PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

Foot brake

WARNINGS

Do not rest your foot on the brake pedal while travelling as this may overheat the brakes, reduce their efficiency and cause excessive wear.

Never allow the vehicle to coast (freewheel) with the engine turned off. The engine must be running to provide full braking assistance. The brakes will still function with the engine off, but far more pressure will be required to operate them.

If the red brake warning indicator illuminates while the vehicle is in motion, bring the vehicle to a halt as quickly as traffic conditions and safety allow and seek qualified assistance before continuing.

Never place non-approved floor matting or any other obstructions under the brake pedal. This restricts pedal travel and braking efficiency.

The hydraulic braking system operates through dual circuits. If one circuit should fail, the other will continue to function.

Warning indicators

There are two brake system warning indicators in the instrument back (one red and one amber) which will illuminate briefly when the ignition is switched on. These warning indicators monitor five separate brake functions.

- Electric parking brake (EPB)
- Brake fluid level
- Electronic Brake Distribution (EBD)
- Emergency Brake Assist (EBA)
- Brake pad wear

If the amber indicator illuminates after starting, or whilst driving, suspect a fault with the EBA system or worn brake pads. Drive with care and seek qualified assistance urgently.

If the red indicator illuminates while the vehicle is being driven, suspect low brake fluid level or a fault with the EBD system. Stop the vehicle as soon as safety permits and check and top up brake fluid if necessary. If the indicator remains illuminated, seek qualified assistance before continuing.

Servo assistance

The braking system is servo assisted when the engine is running. Without this assistance greater braking effort is necessary, resulting in longer stopping distances. Always observe the following precautions:

- Take care when being towed with the engine turned off.
- If the engine stops while the vehicle is in motion, bring the vehicle to a halt as quickly as traffic conditions allow, and do not pump the brake pedal. The braking system may lose any remaining assistance.

Brake pads

Brake pads require a period of bedding in. For the first 800 km (500 miles), you should avoid situations where heavy braking is required.

Remember, regular servicing is vital to ensure that the brake pads are examined for wear and changed periodically to ensure long term safety and optimum performance.

Wet conditions

Driving through water or even very heavy rain may adversely affect braking efficiency. Always dry the braking surfaces by intermittent light application of the brakes.

Messages

The following messages could appear in the message centre.

Message	Meaning	What to do?
CHECK BRAKE FLUID	Brake fluid in reservoir below recommended level.	Seek qualified assistance immediately.
CHECK BRAKE PADS	Brake pads worn beyond the service limit.	Seek qualified assistance immediately.
PRESS FOOTBRAKE AND PARKBRAKE SWITCH TO RELEASE	A switch release has been detected without brake pedal contact.	Follow the instructions to achieve a manual release. See **ELECTRIC PARKING BRAKE (EPB)** (page 143).