Owners Manual

2008 TESLA ROADSTER

A WORD TO ROADSTER OWNERS

Thank you for choosing a Tesla Roadster. Not only have you chosen one of the finest sports cars on the road, you have also chosen the most energy efficient sports car ever sold. You are participating in a revolution, demonstrating that kicking the oil habit does not mean you have to give up performance and driving pleasure.

Take the time to get well acquainted with your Tesla Roadster by reading this manual. The more you know and understand about your vehicle, the more safety and pleasure you'll experience driving it.

Tesla's cars are unique, and Tesla Motors knows your Tesla Roadster best. So when service or maintenance is required, Tesla Motors is the place to go. Visit us regularly at www.teslamotors.com for more information about your Tesla Roadster. By signing into the owners area of this web site, you can access all the information you need about your specific vehicle, including service information.

Enjoy your Tesla Roadster!

Tesla Motors
San Carlos, California, USA

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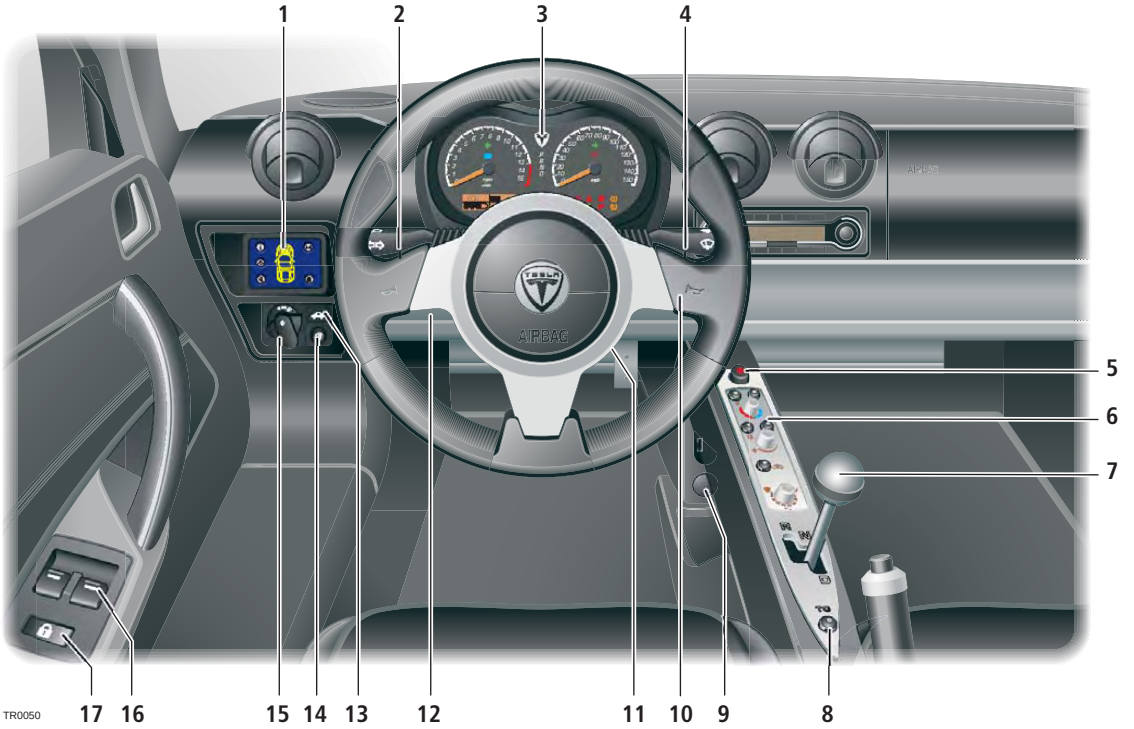
For information on how to use the Touch Screen, the High Power Connector, and the audio and navigation systems, refer to the separate manuals provided in your owners package.

Interior



Dashboard overview

1. Touch Screen. See Touch Screen Users Manual provided in your owners package.
2. Turn signals, headlight high beam and cruise control. See Exterior lights, page 6-7 and Cruise control, page 6-9.
3. Instruments. See Instruments, page 6-11.
4. Windshield wiper and washer. See Windshield wiper and washer, page 6-8.
5. Hazard warning light switch. See Hazard warning, page 6-10.
6. Heating and air conditioning. See Interior temperature control, page 7-4.
7. Gear selector. See Selecting gears, page 6-3.
8. Traction control switch. See Traction control, page 6-6.
9. Accessory power socket. See Accessory power socket, page 7-7.
10. Horn. See Horn, page 6-10.
11. Starter switch. See Starting the vehicle, page 6-3.
12. Hood release. See Opening and closing the hood, page 9-3.
13. Trunk release. See Opening the trunk, page 4-6.
14. Instrument panel illumination control. See Instrument panel lighting, page 6-14.
15. Exterior lights master switch. See Exterior lights, page 6-7.
16. Power windows. See Operating the windows, page 7-2.
17. Central door locking. See Central door locking, page 4-4.

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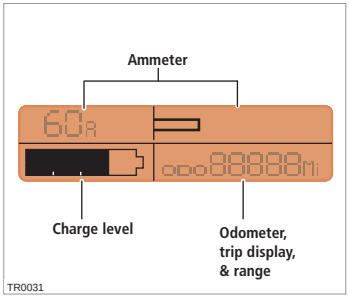
LCD panel

The Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) panel in the instrument panel operates whenever the starter switch is in the ON position. The LCD displays three types of information.



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Ammeter

The ammeter displays information about the electrical current either entering or leaving the Battery.

The numbers at the top left of the LCD indicates the current (in amps).

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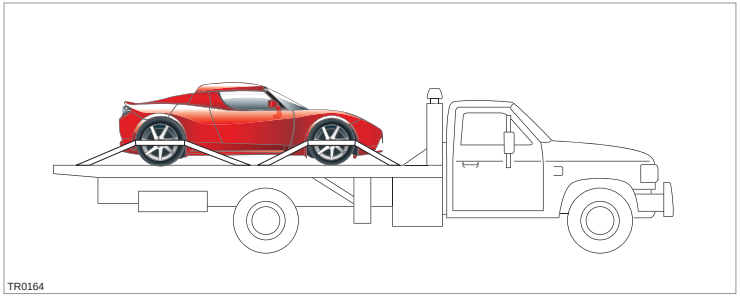


Transporting the vehicle

The only approved method of transporting your vehicle is using a flatbed trailer or transporter. Towing the vehicle will cause serious damage to the power train. This damage will not be covered by the New Vehicle Limited Warranty.

Caution: Serious damage to the vehicle and transmission can occur if the vehicle is towed with the wheels on the ground or on a suspended lift.

Caution: The transmission lock will only retract when the vehicle is in Tow Mode or when the electrical systems are functional and the starter switch is in the ON position.

Before pulling the vehicle onto a flatbed trailer or transporter, the following steps must be performed:

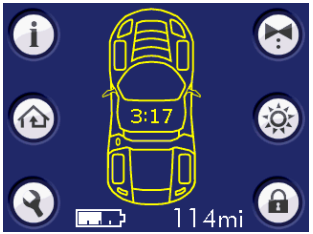
- activate Tow Mode
- attach the vehicle recovery eye

Activating Tow Mode

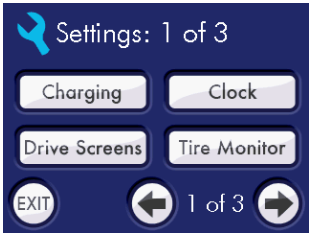
Tow Mode disengages the transmission lock so the vehicle can roll freely.

Note: In the unlikely situation in which electrical systems are not functioning and therefore Tow Mode can not be activated, wheeled dollies or skid pads must be used.

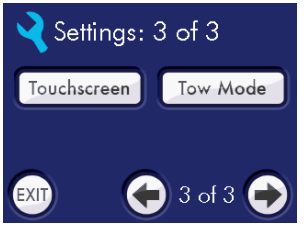
1. Turn OFF the vehicle and apply the hand brake. The Touch Screen displays the main Parked screen.



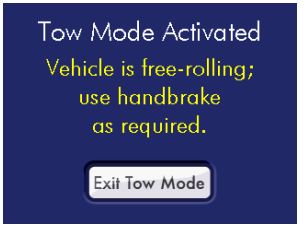
2. Touch to display the first settings screen.



3. Touch to display the third settings screen.



4. Touch **Tow Mode**, then touch **OK** to confirm. The Touch Screen displays the following message to indicate that the vehicle is in Tow Mode.



5. Release the hand brake, if appropriate.

Note: Although Tow Mode is activated, the steering column lock will be engaged. To disengage the steering column, turn the key to the ACC position. If it is difficult to turn the key, move the steering wheel slightly.

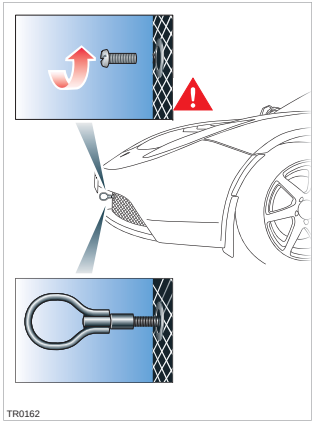
Caution: The car can roll freely when Tow Mode is active. If the vehicle is not on a flat surface, do not release the hand brake until the vehicle is ready to be pulled.

Note: The vehicle can not be charged or started until you exit Tow Mode.

Attaching the vehicle recovery eye

A vehicle recovery eye can be attached to the front of the vehicle to allow the vehicle to be pulled onto a transporter in situations when the vehicle can roll freely.

WARNING: NEVER tow the vehicle using the vehicle recovery eye. Doing so can cause serious, even fatal injury to other motorists and can also cause significant damage to your vehicle.▲



1. Retrieve the recovery eye from the tool kit located in the trunk. See Tool kit components, page 10-2.
2. Using the screwdriver (also supplied in the toolkit), remove the plug from the recovery eye mounting point behind the front grill. If a license plate has been installed on the front of the vehicle, it must be removed to access the recovery eye.
3. Insert the recovery eye through the hole in the front grill and screw into the mounting point. Ensure the recovery eye is fully tightened.

After use, remove the recovery eye and return it to the tool kit. Insert the plug back into the mounting point to prevent dirt from entering.

Transporter and trailer tie down straps

When the vehicle is to be moved on a transporter or trailer, it will be necessary to use chocks and tie down straps to secure the wheels. To avoid damage:

- Ensure that metal parts on the tie down straps do not contact the vehicle's painted surfaces or the face of any wheels.
- Do not place tie down straps over or through the vehicle's body panels.

Caution: Attaching straps to the chassis, suspension or other parts of the body can damage the vehicle.

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