

VEHICLE SHOPPER'S GUIDE

DRIVER ASSISTANCE TECHNOLOGIES



U.S. Department of Transportation



NHTSA

WHAT IS DRIVER ASSISTANCE TECHNOLOGY?

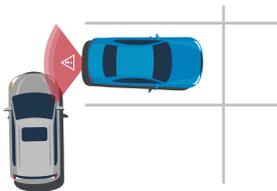
Driver assistance technologies can warn your teenage driver that there is a car in their blind spot when switching lanes; apply the brakes for you if a child from your neighborhood darts into the street; or warn you if you are about to back into another car in the grocery store parking lot. But these technologies don't drive your car; all vehicles still need a human driver behind the wheel.

NHTSA created this guide to make today's driver assistance technologies easy to understand for all drivers.

ASSISTING WITH BACKING UP & PARKING

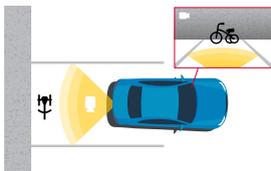
Rear Automatic Braking

Applies your vehicle's brakes for you to prevent a rear collision when backing up.



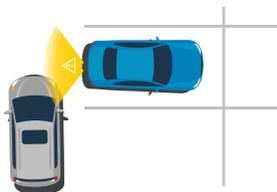
Backup Camera

Provides you with a clear view directly behind your vehicle.



Rear Cross Traffic Alert

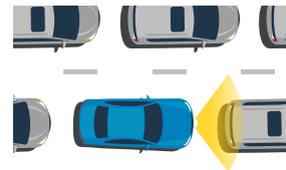
Warns you of a potential rear collision that may be outside the view of your backup camera.



MAINTAINING SAFE DISTANCE

Traffic Jam Assist

Automatically accelerates and brakes your vehicle along with the flow of traffic, and keeps your vehicle between lane markings — even curves.



Highway Pilot

Maintains your vehicle's lane position and a determined following distance from the vehicle in front by automatically accelerating and braking as needed.



Adaptive Cruise Control

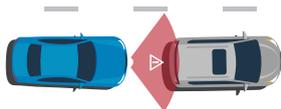
Automatically adjusts your vehicle's speed to maintain a set following distance from the vehicle in front.



PREVENTING FORWARD COLLISIONS

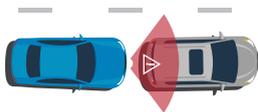
Forward Collision Warning

Detects and warns you of a potential forward collision.



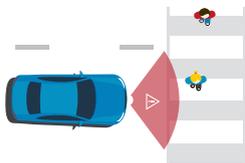
Automatic Emergency Braking

Applies the brakes for you if a forward collision with another vehicle is imminent.



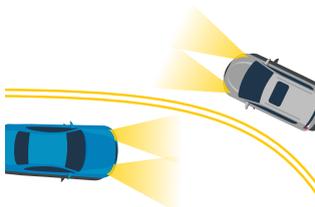
Pedestrian Automatic Emergency Braking

Detects, warns and applies the brakes for you if a person is about to cross in front of your vehicle.



Adaptive Lighting

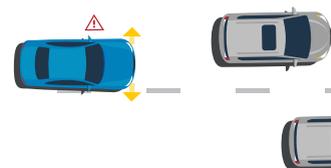
Automatically adjusts your headlights, including lower beams when another vehicle approaches, and back to higher beams after it passes you.



NAVIGATING LANES SAFELY

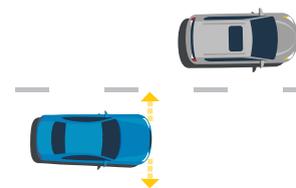
Lane Departure Warning

Detects and warns that your vehicle is drifting over the lane markings.



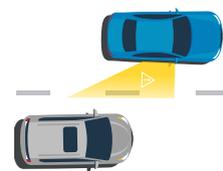
Lane Keeping Assist

Automatically steers your vehicle back into its lane if you drift over lane markings.



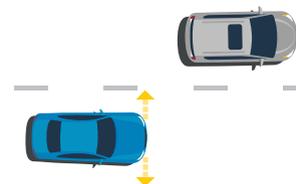
Blind Spot Detection

Warns you of a vehicle in your blind spot.



Lane Centering Assist

Provides continual steering to keep your vehicle centered in its lane.



ADVANCING DRIVER ASSISTANCE TECHNOLOGIES

When it comes to being safe behind the wheel there's no substitute for buckling up, avoiding distractions, and never drinking and driving. But even the safest drivers can benefit from today's driver assistance technologies.

For several years, vehicles have offered safety features that use cameras and sensors to help drivers see the world around them or to warn them to act to avoid crashes. More recently, features have become available that can act for a driver to help prevent forward collisions, backing into objects or traffic, or drifting out of a marked lane.

If you're shopping for a new car or truck, or if you've made a recent purchase, familiarize yourself with your vehicle's driver assistance technologies. Use them. While they may take some getting used to, these features can reduce motor vehicle crashes and their related injuries and deaths.

Safety on the road rests with the choices we all make when we drive, ride and walk. But today's vehicles can help. To learn more, visit [nhtsa.gov/driver-assistance-technologies](https://www.nhtsa.gov/driver-assistance-technologies).



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will I know if a specific driver assistance technology is safe?

Auto manufacturers routinely test the vehicles and vehicle technologies to ensure they comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, and they certify that their vehicles are free of safety risks.

Do these driver assistance technologies make my vehicle more vulnerable to hacking?

DOT and automotive companies consider cybersecurity a critical issue for the future safe deployment of these technologies. Advanced driver assistance technologies depend on an array of electronics, sensors, and computing power. In advancing these features NHTSA is focused on cybersecurity to ensure these systems work as intended.

Will driver assistance technology help older drivers and people with disabilities drive?

Every driver is unique, but driver assistance technology can provide new mobility options for older people and for those with disabilities, and keep them safer while they drive. Some older Americans and people with disabilities can drive today by adapting or modifying their vehicles to meet their specific needs. Find out more at [nhtsa.gov/road-safety/adapted-vehicles](https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/adapted-vehicles).



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