speed.

Parking

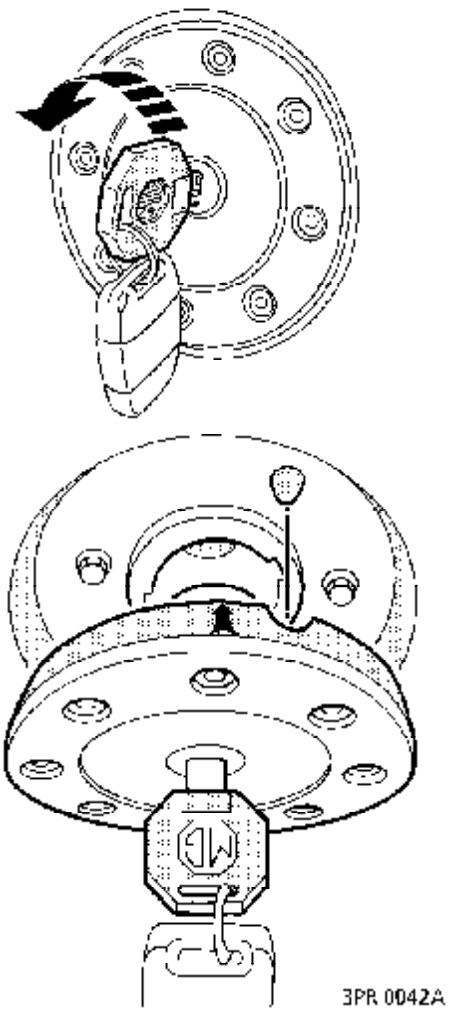
After bringing the car to a stop, ALWAYS apply the handbrake and select **'P'**, before releasing the foot brake and switching off the engine.

Freeing the Car from Snow or Mud

With the engine idling, select 'D' or 'R' and increase engine speed very slightly, making sure the driving wheels do not spin. If the wheels start to spin, use minimum engine speed to regain grip. If unsuccessful, engage 'D' or 'R' alternately and use minimum engine speed until grip is regained.

WARNING!

Cars with automatic transmission CANNOT be 'push' or 'tow' started.



TYPE OF FUEL

The RON value (octane rating) of petroleum commonly available at garage forecourts will vary in different countries. The RON value quoted below is a MINIMUM requirement and can be safely exceeded.

USE ONLY UNLEADED PETROL

to EN 228 specification

95 RON minimum

IN AN EMERGENCY (and only if the correct fuel is unavailable), lower octane rated unleaded fuel can be used for very limited periods of moderate or low speed motoring, provided engine 'knocking' does not occur.

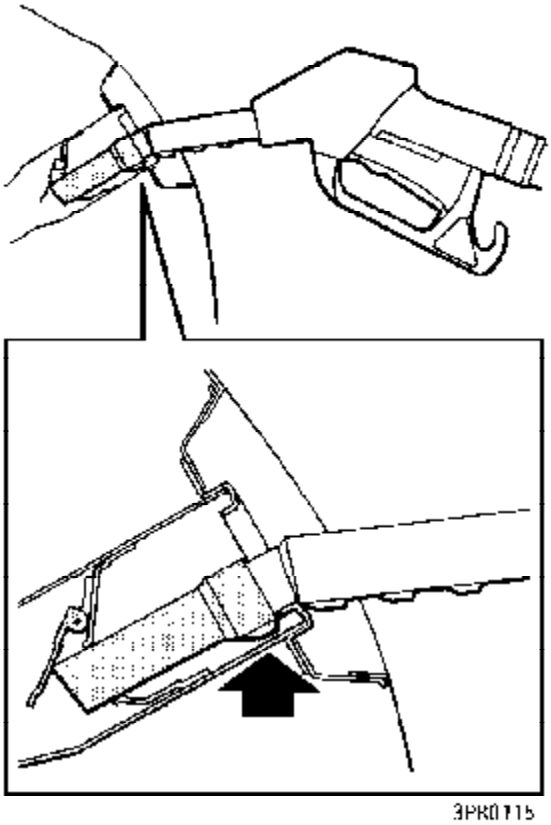
The fuel filler is located in the rear left-hand wing. Turn the key a quarter turn anti-clockwise to unlock the cap.

Replace the cap with the semi-circular cut-out and arrow uppermost (see illustration). Always remember to lock the filler cap after refuelling.

WARNING!

USE ONLY UNLEADED PETROL

Serious damage to the catalytic converter will occur if incorrect fuel is used.



3PR0715

FUEL FILLING

Only fill the tank until the filler nozzle automatically cuts-off the fuel supply. DO NOT attempt to fill the tank beyond this point or spillage could result due to expansion of the fuel.

The filler tube is designed to accept a narrow filler nozzle of the type found on pumps that deliver ONLY unleaded fuel. A flap lies across the filler neck; insert the filler nozzle sufficiently to fully open the flap before filling.

WARNING!

DO NOT fully fill the tank if the car is to be parked on a slope in direct sunlight or high ambient temperature - expansion of the fuel could cause spillage.

Filling difficulties

The fuel delivery rate of filling station pumps can vary significantly from one garage forecourt to another. This, coupled with the fact that modern pumps are equipped with a sensor which automatically cuts off the supply as soon as turbulence is detected in the upper part of the car's filler neck, could result in isolated fuel filling problems.

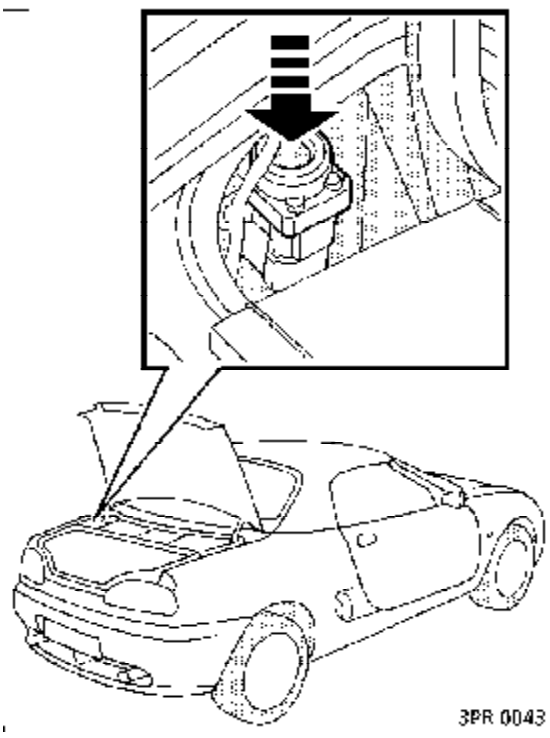
If difficulties arise, DO NOT push the filler gun fully into the neck. This will not ease the filling process. Instead, position the nozzle so that the first and second notches rest on either side of the filler neck (see illustration), or fill the tank more slowly.

Empty fuel tank
NEVER allow the car to run out of fuel, especially at high engine speeds - the resultant misfire may destroy the catalytic converter. In the event of the fuel tank running dry, fuel should be added and the engine restarted. If a misfire is suspected or the engine lacks power while driving it is advisable to have the catalytic converter inspected by an MG dealer before proceeding. If this is impractical, the car may be driven slowly (at risk of catalyst damage) to an MG dealer.

SAFETY ON THE FORECOURT

Petroleum gases are highly inflammable and, in confined spaces, are also extremely explosive. Always take sensible precautions when refuelling:

- Switch off the engine.
- Do not smoke or use a naked flame or light.
- Do not overfill the tank.



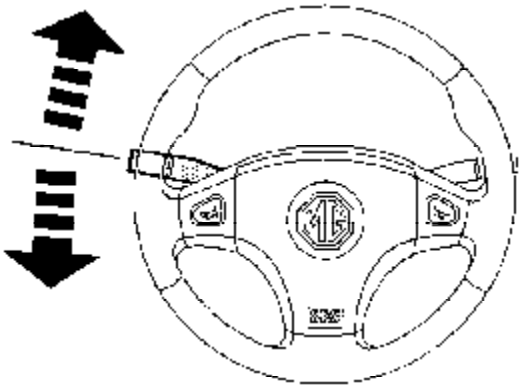
FUEL CUT-OFF SWITCH

The fuel cut-off switch is a safety device which, in the event of a collision or sudden impact, automatically cuts off the fuel supply.

The switch is located on the left side of the engine compartment where shown (see illustration) and can be operated without removing the engine guard. If the switch has been activated, it must be reset by pressing the rubber top (arrowed in illustration) before the engine can be restarted.

WARNING!

ALWAYS check for fuel leaks before resetting the fuel cut-off switch!



DIRECTION INDICATORS

Move the lever down to indicate a LEFT turn, or up to indicate a RIGHT turn. The indicators will cancel automatically once a turn has been completed.

Hold the lever half-way up or down against spring pressure to indicate a lane change.

The appropriate GREEN warning light on the instrument panel will flash in time with the direction indicators.

SIDE AND HEADLIGHTS

Turn the control to the first position to illuminate the side, tail and instrument panel lights.

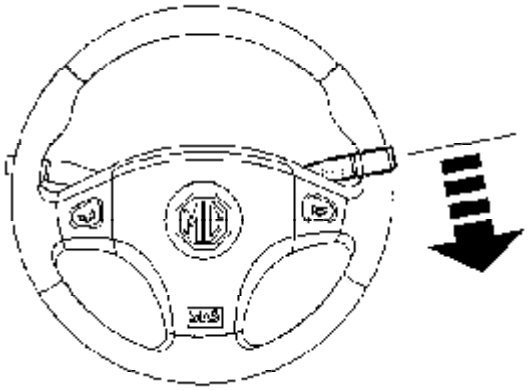
Turn the control to the second position to illuminate the headlights.

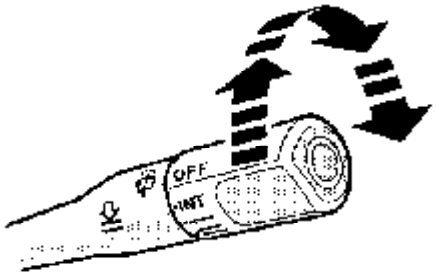
Headlight main and dipped beams
Pull the lever fully towards the steering wheel to switch the main headlight beams on. Repeat this operation to return to dip beam (the BLUE warning light on the instrument panel will illuminate when the main headlight beams are on).

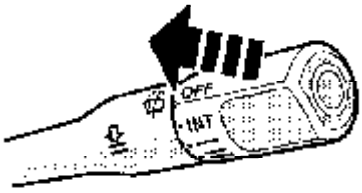
To briefly flash the main beams on and off, pull the lever part way towards the steering wheel and then release.

'Lights on' warning buzzer
If the exterior lights are left on after the starter switch is turned off, a warning buzzer will sound as soon as the driver's door is opened. The buzzer will cease as soon as the lights are switched off or the door is closed.

NOTE: *On some cars the graphic symbols on the lighting switch may differ from those shown in the illustration above.*







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NOTE: *On some cars the graphic symbols on the wiper switch may differ from those shown in the illustration above.*

WIPER CONTROLS

The wipers and washers will only operate when the starter switch is turned to position 'II'.

- **Single wipe**
  Pull the lever down and release immediately.

  NOTE: *With the lever held down, the wipers will operate at high speed until it is released.*

- **Intermittent wipe**
  Turn switch to first position.
- **Normal speed wipe**
  Turn switch to second position.
- **Fast speed wipe**
  Turn switch to third position.

- **Windscreen washer**
  Pull the lever towards the steering wheel. The windscreen washers will operate for as long as the lever is held in this position.

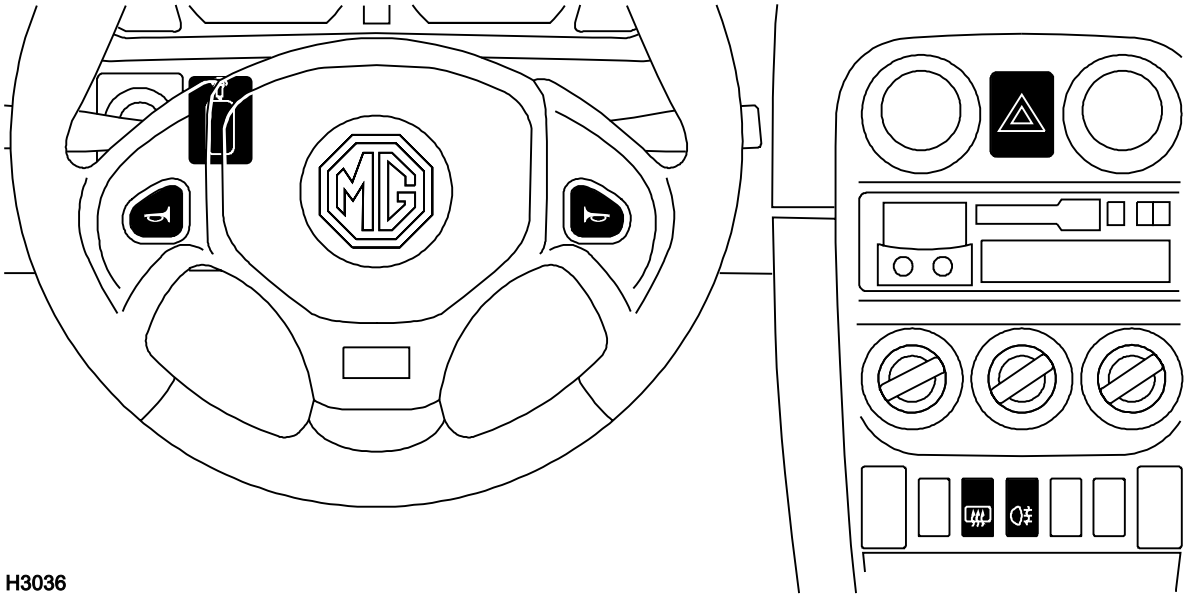
IMPORTANT

DO NOT operate the wipers on a dry screen.

In freezing or very hot conditions, ensure that the blades are not frozen or stuck to the glass before being operated.

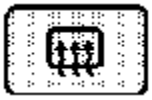
In winter, before operating the wipers, remove snow or ice from around the arms and blades, including the wiped area of the windscreen and the heater air intakes.

Fascia Switches



H3036

Hazard warning lights
Press to operate. All the direction indicators will flash together. Use ONLY in an emergency to warn other road users when your vehicle is causing an obstruction or is in a hazardous situation. Remember to switch off before driving away.



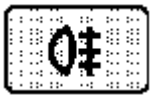
Rear screen demister
(hard-top only)
Press to operate; the indicator light in the switch illuminates whenever the demister is on, and extinguishes when the demister is turned off. The demister will operate only when the engine is running and will switch off automatically after approximately 15 minutes.

NOTE: *With the hard-top removed, the switch will operate but not function.*

WARNING!

The heating elements on the inside of the hard-top rear screen are easily damaged. DO NOT scrape or scratch the glass.

DO NOT stick labels over the rear screen demister heating elements and take note of advice given in 'Cleaning & car care'.

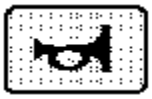


Rear fog guard lights
Press to operate; the indicator light in the switch illuminates whenever the fog guard lights are switched on and extinguishes when the lights are turned off. The rear fog guard lights illuminate ONLY when the starter switch is at position 'II' and the headlights are switched on, and extinguish automatically when the headlights are switched off.

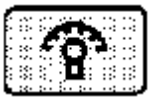
NOTE: *The rear fog guard lights extinguish automatically when the headlights are switched off. However, if the headlights are switched on again BEFORE the starter switch is next turned off, the rear fog guard lights will again illuminate automatically.*

WARNING!

Fog lights can ONLY legally be used when visibility is severely restricted - other road users could be dazzled in clear conditions!



Horn
To operate, press either of the switches set into the steering wheel centre pad.



Instrument panel dimmer
Rotate control to increase or reduce the intensity of instrument panel illumination.

BRAKING SYSTEM

The hydraulic braking system operates through dual circuits; if one circuit should fail, the other will continue to function. However, in the event of a brake failure where only one circuit is operational, the car should ONLY be driven at slow speed to the nearest MG dealer. In these circumstances, exercise EXTREME CAUTION and be aware that much greater pedal effort and longer stopping distances will be required.

The braking system is servo assisted. This means that if the engine stops running, all servo assistance will be lost, requiring greater pedal effort and resulting in longer stopping distances.

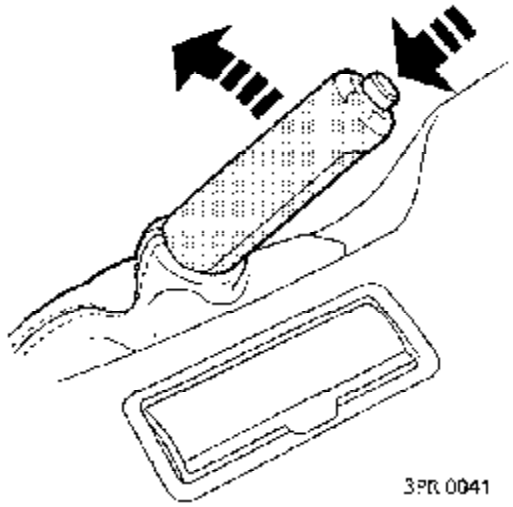
Brake pads

Brake pads require a period of bedding in. For the first 300 km, avoid situations where heavy braking is required.

Remember that regular servicing is vital to ensure that the brake components are examined for wear at the correct intervals and changed whenever necessary to ensure optimum safety and performance.

Brake system warning light

If the warning light on the instrument panel illuminates while you are driving and the handbrake is fully released, a fault with the braking system is indicated. This is most likely to be caused by a lack of fluid in the brake reservoir or worn brake pads; stop the car and seek qualified assistance before continuing.



Handbrake

The handbrake operates on the rear wheels only and should not require adjustment. To apply the handbrake, pull the lever up. Always apply the handbrake FULLY whenever you park the car.

To release, pull the lever up slightly, depress the button (arrowed in illustration) and fully lower the lever (the warning light on the instrument panel should extinguish when the handbrake is fully released).

WARNING!

DO NOT rest your foot on the brake pedal while driving; this may overheat the brakes reducing their efficiency and causing excessive wear.

If the brake warning light illuminates while driving, stop the car as soon as safety permits (DO NOT pump the brake pedal) and seek qualified assistance before continuing.

DO NOT move the car unless the engine is running; servo assistance may not be available. Without servo assistance the brakes will still function, but greater pressure will be required to press the pedal and apply the brakes.

DO NOT drive with the handbrake applied; this could damage the rear brakes and axles, and will also prevent the anti-lock braking system (if fitted) from functioning correctly.

ANTI-LOCK BRAKING SYSTEM

(if fitted)

The anti-lock braking system prevents the wheels from locking, thereby helping to maintain steering control. No special driving techniques or effort is required from the driver.

Under normal braking (where sufficient road surface friction exists to reliably bring the car to a halt without the wheels locking), the anti-lock braking system will not be activated. However, if the force of your braking should exceed the available adhesion between the tyres and the road, causing one or more wheels to lock, then the anti-lock braking system will automatically come into operation. This will be recognised by a rapid pulsation felt through the brake pedal.

Anti-lock braking in action

In an emergency stop situation, full braking effort should ALWAYS be applied, even when the road surface is slippery. The anti-lock braking system constantly monitors the speed of the front and rear wheels and varies braking pressure according to the amount of traction available, thereby ensuring that they do not lock.

Always remember, no matter how hard you brake, STEERING CONTROL WILL ALWAYS BE MAINTAINED!

On soft surfaces such as powdery snow, sand or gravel, braking distances may be greater than those achievable on a car without anti-lock braking. This is because the action of locked wheels on soft surfaces is to build up a wedge of material in front of the wheels which assists in bringing the car to a halt. However, even in these circumstances, the anti-lock braking system will provide better stability and steering control.

ABS Warning light

The anti-lock braking system incorporates a monitoring system which checks that all the electrical components are in working order as soon as the engine is started and also at frequent intervals during your journey.

The ABS warning light on the instrument panel is an important part of this system. The light should illuminate when the starter switch is turned on and extinguish very shortly after the engine has started. If the light fails to extinguish or illuminates again whilst driving, there is a fault in the system. On completion of your journey, seek advice from your dealer before further vehicle use.

In addition, when starting the engine, a single "knock" may be heard and very slight movement may also be felt at the brake pedal. Both are normal symptoms of the anti-lock braking system self checking process.

NOTE: *Even if the anti-lock braking system is faulty, normal braking performance will still be available.*

WARNING!

The anti-lock braking system cannot overcome the physical limitations of stopping the car in too short a distance, cornering at high speed, or aquaplaning, i.e. where a layer of water prevents adequate contact between the tyres and the road surface.

The fact that the car is equipped with anti-lock braking must never tempt the driver into taking risks that could affect his/her safety or that of other road users. Drivers still have a duty to drive within normal safety margins, having due consideration for the prevailing road surface, weather and traffic conditions.

The safe, reliable, and economical performance of your car will depend largely on how well it is maintained.

Maintenance is the owner's responsibility, and you should ensure that all routine services and anti-corrosion warranty inspections are carried out by an MG dealer at the recommended intervals; these are shown in the Service Portfolio book, included in the literature pack. The Service Portfolio also provides a facility for recording the services and inspections as they are carried out and you should ensure that your dealer has correctly endorsed the appropriate page at the conclusion of each service.

OWNER MAINTENANCE

In addition to the routine services and inspections described in the Service Portfolio, the following simple checks must be carried out more frequently. You can do these yourself and advice is given on the pages that follow.

Daily checks:

- Operation of lights, horn, direction indicators, wipers, washers and warning lights.
- Operation of seat belts and brakes.
- Look for any fluid deposits beneath the car which may indicate a fluid leak.

Weekly checks:

- Engine oil level.
- Cooling system level.
- Operate air conditioning (see *'Heating and ventilation'*).
- Condition and pressure of tyres.
- Brake and clutch fluid levels.
- Screen washer reservoir level.

NOTE: *Any significant or sudden drop in fluid levels, or uneven tyre wear should be reported to your dealer without delay.*

Emission control

Your car is fitted with emission and evaporative control equipment designed to meet specific territorial and legal requirements. You should be aware that replacement, modification or tampering with this equipment by an owner or unauthorised motor vehicle repairer could be unlawful and subject to legal penalties.

In addition, engine settings must not be tampered with. These have been established to ensure that your car complies with stringent exhaust emission regulations. Incorrect engine settings may adversely affect exhaust emissions, engine performance and fuel consumption, as well as causing high temperatures, which could result in damage to the catalytic converter and the engine.

SAFETY IN THE GARAGE

If you need to carry out maintenance on your vehicle, observe the following safety precautions at all times:

- ALWAYS keep hands, tools and items of clothing clear of all drive belts and pulleys (see 'Warning' below).
- DO NOT touch exhaust or cooling system components until they are cool.
- DO NOT touch electrical leads or components with the starter switch turned on.
- NEVER leave the engine running in an unventilated area - exhaust gases are poisonous and extremely dangerous.
- **DO NOT work beneath the car with a vehicle lifting jack as the only means of support**.
- Ensure sparks and naked lights are kept away from the engine compartment.

Poisonous liquids
Most liquids used in motor vehicles are poisonous and should not be consumed or brought into contact with open wounds (these substances include; battery acid, anti-freeze, brake and clutch fluid, petrol, oil and windscreen washer additives).

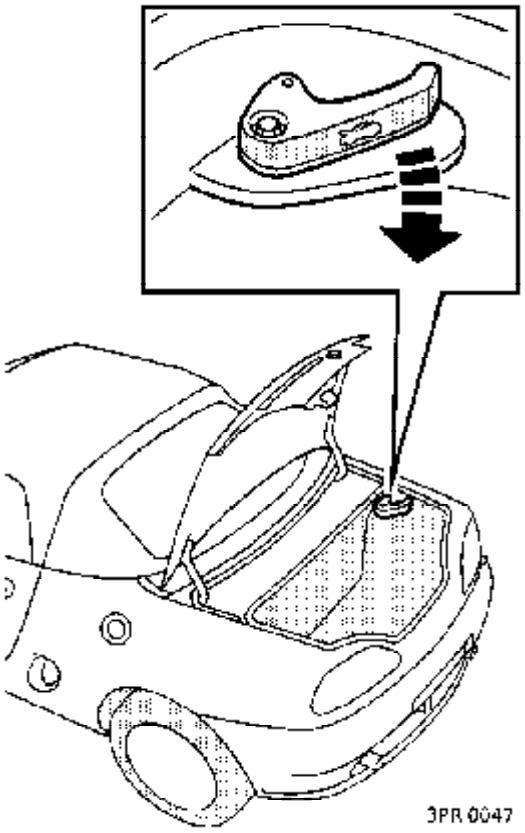
Obey all instructions printed on labels and containers!

Used engine oil
Prolonged contact with engine oil may cause serious skin disorders, including dermatitis and cancer of the skin. Wash thoroughly after contact.

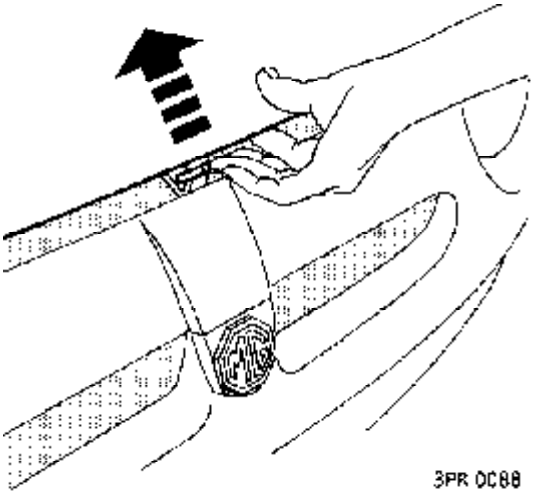
PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT!
It is illegal to pollute drains, water courses or soil. Use authorised waste disposal sites and garages which provide facilities for the receipt of used oil, toxic chemicals and discarded batteries. If in doubt contact your Local Authority for advice.

WARNING!

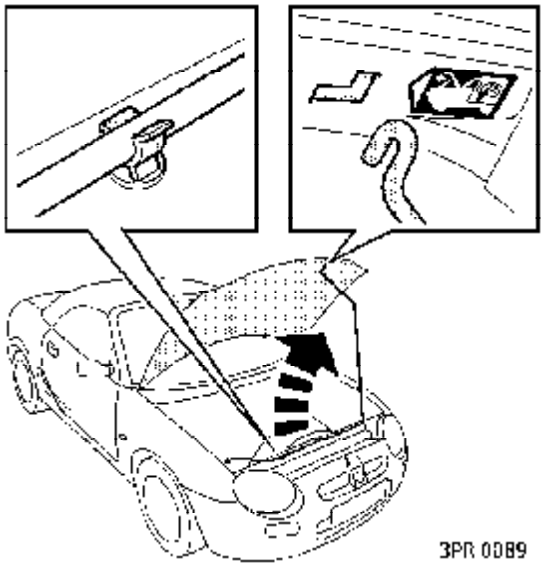
The engine bay cooling fan may operate after the engine is switched off. Keep clear of all fans while working in the engine compartment.



Pull the bonnet release handle. This is located inside the luggage compartment on the right hand side.



Lift the bonnet safety catch lever.



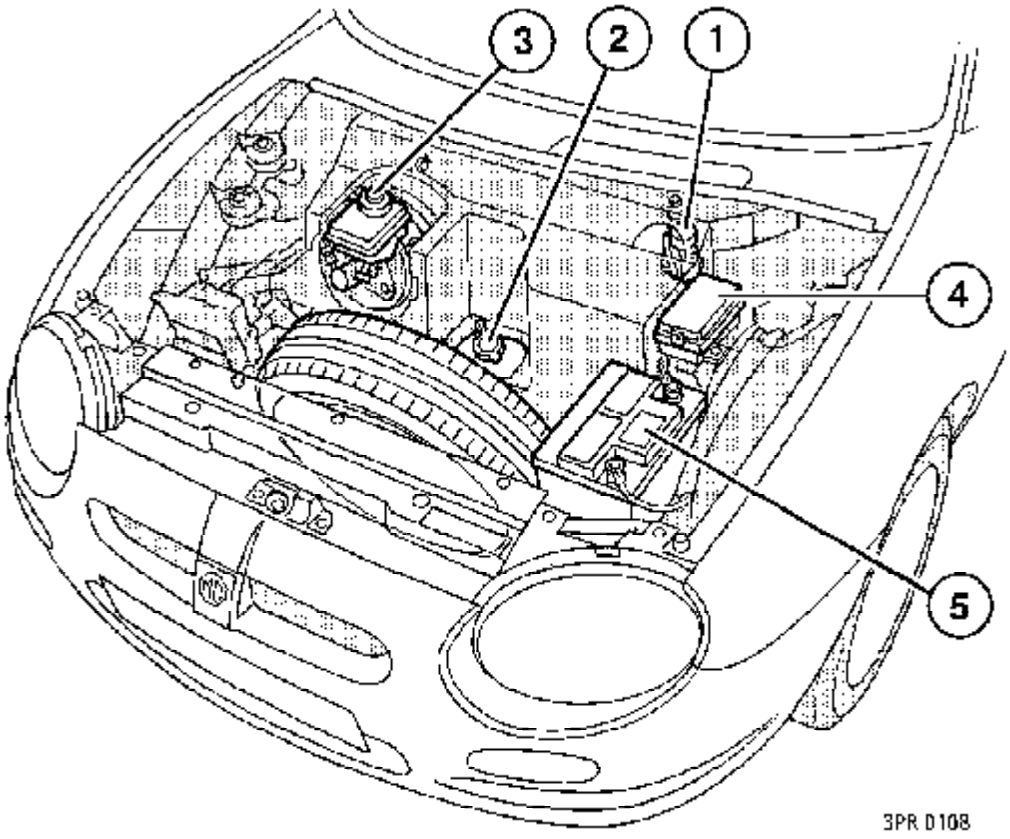
Raise the bonnet and then fit the support stay into the 'arrowed' cut-outs in the underside of the bonnet.

Closing the bonnet

Replace the support stay in its retaining clip, then lower the bonnet, allowing it to drop for the last 15 centimetres approx.

Check that the lock is FULLY engaged by attempting to lift the front edge of the bonnet. This should be free from all movement.

Underbonnet Compartment

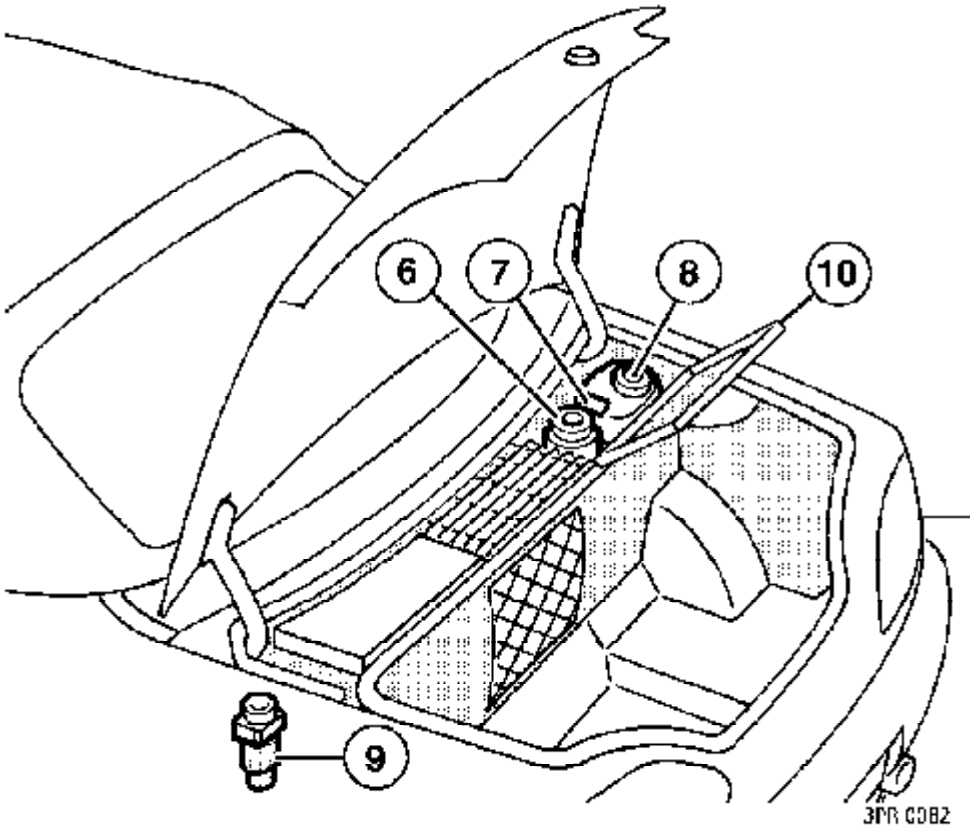


1. Clutch fluid reservoir
2. Washer reservoir
3. Brake fluid reservoir
4. Fusebox
5. Battery

WARNING!

Before carrying out maintenance checks ALWAYS observe the safety precautions listed under 'Safety in the garage' at the beginning of the Maintenance section of this handbook.

Engine Compartment

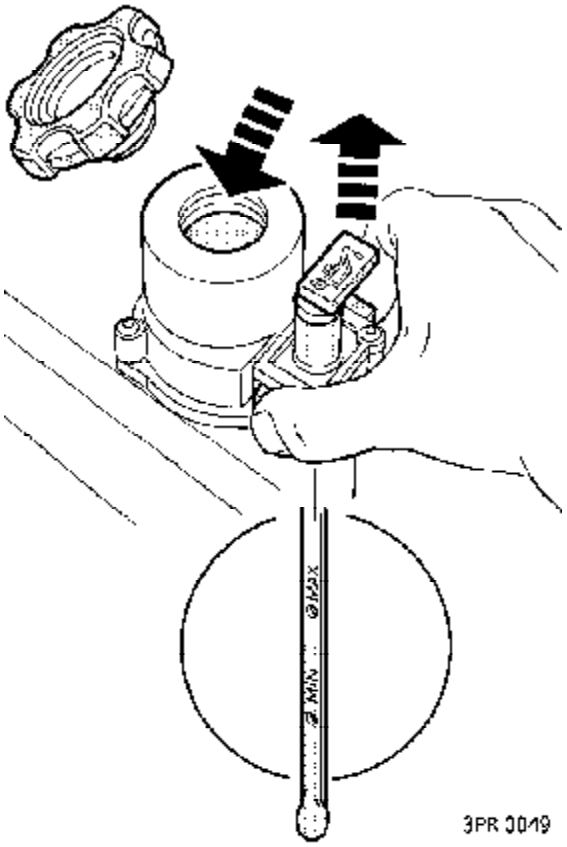


6. Engine oil filler cap
7. Engine oil dipstick
8. Cooling system reservoir
9. Fuel cut-off switch
10. Engine guard access flap

Raise the engine guard access flap to access the engine oil filler cap, dipstick and cooling system reservoir. Be sure to shut the flap before closing the boot lid.

WARNING!

Before carrying out maintenance checks or working in the engine compartment, ALWAYS observe the safety precautions listed under 'Safety in the garage' at the beginning of the Maintenance section of this handbook.



OIL LEVEL CHECK & TOP-UP

Check the oil level weekly or whenever you fill up with fuel. Ideally the oil level should be checked with the engine cold and the car resting on level ground. However, if the car is in use and the engine is already warm, then wait for at least two minutes after switching off before checking the level.

Raise the flap on the right hand side of the engine guard. Pull the dipstick out, wiping the blade clean as it is withdrawn by squeezing the dipstick wiping mechanism between finger and thumb (see illustration). Re-insert the dipstick and withdraw again, this time releasing the dipstick wiping mechanism to enable a true level of oil to remain on the blade.

If the oil level is near to the lower mark on the dipstick, unscrew the filler cap, REMOVE THE DIPSTICK and then add oil to maintain the level between the upper and lower marks on the dipstick.

DO NOT fill above the upper mark!

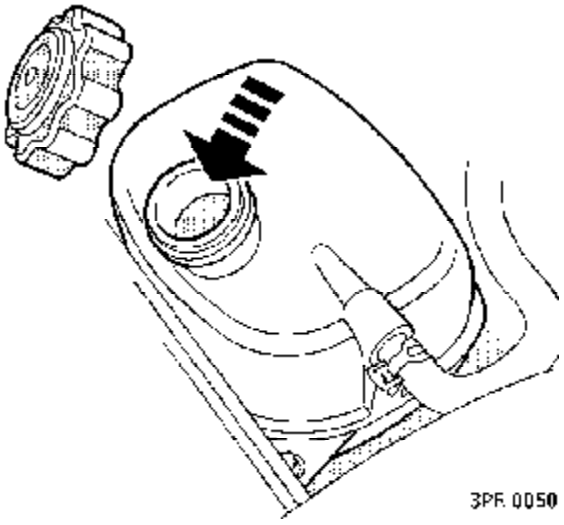
After adding oil, replace the dipstick, wait for a few minutes and then recheck the level. Finally, ensure the filler cap is replaced and fully tightened.

Oil specification
Use any brand of 10W/40 engine oil meeting the minimum specification: *RES.22.OL.G4* or *ACEA A2:96.*

Oils manufactured to these specifications are suitable for use in the temperature range -20° C to +30° C. For continual operation in climates where temperatures usually exceed or fall below these limits, seek advice from your dealer.

WARNING!

Driving the car with the engine oil level below the lower mark on the dipstick will damage the engine.



WARNING!

- *Take precautions to prevent anti-freeze coming into contact with the skin or eyes. If this should happen, rinse immediately with plenty of water.*
- *Anti-freeze is poisonous and can be fatal if swallowed - keep containers sealed and out of the reach of children. If accidental consumption is suspected, seek medical attention immediately.*
- *DO NOT remove the coolant reservoir cap when the cooling system is hot - escaping steam or water could cause serious injury.*
- *Anti-freeze solutions may damage paintwork; mop up any spillage with an absorbent cloth immediately, then wash the affected area.*

WARNING!

- *DO NOT use anti-freeze to any specification other than that indicated below.*
- *DO NOT add rust inhibitors or other additives to the coolant - these may not be compatible with the coolant or engine components.*

COOLANT CHECK & TOP-UP

The cooling system reservoir is accessible beneath the flap on the right side of the engine guard. The coolant level should be checked weekly with the car resting on level ground when the system is cold, and topped up with a mixture of 50% anti-freeze and 50% water.

Top up until the coolant is level with the seam on the exterior of the reservoir. If the level falls appreciably during a short period, suspect leakage or overheating and arrange for your dealer to examine the car. Ensure the filler cap is fully tightened after topping-up.

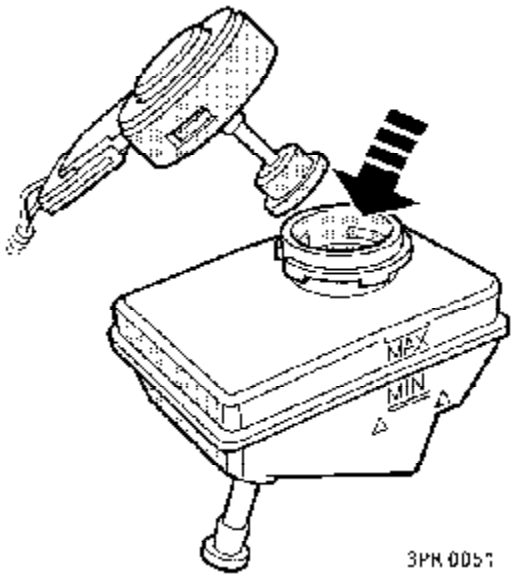
Anti-freeze

The anti-freeze content of the coolant must be maintained between 50% and 60% all year round (not just in cold conditions). To ensure that the anti-corrosion properties of the coolant are retained, the anti-freeze content should be checked by your dealer once a year (regardless of mileage).

Coolant specification

Use ONLY a 50% to 60% mix of water and Havoline Extended Life Coolant (XLC), or any ethylene glycol based anti-freeze (containing no methanol) with ONLY Organic Acid Technology (OAT) corrosion inhibitors. In an emergency - and only if this type of anti-freeze is unavailable - top-up the cooling system with clean water, but be aware of the resultant reduction in frost protection and ask your dealer to check the coolant concentration as soon as possible.

DO NOT top-up or refill with any other anti-freeze formulations. If in doubt consult an MG dealer.



BRAKE FLUID CHECK & TOP-UP

The fluid level in the brake reservoir may fall slightly during normal use, but should not drop below the **'MIN'** mark shown on the side of the fluid reservoir. If there is any appreciable drop in level over a short period, consult an MG dealer.

Topping-up

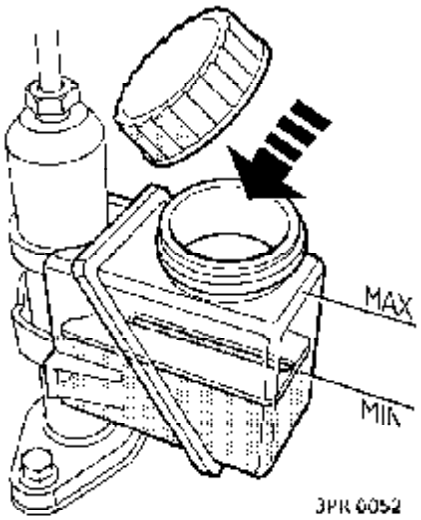
Wipe the filler cap clean before removing to prevent dirt from entering the reservoir. Twist the cap an eighth turn anti-clockwise to remove and top-up the reservoir to the **'MAX'** mark using a recommended fluid:

AP New Premium Super DOT 4 brake and clutch fluid.
Castrol Universal DOT 4 brake and clutch fluid.

Use only new fluid from a sealed container (old fluid from uncapped containers or fluid previously bled from the system will absorb moisture, and adversely affect braking performance).

WARNING!

- *DO NOT drive the car if the fluid level is below the **'MIN'** mark.*
- *Brake fluid will damage painted surfaces; soak up any spillage with an absorbent cloth immediately, then wash the area with a mixture of car shampoo and water.*
- *Brake fluid is highly toxic - keep containers sealed and out of the reach of children. If accidental consumption of brake fluid is suspected, seek medical attention immediately.*
- *Prevent brake fluid coming into contact with the skin or eyes. If this occurs, rinse immediately with plenty of water.*
- *The fluid in the braking system must be completely replaced every two years regardless of mileage.*



CLUTCH FLUID CHECK & TOP-UP

The fluid level in the clutch reservoir should not fall significantly between main services. If there is any appreciable drop in level at any time, consult an MG dealer.

Topping-up

The fluid level should be maintained well above the recommended minimum (the baffle plate halfway up the reservoir) but should not be higher than the base of the filler neck (see illustration).

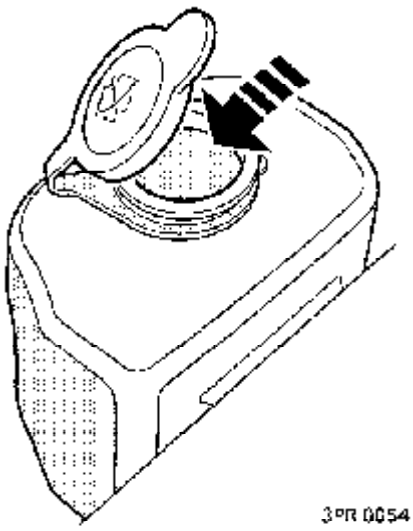
Wipe the filler cap clean before removing to prevent dirt from entering the reservoir. Unscrew the cap and top-up using a recommended fluid:

AP New Premium Super DOT 4 brake and clutch fluid.
Castrol Universal DOT 4 brake and clutch fluid.

Use only new fluid from a sealed container.

WARNING!

- *DO NOT drive the car if the fluid level is below the minimum level.*
- *Brake and clutch fluid will damage painted surfaces; soak up any spillage with an absorbent cloth immediately, then wash the area with a mixture of car shampoo and water.*
- *Brake fluid is highly toxic - keep containers sealed and out of the reach of children. If accidental consumption of brake fluid is suspected, seek medical attention immediately.*
- *Prevent brake fluid coming into contact with the skin or eyes. If this occurs, rinse immediately with plenty of water.*



WARNING!

- *Do not use an anti-freeze or vinegar/water solution in the screen washer reservoir - anti-freeze will damage painted surfaces, while vinegar can damage the windscreen washer pump.*
- *Some screenwash products are inflammable, particularly if high or undiluted concentrations are exposed to sparking. Do not allow screenwash to come into contact with naked flames or sources of ignition.*
- *Body panels may suffer discoloration as a result of screenwash spillage, particularly if an undiluted or high concentration of screenwash is being used. If spillage occurs, wash the affected area with water immediately.*

WINDSCREEN WASHERS

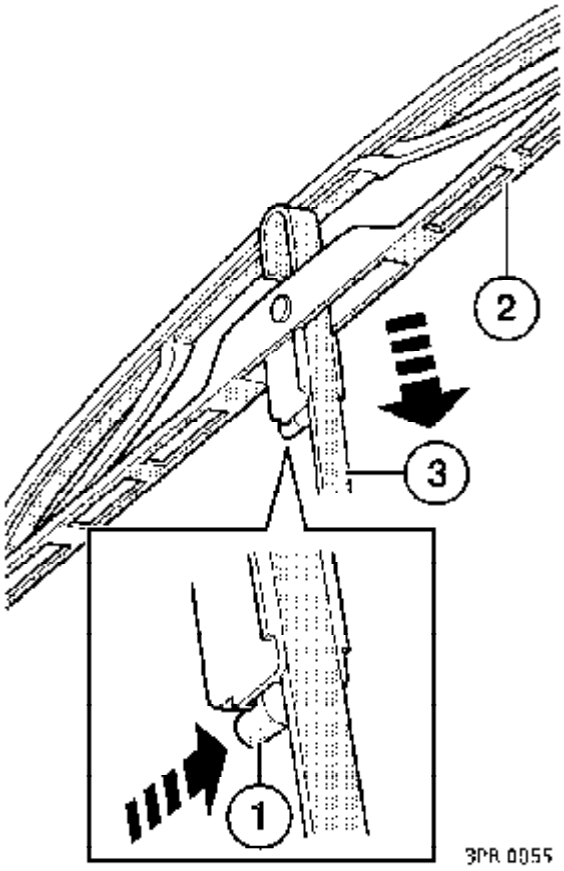
Check the reservoir level at least every week and top-up with a mixture of water and a good quality, proprietary brand of screenwash. As the windscreen washer reservoir does not benefit from any residual heat from the engine, a stronger solution of screenwash should be used to prevent freezing in cold weather.

Preferably mix the recommended quantities of water and screenwash in a separate container before topping-up the system, and always follow the instructions on the container.

Washer jets

The washer jets are set during manufacture and should not require adjustment.

If a jet becomes blocked, use a thin piece of wire or a needle as a probe to clear the obstruction.



WIPER BLADES

Wash the wiper blades in warm soapy water and periodically check their condition. If signs of hardness or cracking in the rubber are found, or if the wipers leave streaks or unwiped areas on the windscreen during use then the wiper blades should be replaced.

Clean the windscreen regularly with an approved glass cleaner and ensure the screen is thoroughly cleaned before fitting replacement wiper blades.

Wiper blade replacement

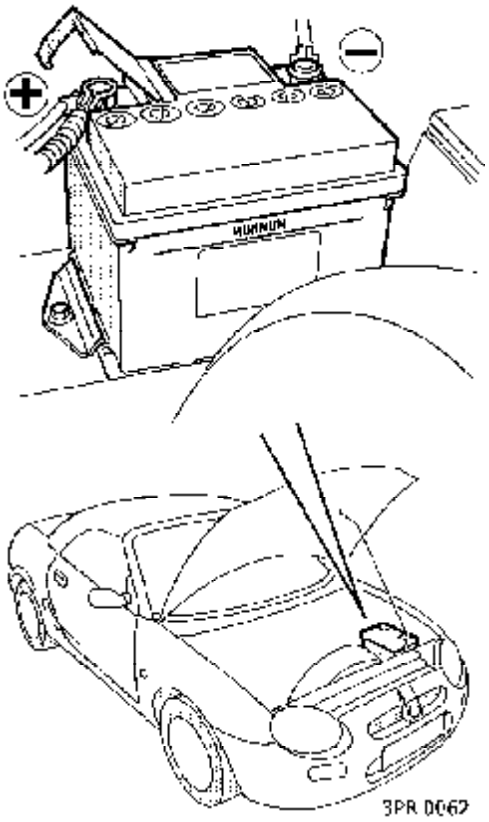
Lift the wiper arm away from the windscreen.

With the blade at 90° to the arm as shown, disconnect the blade by pushing in the locking tab (1) and sliding the blade (2) down the arm (3).

Fitting a replacement blade is a reversal of this process; position the new blade assembly on the wiper arm and slide the blade fully towards the hooked end of the arm until it locks in place. Check that the blade is securely locked before returning the wiper assembly to the windscreen.

Only fit replacement wiper blades that are identical to the original specification.

Battery



WARNING!

- *Batteries contain sulphuric acid. If acid should come into contact with the eyes or skin, wash IMMEDIATELY with cold water and seek medical advice.*
- *During normal use, batteries emit explosive hydrogen gas sufficient to cause severe explosions capable of causing serious personal injury - ensure sparks and naked lights are kept well away from the underbonnet area.*
- *For safety, remove all metal wrist bands and jewellery before working near the battery, and NEVER allow the battery terminals or leads to make contact with tools or other metal parts of the car.*

Battery maintenance

The battery is designed to be maintenance free so no topping-up is required.

WARNING!

- *ONLY fit a replacement battery of the same type and specification as the original. Other batteries may vary in size and have different terminal positions, capable of creating a potential fire hazard when connected to the car's electrical system.*
- *To avoid damaging the electrical system, ensure correct polarity when refitting the battery.*
- *After disconnection of the vehicle battery, the handset may need to be re-synchronised (see 'Locks & Alarm').*

IMPORTANT

If the battery has become discharged while the alarm system is armed, you should be aware that the alarm may start sounding as soon as battery power is restored (when a replacement battery is installed). If the alarm starts sounding, disarm the alarm by pressing the handset LOCK button four times in quick succession, then pressing the UNLOCK button once.

Battery removal

Before disconnecting the battery, switch off all electrical equipment and remove the starter key.

ALWAYS disconnect the negative ('-') terminal first. When replacing the battery, connect the positive ('+') terminal first. While disconnecting, do not allow the battery terminals to make contact with metal parts of the car.

To release the battery from the car, undo the battery clamping plate.

NOTE: *Used batteries are potentially hazardous - dispose at authorised waste disposal sites ONLY.*

Battery charging

If your battery has an electrolyte level mark on the casing, ensure the electrolyte is at or above this level before charging. If the electrolyte is below this level, refer to your dealer.

Before charging, ensure the battery is REMOVED FROM THE CAR - charging the battery with the cables connected can cause serious damage to the car's electrical system.

Batteries generate explosive gases, contain corrosive acid and produce levels of electric current high enough to cause serious burns. While charging always heed the following precautions:

- Make sure the battery charger is disconnected from its power supply before connecting its leads to the battery terminals.
- Make sure the leads are securely clamped to the battery terminals before switching on the charger, and DO NOT move the clamps while the charger is switched on.
- Shield your eyes or avoid leaning over the battery.
- Keep the area around the top of the battery well ventilated.
- Keep naked lights clear of the battery (batteries emit inflammable hydrogen during and after charging).
- When charging is finished, switch off the charger BEFORE disconnecting the charging leads and then leave the battery for an hour before reconnection to the car.

Radio/cassette player:

Following disconnection and reconnection of the battery a coded radio/cassette player may fail to operate.

To restore operation, re-enter the security code.

WARNING!

DEFECTIVE TYRES ARE DANGEROUS!

DO NOT drive your car if any tyre is excessively worn or damaged, or is inflated to an incorrect pressure.

Incorrect tyres can affect the stability and handling characteristics of your car - only fit replacement tyres that are identical to the original specification.

CARING FOR YOUR TYRES

Always drive with consideration for the condition of the tyres, and frequently inspect the tread and side walls for any sign of distortion (bulges), cuts or wear.

The most common causes of tyre failure are:

- Bumping against kerbs
- Driving over deep potholes
- Driving with under or over-inflated tyres.

Tyre pressures

Correctly inflated tyres will ensure that you enjoy the best combination of tread life, ride comfort, fuel economy and road handling.

Check the pressures at least every week (including the spare wheel) preferably when the tyres are cold (be aware that the car can be driven up to 1.6 km before the tyres start to warm up).

Air pressure naturally increases in warm tyres; if it is necessary to check the tyres when they are warm (after the car has been driven for a while, even in cold weather), you should expect the pressures to have increased by between 0.3 to 0.4 bar. In this circumstance, DO NOT let air out of the tyres in order to match the recommended pressures.

The recommended pressures are shown in *'Technical data'* at the rear of the book.

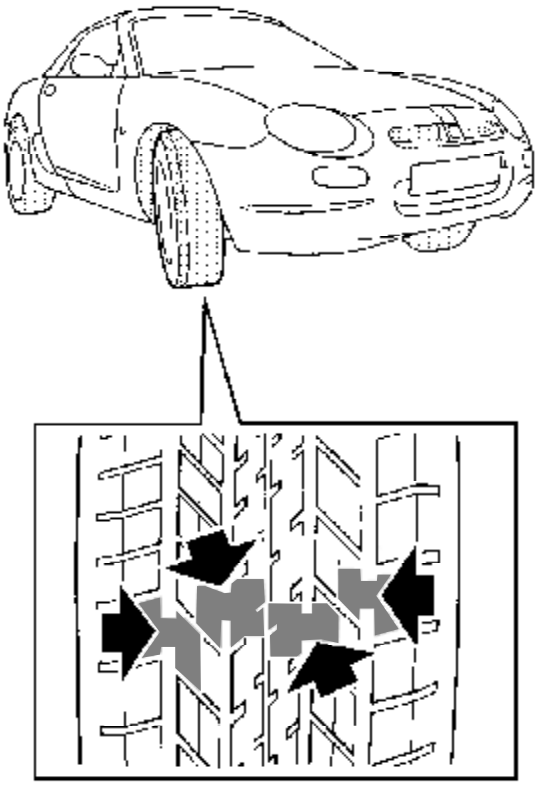
Remember; incorrectly inflated tyres may wear rapidly or unevenly, are more easily damaged, and can seriously affect the car's road handling characteristics and fuel economy.

Snow chains

Unsuitable snow chains could damage the tyres, wheels, suspension, brakes or bodywork of your car. Only fit snow chains that are recommended by an MG dealer and have been approved for use on your car.

In use, always observe the following precautions:

- Fit snow chains to the rear wheels only.
- Always adhere to the snow chain fitting and retensioning instructions and the speed limitations for varying road conditions.
- Avoid tyre damage and excessive chain wear by removing snow chains when driving on snow free roads.



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Tyre wear indicators
The tyres on your car have wear indicators moulded into the tread pattern at several points around the circumference. When the tread has worn down to 1.6 mm, the indicators will come to the surface of the tread pattern, producing the effect of a continuous band of rubber across the width of the tyre.

The indicators provide warning that there is insufficient tread remaining to provide good traction particularly on wet roads. For safety, a tyre MUST be replaced as soon as a wear indicator becomes visible.

If tyre wear is uneven (on one side of the tyre only) or becomes abnormally excessive, the wheel alignment should be checked by your dealer.

Valve caps
Keep the valve caps screwed down firmly. They prevent dirt from entering the valve.

Punctured tyres
Your car is fitted with tubeless tyres, which will not normally leak if penetrated by a sharp object, provided it remains in the tyre. If you are aware of this occurring, reduce speed immediately and drive with caution until the spare wheel can be fitted. Remember, punctured or damaged tyres must be permanently repaired or replaced AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

Spare wheel
The steel spare wheel is fitted with a smaller tyre than the alloy road wheels and provides different wear and performance characteristics. For this reason, the spare wheel is for temporary use only and speed must be restricted to 80 km/h while the wheel is fitted.

REPLACEMENT TYRES

Wheel rims and tyres are matched to suit the handling characteristics of the car. Changing the specification of a wheel or tyre can adversely affect the car's handling and, ultimately, your own safety in emergency road situations.

To be safe, ONLY fit replacement tyres that are identical to the original specification shown in *'Technical Data'* at the back of this book.

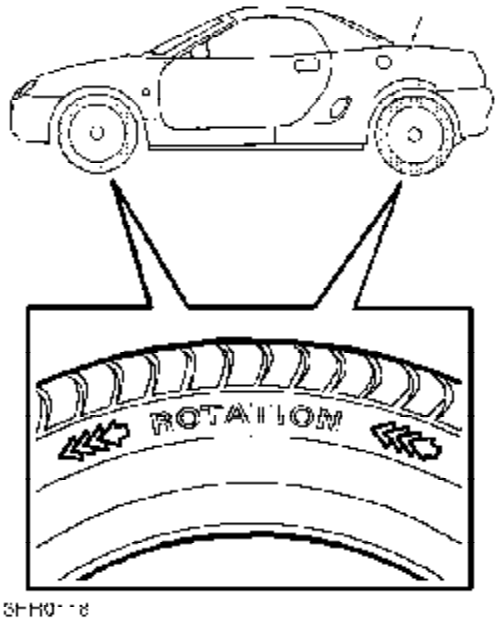
WARNING!

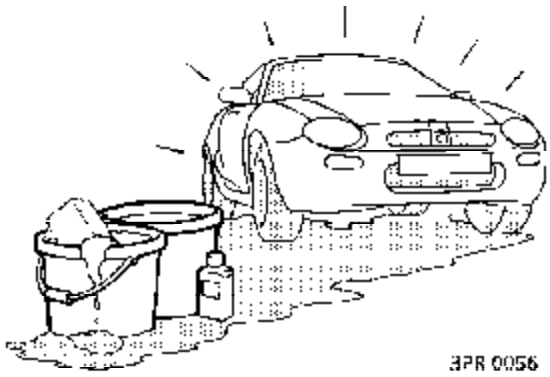
Road holding will be seriously impaired if directional tyres are fitted in such a way as to enable forward rotation to occur in the opposite direction to that shown on the sidewall of the tyre.

Directional tyres

Cars equipped with 7 x 16 alloy wheels are fitted with directional tyres. These tyres are identified by the word 'ROTATION' appearing on the side wall, and must be fitted so that the direction of rotation shown by the arrows on the sidewall, coincides with the forward rotation of the wheel (see illustration).

For this reason, wheels must not be swapped from one side of the car to the other, and replacement tyres must be correctly specified (see *'Technical Data')* and fitted with proper regard for axle/wheel rotation.





WARNING!

- *Some high pressure cleaning systems are sufficiently powerful to penetrate door and window seals and also cause damage to rubbing strips and locking mechanisms. Never aim the water jet directly at components that might easily be damaged.*
- *NEVER use an automatic car wash unless a hard-top is fitted.*

WASHING YOUR CAR

Road dirt, oil, and deposits from birds and trees can permanently spoil the paint finish. Wash the bodywork of your car frequently using a clean, grit free sponge and generous quantities of cold or lukewarm water containing a car shampoo. Rinse and dry off with a chamois leather.

- In hot weather, DO NOT wash the car in direct sunlight - move the car into the shade!
- DO NOT use hot water!
- DO NOT use detergent soap products or washing up liquid!

During winter months when salt has been used on the roads, use a hose to wash the underside of the car. Pay particular attention to wheelarches and panel seams, and to removing accumulations of mud.

When using a hose, do not direct the water jet into the heater air intake ducts in front of the windscreen; or into the engine air vents on the sides of the car and in the boot lid; or through the wheel apertures onto the brake components, or at the door, hood or window seals, where water pressure could penetrate the seals.

Getting rid of tar spots

Use white spirit to remove tar spots and stubborn grease stains from paintwork. Then wash immediately with soapy water to remove all traces of the spirit.

Body protection

After washing, inspect the paintwork for damage. Treat paint chips and scratches with a Rover touch-up pencil. If the damage has revealed bare metal, use a coloured primer first, then apply the base coat and finish off with a lacquer pencil, if appropriate. Carry out this treatment after washing, but before polishing or waxing.

However, take care to ensure that car polish and body cleaning compounds are not applied to the hood or to the window glass or seals.

More extensive damage to paint or bodywork must be repaired in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Failure to do this will invalidate the Anti-Corrosion Warranty!

WARNING!

Scrubbing or brushing with a hard bristle brush will damage the fibres of the hood fabric, ultimately causing the fabric to deteriorate, and impairing its cosmetic appearance.

WASHING THE HOOD

- Before washing, use a soft brush or vacuum cleaner to remove dust and flaking dirt from the surface of the hood.
- Use a soap and water solution to soften accumulations of encrusted dirt, before rinsing the hood with clean water.
- Wash the hood using ONLY a mild solution of soap and water. NEVER use a spirit, petroleum or chemical based cleaning agent, nor any kind of detergent or wash/wax compound.
- NEVER use an automatic car wash or high pressure hose.

Cleaning the hood

Light (beige) coloured hoods in particular will need to be cleaned periodically.

Cleaning should be carried out using the MG approved Fabric Hood Cleaner, GAC 6104, ensuring that the application instructions on the container are followed precisely.

Before application, use a vacuum cleaner to remove as much dust and loose dirt from the pile of the fabric as possible; thorough vacuuming will contribute significantly towards the success of the cleaning process.

Waterproofing the hood

During manufacture, the surface of the hood was treated with a water repellent. However, in time the waterproofing qualities of the treatment will gradually lessen as a result of normal washing and exposure to the elements.

Use of the Fabric Hood Cleaner (described previously), hastens this process. It is therefore recommended that, after cleaning, the hood is treated with the MG approved, Fabric Hood Impregnator, GAC 6105.

This product is a water repellent, that significantly reduces the amount of moisture that can soak into the fibres of the hood, thereby similarly reducing the quantity of dirt that can be absorbed. As with the hood cleaning product, it is important that the impregnator is applied strictly in accordance with the application instructions on the container.

MG approved hood cleaning products:

Fabric Hood Cleaner	*GAC 6104*
Fabric Hood Impregnator	*GAC 6105*

Note that these are the only products approved for use on the MG hood.

Caring for the hood

- Whenever possible, park the car in the shade, away from strong sunlight. This will protect the hood fabric from premature discolouration and deterioration.
- Always remove bird lime immediately; its caustic effect will damage the hood fabric and may also cause rubber seals to swell.
- Clean rubber seals with water only. If they feel dry or tend to stick, apply talcum powder, a rubber care product or silicone spray.
- DO NOT lower the hood when it is wet or dirty, otherwise mildew may form.
- DO NOT leave the hood folded for long periods; after a time creases may form in the fabric.

Washing the rear screen
The rear screen is particularly susceptible to scratching from the effects of dirt and grit. For this reason, it is important to wash the screen frequently and to avoid raising and lowering the hood unnecessarily when the rear screen is dirty.

When washing, rinse as much dirt from the screen as possible before applying any kind of sponge or cloth contact with the surface. When wiping, use ONLY a clean, soft, lint-free cloth and keep rubbing actions to an absolute minimum.

NEVER scrape ice from the surface of the rear screen nor use any kind of abrasive cleaning fluid. Also, DO NOT affix labels to the screen.

Window glass and mirrors
Regularly clean the windows, inside and out, using an approved glass cleaner.

Windscreen: Always clean the windscreen after using 'wash and wax' types of car care products and before fitting replacement wiper blades.

Rear window (hard-top): Clean the inside of the window with a soft cloth, using a side to side motion to avoid damaging the heating elements. DO NOT scrape the glass or use abrasive cleaning fluids.

Mirrors: Mirror glass is particularly susceptible to damage; DO NOT use abrasive cleaning compounds or metal scrapers.

Wiper blades
Regularly wash the wiper blades with warm soapy water (NEVER use a spirit or petrol based solvent).

LOOKING AFTER THE INTERIOR

Vinyl/plastic/cloth-faced materials: Clean with diluted upholstery cleaner.

Leather: Seats, steering wheel and any trim features should be cleaned with warm water and a non-detergent soap. Dry and polish the leather with a dry, clean, lint-free cloth. DO NOT use petrol, detergents, furniture creams or polishes!

Carpets: Sweep regularly with a brush or vacuum cleaner and clean with diluted upholstery cleaner.

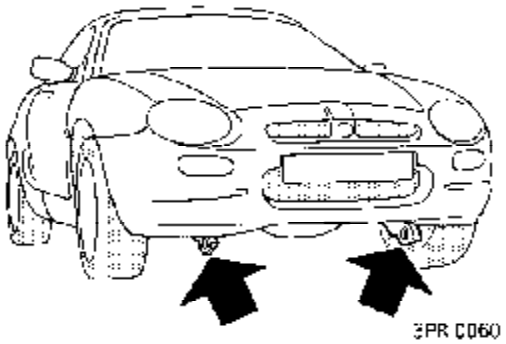
Clock & radio
Clean with a dry cloth only. DO NOT use cleaning fluids or sprays.

Seat belts
Extend the belts, then use warm water and a non-detergent soap to clean. On no account use bleaches, dyes or cleaning solvents - these can weaken the belt webbing. Finally, allow the belts to air-dry naturally, and do not retract them or use the car until they are completely dry.

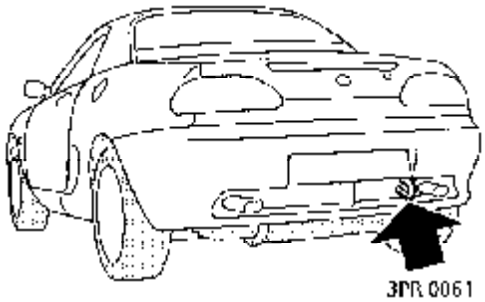
Airbag SRS
To prevent airbag SRS damage, the steering wheel centre pad and the passenger side cover should ONLY be cleaned sparingly with a damp cloth and upholstery cleaner.

DO NOT allow these areas to be flooded with the liquid, and DO NOT use petrol, detergent, furniture cream or polishes.

Emergency Towing



Front towing eyes



Rear towing eye

Both the front and rear towing eyes are intended for use by the emergency services or qualified vehicle recovery specialists ONLY, to assist in the recovery of your car should a breakdown or accident occur.

- DO NOT use the towing eyes to tow your car behind another vehicle using a rope or chain.
- DO NOT use the towing eyes for towing another vehicle, trailer or caravan.

Towing for recovery

If your car is to be towed, most qualified recovery specialists will use wheel lift equipment to suspend the front wheels, while the rear wheels remain on the ground. Always ensure the gear lever is in neutral.

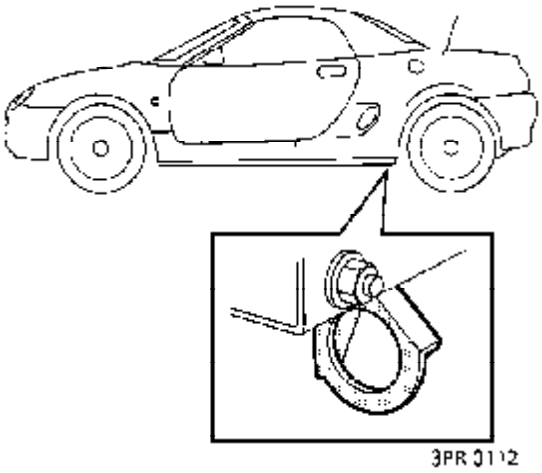
If it is necessary for the car to be towed with all four wheels on the ground, follow this procedure.

Before being towed:

- Turn the starter key to position 'I' to unlock the steering and then to position 'II' to enable the brake lights, wipers and direction indicators to be operated.
- Place the gear lever in neutral and release the handbrake.

WARNING!

- *DO NOT attempt to tow the car unless the starter switch is turned to position 'I' in order to unlock the steering (if, due to an accident or electrical fault, it is considered unsafe to turn the starter switch, the battery must be disconnected).*
- *DO NOT remove the starter key or turn the switch to position '0' while the car is in motion.*
- *Without the engine running, the brake servo and power steering cannot provide assistance. Greater effort will therefore be required to operate the brake pedal and to turn the steering wheel. Longer stopping distances will also be experienced.*



Rear lashing points

Transporter or trailer lashing

If your car should require transporting on the back of a trailer or transporter, use the front towing eyes as lashing points. Specific lashing points are provided for lashing the rear of the car (see illustration). DO NOT secure lashing hooks or trailer fixings to other parts of the car.

Wheel Changing

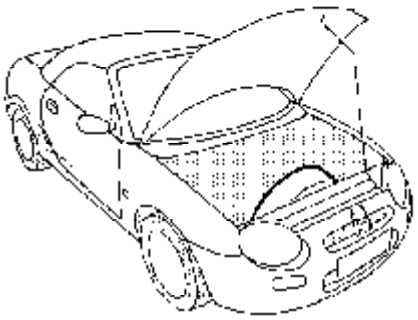
WARNING!

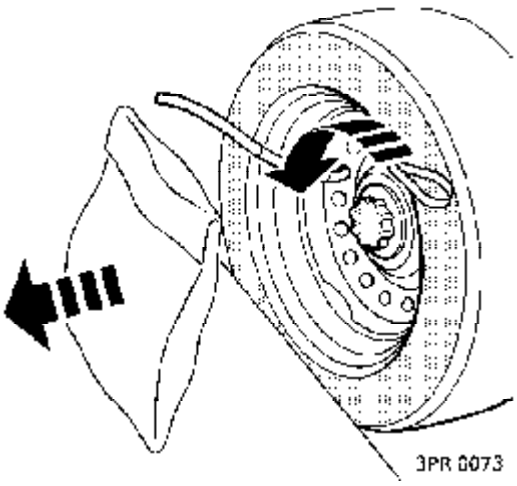
Before changing a wheel always observe the following precautions!

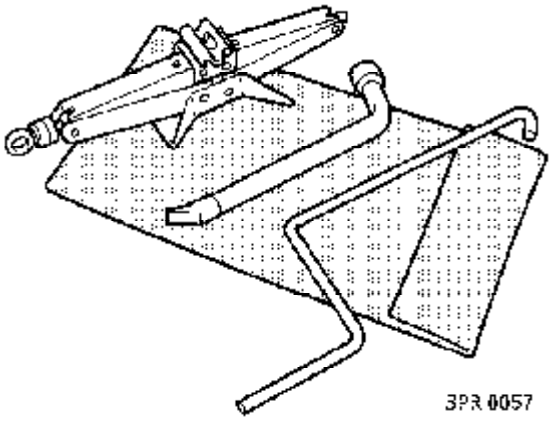
- *Where possible, choose a safe place to stop away from the main thoroughfare, and ensure your passenger gets out of the car and waits in a safe area away from other traffic.*
- *Switch on the hazard warning lights to alert other road users, apply the handbrake and engage 1st gear.*
- *Ensure the jack is positioned on firm, level ground. Do not position the jack on metal gratings or manhole covers, or use additional material between the base of the jack and the ground.*
- *If jacking on a slope, place chocks at the front and rear of the wheel diagonally opposite the one to be removed.*

In addition:

NEVER work beneath the car with the jack as the only means of support. The jack is designed for wheel changing only!







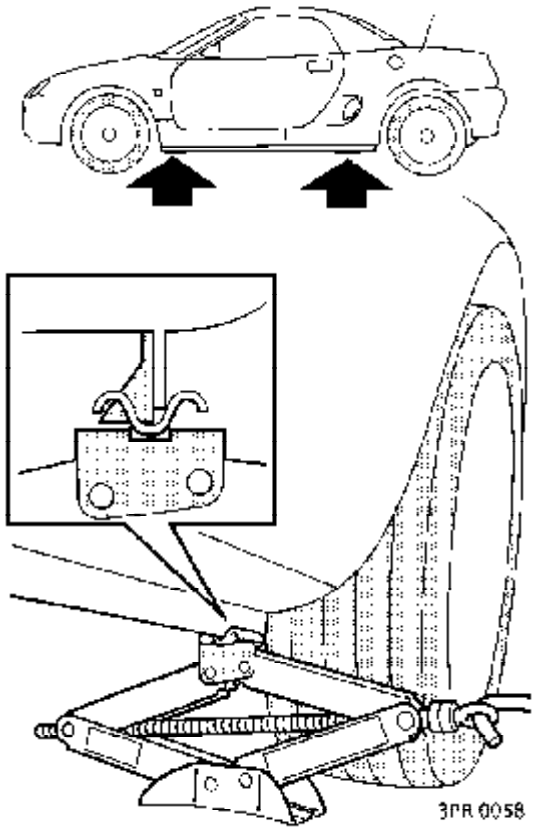
Removing the spare wheel and tools

1) Open the bonnet and detach the tool bag from its retaining strap attached to the spare wheel.

2) Unscrew the spare wheel clamp and lift the wheel from the luggage compartment. Wheels are heavy - take care when lifting.

3) Open the tool kit, comprising: jack, jack handle, wheel nut spanner and locking wheel nut key.

NOTE: *A steel spare wheel is fitted to all models. The spare wheel is fitted with a smaller tyre than the alloy road wheels and provides different wear and performance characteristics. For this reason the spare wheel is restricted to a maximum speed of 80 km/h and is for temporary use only.*



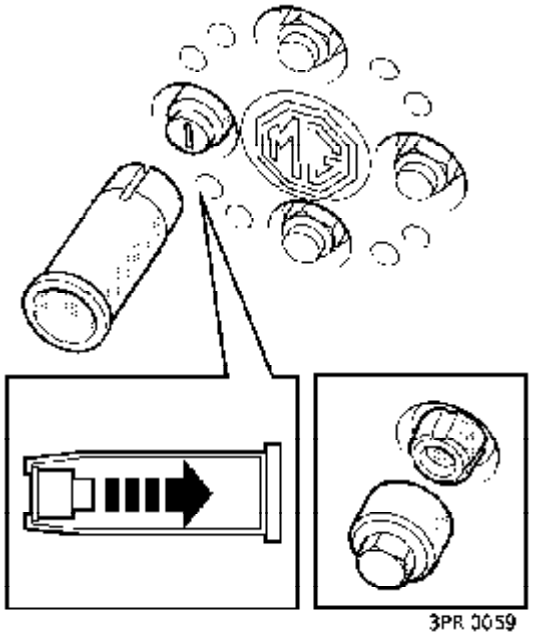
Positioning the jack
There are four jacking points; position the jack under the jacking point nearest the wheel to be removed. Turning the jack screw by hand, raise the jack until the jack head fits securely onto the jacking point.

Changing the wheel

- With the jack in position, but before raising the car, use the wheel nut spanner to slacken each of the wheel nuts half a turn anti-clockwise (refer to the following page for information about the locking wheel nuts).
- Attach the jack handle and turn the jack clockwise to raise the car until the tyre is clear of the ground. Remove the wheel nuts and wheel (DO NOT scratch the surface of the wheel by placing it face down on the ground).
- Fit the spare wheel and tighten the wheel nuts until the wheel is firmly seated against the hub.
- Lower the car and remove the jack and wheel chocks, then check that the wheel nuts are tight.
- Finally, return the wheel and tools to their stowed positions beneath the bonnet, ensuring that the tool bag is securely attached to the wheel by the retaining strap.

WARNING!

- DO NOT exceed 80 km/h with the temporary (steel) spare wheel fitted. This wheel is for temporary use only and must be replaced as soon as possible.
- Check the tyre pressure before driving, and have the tightness of the wheel nuts checked by your dealer as soon as possible!
- Under no circumstances should more than one spare wheel be fitted to the car.



LOCKING WHEEL NUTS

One locking wheel nut is used to secure each road wheel. The locking wheel nuts are visually very similar to standard wheel nuts, but can only be removed using the special tools provided, as follows:

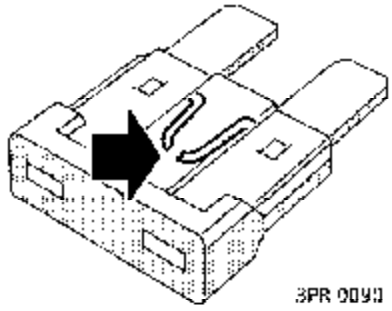
1) Push the plastic extractor tube firmly onto the locking wheel nut cover. By levering the tube from side to side, the nut cover can be pulled from the nut.

2) Fit the metal key socket over the wheel nut, then fit the wheel nut spanner over the socket and unscrew the nut in the normal way.

Keep the key socket and extractor with the tool kit (the socket can be conveniently retained inside the extractor tube when not in use).

A code number is stamped on the face of the socket. Ensure the code number is recorded on the Security Information Card supplied with your literature pack - you will need to quote this number if replacement components are required. DO NOT keep the card in the car!

Fuses are simple circuit breakers, which protect electrical equipment by preventing the electrical circuits from being overloaded. A 'blown' fuse is indicated when the electrical equipment it protects becomes inoperative. Check a suspect fuse by removing it from the fuse box and looking for a break in the wire inside the fuse (an example of a broken fuse is shown below).



Fuse colours
Fuses are colour coded to identify their amperage ratings as follows:

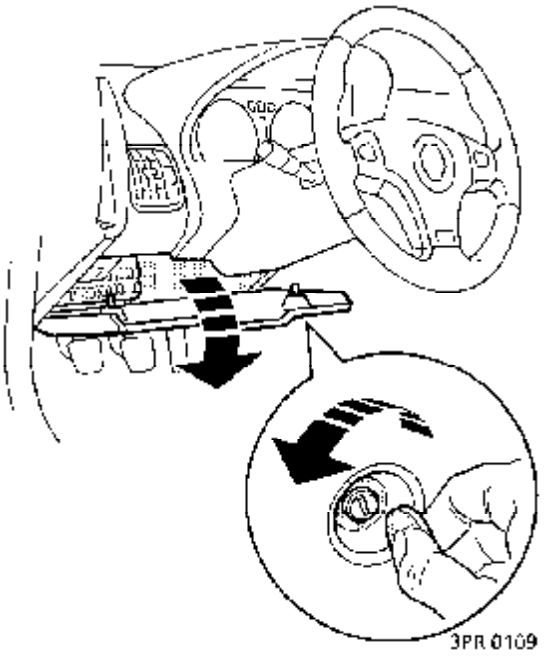
BROWN	7.5 amp
RED	10 amp
BLUE	15 amp
YELLOW	20 amp
WHITE	25 amp
GREEN	30 amp

There are two fuse boxes; the main fuse box located inside the car and the other in the under bonnet area (both are illustrated on the pages that follow). The location and value of each fuse is shown on the charts attached to the undersides of the fuse box covers. They are also shown in the following illustrations.

Spare fuses are provided in the main fuse box, however these are not numbered in the illustration.

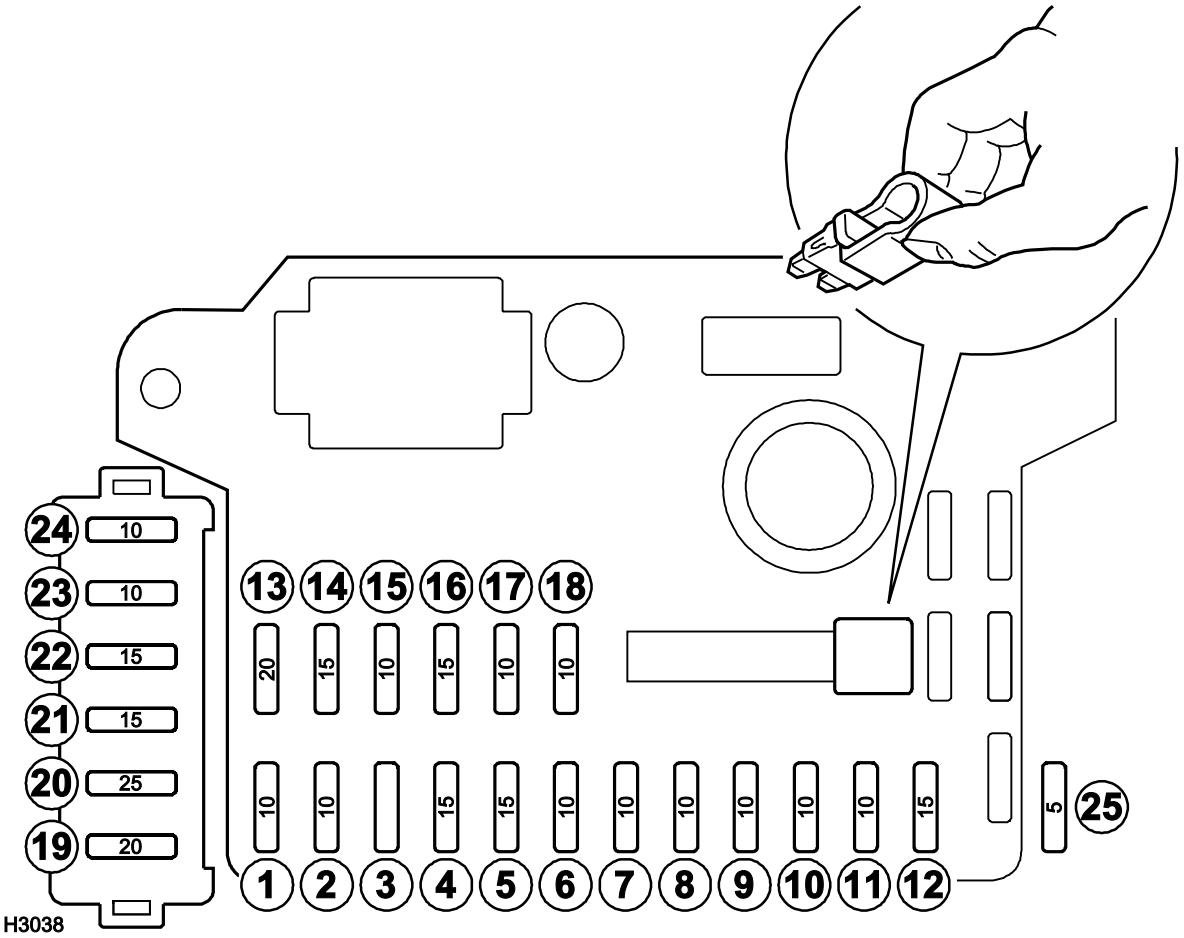
Renewing a fuse
Always turn off the starter switch and the appropriate electrical circuit before removing a fuse. To remove a fuse, press the removal tweezers onto the head of the fuse and pull (see illustration on following page). Always replace a fuse with another of the same (or lower) rating. DO NOT fit a higher rated fuse. If a replacement fuse blows almost immediately, this indicates a serious electrical problem and the circuit MUST be checked by an MG dealer.

NOTE: *Fuse removal tweezers are located in the driver's compartment fuse box only.*



MAIN FUSE BOX

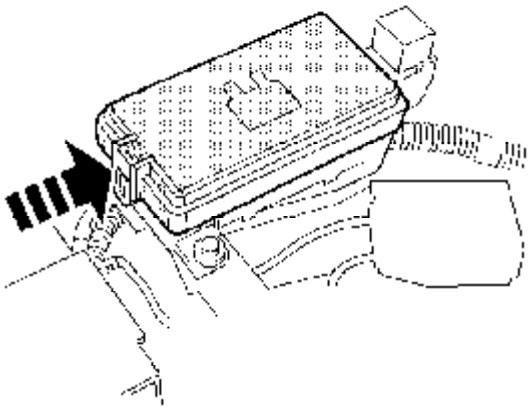
To release the main fuse box cover, use a coin or small, flat bladed, screw driver to turn the two turnbuckles a quarter turn anti-clockwise.

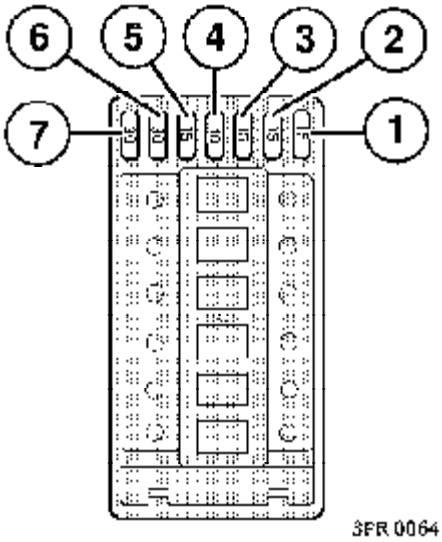


MAIN FUSE BOX (inside the car)

Fuse No	Rating (amps)	These units not operating
1	10	Instruments & direction indicators
2	10	Cigar lighter
3	-	-
4	15	Window - right
5	15	Window - left
6	10	Engine fan
7	10	Side & tail lights - right
8	10	Side & tail lights - left
9	10	Rear fog guard lights
10	10	Headlight - left, low beam
11	10	Headlight - right, low beam
12	15	Clock, radio & interior lights
13	20	Wipers
14	15	Engine management system
15	10	Air conditioning cooling fan
16	15	Stop & reversing lights
17	10	Radio & cigar lighter
18	10	Mirrors & windows
19	20	Heater blower
20	25	Heated rear window
21	15	Headlight - left, main beam
22	15	Headlight - right, main beam
23	10	Anti-lock brakes
24	10	Starter
25	5*	Airbag SRS

* DO NOT remove this fuse



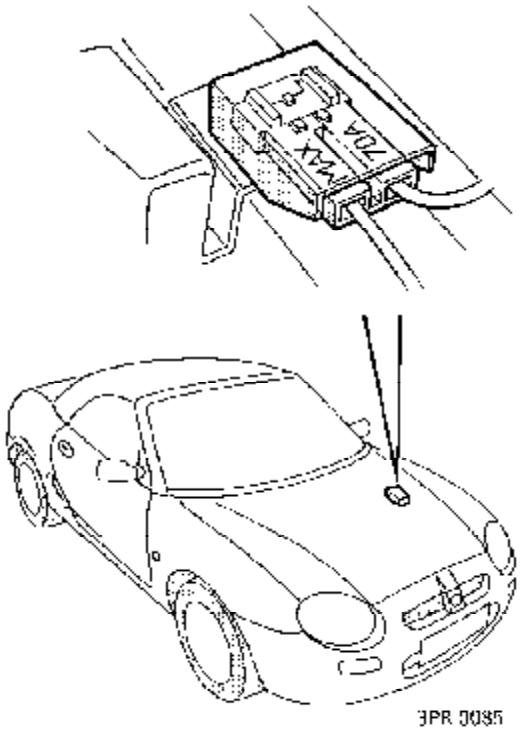


ENGINE COMPARTMENT FUSES

The fuse box is located to the rear of the engine compartment on the left hand side. Press the catch (arrowed in illustration) to release the cover.

NOTE: *Owners are advised against removing or replacing the fusible links also identified on the underside of the fuse box lid. Failure of any of these items should be investigated by an MG dealer.*

Fuse No	Rating (amps)	These units not operating
1	15	Stop lights & horn
2	15	Cooling fan
3	15	Air conditioning fan
4	10	Hazard warning lights
5	15	Central door locking & alarm
6	30	Engine management system
7	30	Engine management system



POWER STEERING FUSE

An additional fuse (rated at 40 amps), protecting the power assisted steering, is attached to the left side of the underbonnet area where shown.

NOTE: *The fuseholder is rated at 70amps.*

Bulb Replacement

For your own safety and that of other road users, check the operation of the exterior lights every day the car is in use.

Remember that driving with defective lights may be unlawful and subject to legal penalties.

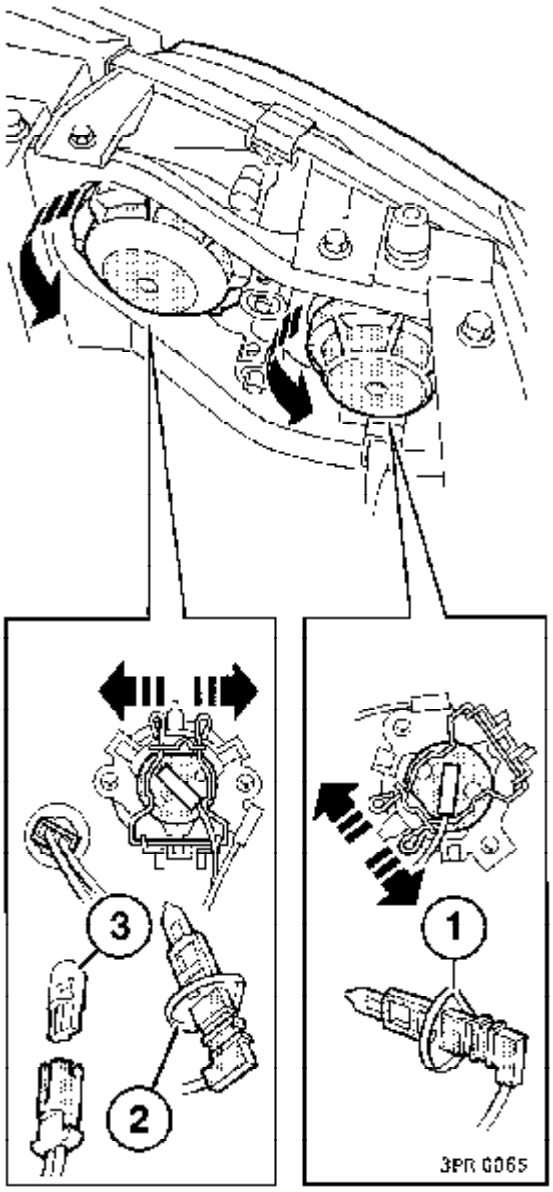
Before replacing a bulb, always turn off the lighting switch to prevent any possibility of a short circuit. Replace bulbs with the same type and specification.

WARNING!

Halogen bulbs become very hot when lit - scratches on the glass, oil deposits and even perspiration from the skin can cause a bulb to overheat and shatter.

Always take care when handling and replacing headlight or main beam bulbs. Manoeuvre bulbs into the light unit carefully to protect them from scratching and hold them by the metal base to prevent perspiration from contacting the glass. If contaminated, clean the bulb with methylated spirits and a clean cloth.

Bulb	Watts	Part No.
Headlight - dip	55	GLB 499
Headlight - main beam	55	GLB 448
Sidelight	5	GLB 501
Direction indicator - Front	21	GLB 382
Direction indicator - Rear	21	GLB 344
Side repeater light	5	GLB 501
Tail light	5	GLB 380
Brake light	21	GLB 382
Reversing light	21	GLB 382
Fog guard light	21	GLB 382
Number plate light	5	GLB 239
Glovebox light	5	GLB 239
Footwell lights	5	GLB 239
Courtesy lights	5	GLB 989
Boot light	5	GLB 245
Bonnet light	10	GLB 245



1. Headlight

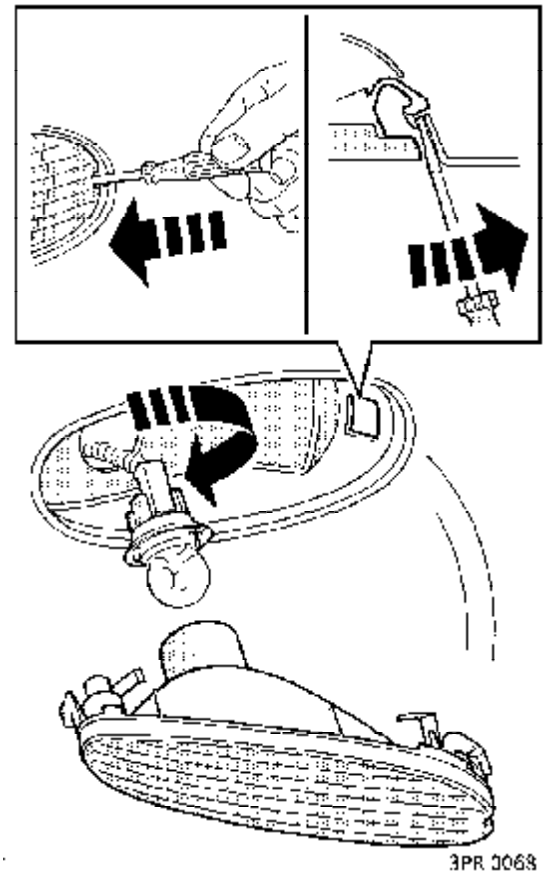
- Twist the circular cover to remove it from the rear of the light unit.
- Unhook the wire securing clips (as arrowed in illustration) and pivot them away from the rear of the bulb.
- Remove the bulb (with connector attached) from the light unit, then separate the bulb from the connector.

2. Main beam

- Twist the circular cover to remove it from the rear of the light unit.
- Unhook the wire securing clips (as arrowed in illustration) and pivot them away from the rear of the bulb.
- Pull the bulb (with connector attached) away from the light unit, then separate the bulb from its connector.

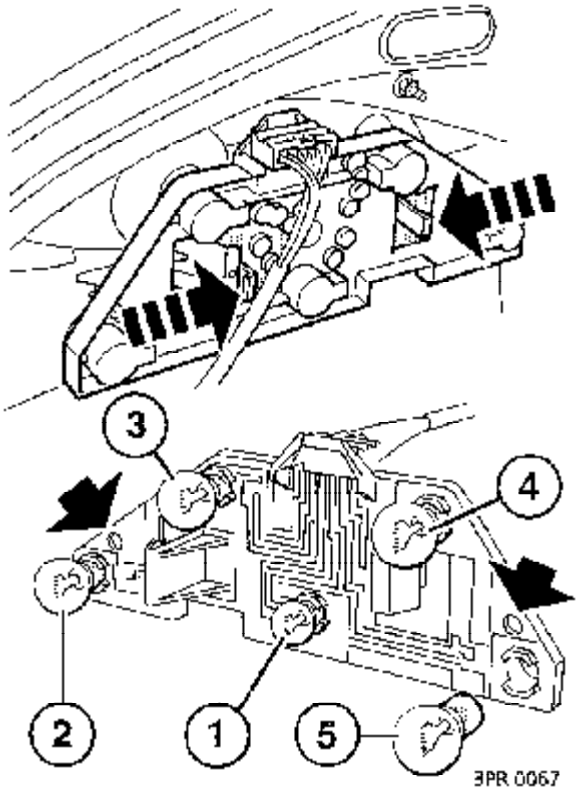
3. Sidelight

- The sidelight bulb and holder are immediately adjacent to the main beam. With the circular cover removed, pull the sidelight bulb holder from the back of the light unit and then pull the bulb to remove.



Front direction indicators
(Right hand light illustrated)
To gain access to the front direction indicator bulb, the light unit must be removed from the bumper valance as follows:

- Use a slim, flat bladed, screwdriver as a probe to release the light unit securing clip. Before carrying out this operation, examine the illustration carefully; it is important to insert the blade where shown and then to use the screwdriver as a lever to release the securing clip.
- With the light unit pulled away from the bumper valance, twist the bulb holder a quarter turn anti-clockwise to release it from the light unit. Push and twist to remove the bulb.
- To replace the light unit: first insert the outboard side of the light unit into the bumper valance and then push the light unit firmly into position. A 'click' will confirm that the securing clip has fully engaged to secure the light in position.

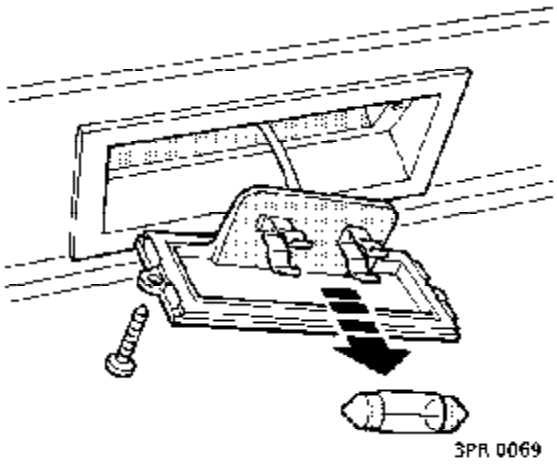


Rear lights
(left hand light illustrated)
Squeeze the two levers (arrowed in upper illustration) to release the light unit, then withdraw the light from the rear of the car.

The bulbs can be removed without detaching the electrical connector from the rear of the light unit. Push and turn the bulbs a quarter turn anti-clockwise to remove.

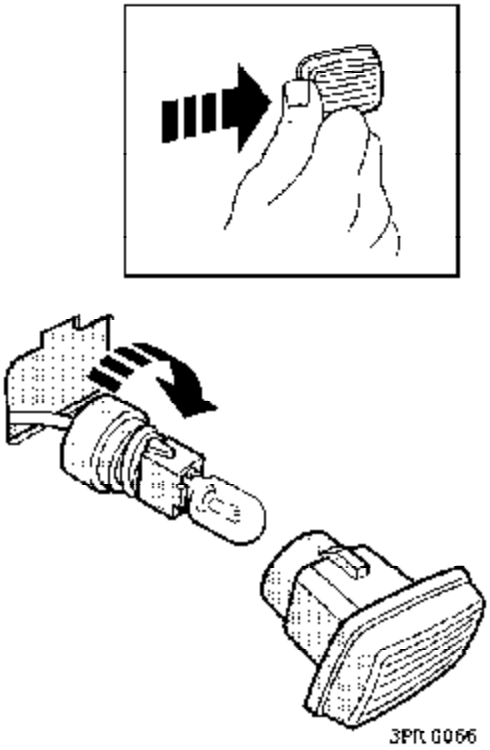
1. Tail light
2. Brake light
3. Direction indicator light
4. Reversing light
5. Fog guard light

When refitting, align the holes (arrowed in lower picture) with the guide posts on the rear of the car, then push the light unit into place ensuring that the retaining catches (these are operated by the two levers referred to above) are clipped securely in position.



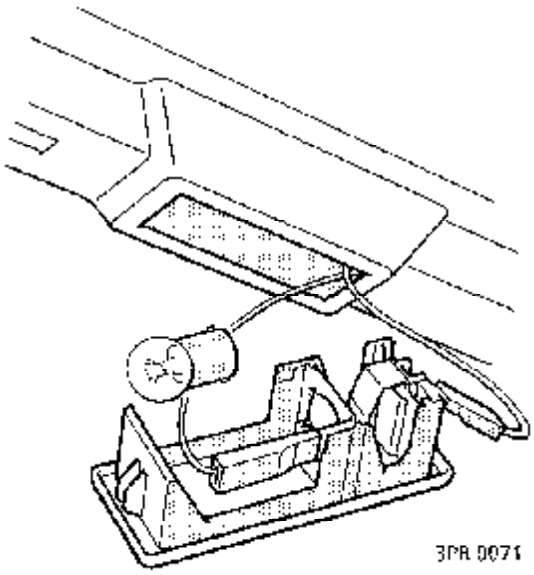
Number plate light
There are two number plate light units. To change a bulb on either, remove both retaining screws, then use a small, flat bladed, screwdriver to prise the light unit from its location.

Pull to remove the bulb.

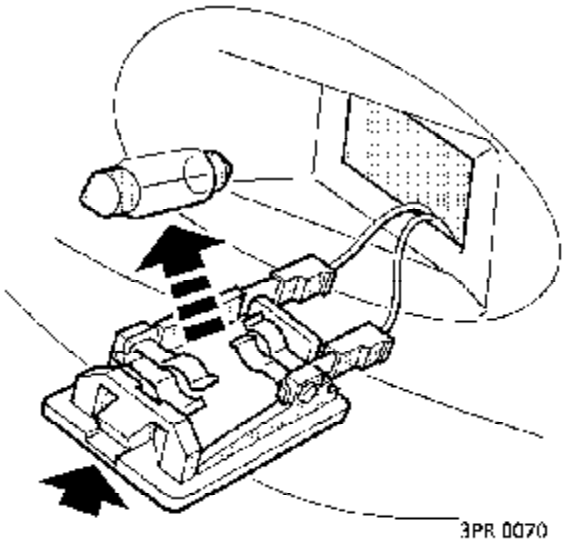


Side repeater light
Push the lens firmly to the right. The light unit can then be withdrawn from the wing.

Twist to release the bulb holder from the lens, then pull the bulb from its socket.



Bonnet & luggage compartment lights
Use a small screwdriver to prise each light unit from its mounting position on the underside of the bonnet or boot lid. Twist the bulb to remove.

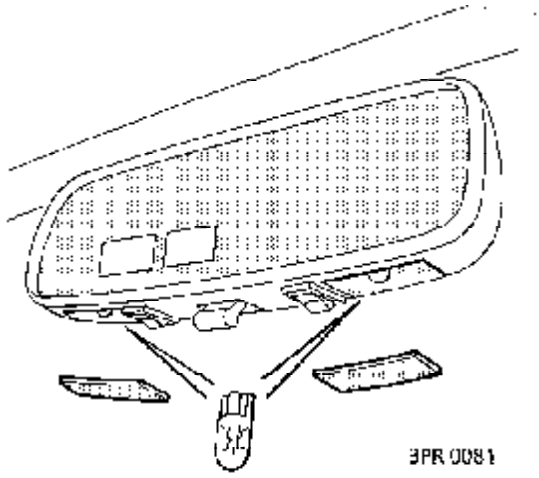


Interior footwell light
Using a small, flat bladed, screwdriver, prise the light unit from its mounting at the base of the centre console. Pull to remove the bulb.

Notice the small cut-out halfway along the edge of one side of the lens (arrowed in illustration). This slot eases the process of prising the light unit from its mounting. When replacing the light unit, fit this side towards the rear of the car - this will ease future removal.

Glovebox light
The glovebox light unit is identical to the interior footwell lights and is situated in the roof of the glovebox.

From inside the glovebox, insert a small flat-bladed screwdriver into the cut-out at one end of the light unit (see illustration of footwell light) and prise the light unit from its location. With the light unit freed from its mounting, the bulb can be removed.



Interior mirror light
Using a small, flat bladed, screwdriver or similar tool, carefully prise the plastic lens from the mirror assembly (a small aperture at one end of the lens can be used as a leverage point to assist in this process).

Pull the bulb to remove.

SERVICE PARTS & ACCESSORIES

Only MG dealers are able to provide the full range of recommended parts and accessories that meet our rigorous standards of safety, durability and performance.

Always consult your MG dealer regarding the suitability, installation and use of any parts or accessories before fitting.

WARNING!

- *It is extremely hazardous to fit parts or accessories where installation requires the dismantling of, or addition to, either the electrical or fuel systems.*
- *If an airbag SRS is fitted, ALWAYS consult an MG dealer before fitting any accessory.*
- *Fitting parts or accessories that have not been approved by MG, or the carrying out of non-approved alterations or conversions, may be dangerous and could affect the safety of the car and its occupants, and also invalidate the terms and conditions of the vehicle warranty.*

Travelling abroad

In certain countries, it is illegal to fit parts which have not been made to the vehicle manufacturer's specification.

Owners should ensure that any parts or accessories fitted to the car while travelling abroad will also conform to the legal requirements of their home country.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

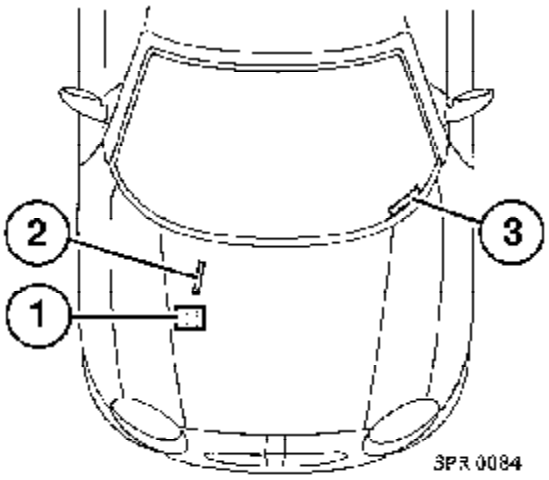
Vehicle identification number (VIN)
When communicating with your dealer always quote the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). The VIN is recorded in the Service Portfolio book in your literature pack and also in three separate locations on the car:

1. Stamped on the VIN plate - a rectangular metal plate riveted to the body on the right hand side of the underbonnet area opposite the battery.

2. Stamped into the bodywork of the car, on the right hand side of the underbonnet area, adjacent to the horns.

3. As a deterrent to car thieves (and to help the police), the VIN is also visible from outside the car, stamped into a plate visible through the bottom left corner of the windscreen.

NOTE: *The body colour and trim codes are also stamped on the VIN plate and must be quoted if paint or trim items are required.*



Engine number
The engine number is stamped into the front face of the left hand side of the cylinder block and can be most clearly seen from underneath with the car raised on a vehicle hoist.

Gearbox number
The gearbox number is printed on a label attached to the upper face of the gearbox housing.

Engine

Capacity	1796 cm^3
Firing order	1 - 3 - 4 - 2
Idle speed	875 ± 50 rev/min
Fuel	95 RON Unleaded to EN228

Ignition system

Type	Breakerless, electronic
Spark plugs	RC8 PYP or GSP 9652
Spark plug gap	0.9 ±0.1 mm

Electrical

Battery type	Sealed for life
Voltage and polarity	12 V, negative (-) earth

Wheels and tyres

Tyre and wheel arrangements (no other arrangements are recommended):

185/55 R15 V Goodyear NCT3	fit to 6 x 15 alloy wheels - FRONT only
205/50 R15 V Goodyear NCT3	fit to 6 x 15 alloy wheels - REAR only
215/40 R16 Z Goodyear Eagle F1	fit to 7 x 16 alloy wheels - front & rear
175/65 R14 T	fit to 5.5 x 14 steel spare wheel only (all models)

WARNING: *215/40 R16 Z Goodyear Eagle F1 are directional tyres and MUST be fitted in accordance with the direction of rotation shown on the sidewall of the tyre.*

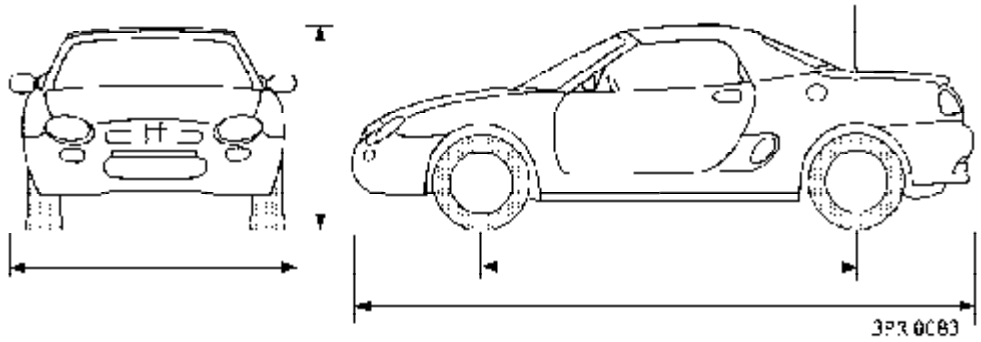
Road wheel nut torque	60 to 70 Nm
Wheel alignment:	
Front	0° 10’ ± 6’ toe out
Rear	0° 10’ ± 6’ toe-in

Tyre pressures

	bar
185/55 R15 V (front wheels only)	1.8
205/50 R15 V (rear wheels only)	1.9
215/40 R16 Z	
Front	1.7
Rear	1.9
175/65 R14 T (spare wheel only)	2.1

WARNING: *The spare wheel is for temporary use only, and the car must not exceed 80 km/h with the spare wheel fitted.*

Dimensions



Overall length	3.913 m
Overall width (excluding mirrors)	1.628 m
Overall height*	
Soft-top	1.264 m
Hard-top	1.273 m
Ground clearance*	120 mm
Wheelbase	2.375 m
Turning circle (kerb to kerb)	10.56 m
Track	
Front	1.400 m
Rear	1.406 m

* At unladen weight

Capacities

Fuel tank	50 litre
Engine oil (and filter) refill	4.5 litre
Engine oil (and filter) fill from dry	5.0 litre
Manual gearbox	
Refill	2.2 litre
Fill from dry	2.4 litre
Automatic gearbox	
Refill without oil cooler	4.5 litre
Fill from dry without oil cooler	4.9 litre
Cooling system refill	10.5 litre
Washer reservoir	2.2 litre

Weights

Approx unladen vehicle weight (full fuel tank, excluding options):	
1.8i	
Soft-top	1075 kg
Hard-top	1095 kg
1.8i VVC	
Soft-top	1090 kg
Hard-top	1110 kg
1.8i Steptronic	
Soft-top	1100 kg
Hard-top	1120 kg
Max gross vehicle weight:	1320 kg
Max rear axle load (not to be exceeded!):	
Manual	740 kg
Automatic	755 kg

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Emergency Procedures