Understand Lane Departure Warning

What is it?

Lane departure warning is designed to help you avoid crashes due to drifting or departing your lane. The system detects lane markers and alerts you when a tire touches a lane marker. The warning is usually a flashing indicator and/or beeps from the corresponding side. In some systems, the steering wheel or driver's seat vibrates gently. Generally, lane departure warning systems will not alert you when your turn signal is on.

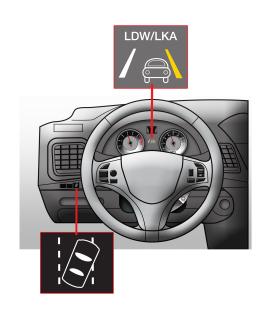




Some vehicles are equipped with lane keeping assist, which is a more advanced version of lane departure warning. If the system detects a potential lane departure and you do not respond in time, lane keeping assist will gently steer you back into the lane.

How to use it

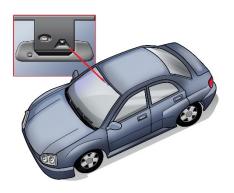
Some lane departure warning/lane keeping assist systems are activated by pressing a button, while others are automatically activated when you turn on your car. This button will have an indicator light to show when the system is active. The lane departure warning system searches for lane markings when your car is on a straight or slightly curved road and your turn signals are off. When you use your turn signals or turn your steering wheel quickly, the system will not alert you. Most lane departure warning/lane keeping assist systems function best on highways, and some systems only operate at speeds over 35 mph.

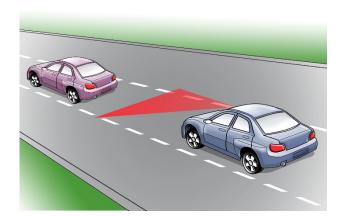


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How does it work?

The lane departure system uses a camera located near the rearview mirror to recognize lane markers. To function properly, there needs to be clearly visible paint stripes on both sides of the vehicle. It will NOT recognize curbs. If the system detects that your car is too close to the left or right side lane markings, and your turn signal is not on, a warning light, a vibration, and/or sound will be activated.





In addition to the camera, lane keeping assist has a steering input assist. Lane keeping assist will gentle turn the steering wheel to keep your vehicle between the left and right lane lines, gently steering your vehicle in the opposite direction of the lane boundary. In some systems, the tugging on your steering wheel will become stronger the closer your vehicle gets to the lane markers.