Chapter 3
Basic Vehicle Control
Getting Ready to Drive

- Outside checks
- Walk around the car
- Check the tires (inflated properly, direction facing)
Getting Ready to Drive

- Check windshield, windows, headlights, taillights are clear (snow)
- Check inside vehicle for unwanted passengers.
Getting into the car

- Enter from curbside
- Have keys ready if entering from the street side.
- Get in quick
- Lock your doors.
Inside Checks

• Get comfortable
• Adjust seat so you can reach everything
• Adjust head rests
• Adjust rear view mirror
• Adjust outside mirrors
• Put on seatbelt
Inside Checks

• Always adjust seats before starting to drive.
• Hands At least 10 inches from the steering wheel.
• Slight bend in the knees with right heel on floor.
• (rotate foot from gas to brake)
Starting the Car

- Make sure you are in Park
- Keep foot off gas pedal
- Turn on the key
Starting the Car

- INSTRUMENT PANEL TELLS YOU HOW YOUR CAR IS OPERATING!
- Check gages, lights & fuel
- WARNS YOU OF ANY PROBLEMS!
Automatic Transmission

- “P” Park – locks the Transmission. Never shift into Park when the car is moving.
- “R” Reverse - for backing (Backup lights)
- “N” Neutral  Allows the car to roll without engine power.
- “D” Drive  for moving forward
- “1” & ”2” Use First & Second for going slow, hard pulling, steep hill, deep snow.
Putting the car in Motion

- Foot on the brake pedal.
- Lever in “DRIVE”
- Check Mirrors & blind spots.
- Pulling away from curb, use turn signal.
Instrument Panel

- Speedometer
- Odometer
- Tachometer
- Fuel Gauge
Oil pressure gauge or warning light

- Oil Pressure Light or Gauge
- Tells you if oil is not circulating.
- If not circulating must stop car immediately call for a tow truck.
Temperature & Alternator warning light or gauge

- Temperature Light or Gauge.
- Tells the engine temp.
- If car starts to over heat, you must stop immediately shut the engine off.
Other Warning Lights

- Brakes/ABS
- Safety Belt
- Tire pressure lights
Other Warning Lights

- Air Bag
- Turn signals
- Bright Lights
- Door Ajar
Vehicle Controls

- **Steering Wheel** - May be adjustable.
- Tilt the wheel so you can see the speedometer and have the air bag make contact with the chest.
Vehicle Controls

- Ignition/starter switch
- Start the engine by placing key into the ignition switch
Foot Controls Manual Transmission

- Gas Pedal is on the right
- Brake – middle
- Clutch - Left
Devices for Safety

- Safety Belts
- Head Restraints
- Inside rear view mirror
- Outside Mirrors
- Horn
- Wipers
- Light Switch
Devices for Safety

- Air Bags
- Side impact Safety Bags
- Hazard lights
- **Hood release lever** - you will need to operate a second release in the front of the vehicle before the hood will open.
• **Sun visor** - located above the windshield, helps cut glare from the sun.
Blind Spots

• Even with the mirrors adjusted properly, there are areas the driver can not see without turning his/her head.
Blind Spots

- Blind spots when backing

Cross Traffic Alert and Reverse Sensing System

- **Cross Traffic Alert** - Warns drivers of impending traffic while backing out.
- **Rearview and Side Mirror** - Maximum viewing range from conventional rearview and side mirrors.
- **Reverse Sensing System** - Alerts drivers to objects in the vehicle's path when slowly backing up, allowing moms to make it out of a bike-filled driveway or navigate even the toughest parking lots with ease.
Devices for Comfort

- Heater
- Air Conditioner
- Seat adjustment

Seat adjustment lever