



SAFETY ALERT: **Brake Lights** **Might Not Light Up** **When an EV Slows Down**

Many electric vehicles (EVs) come equipped with regenerative braking — also known as “one-pedal driving.” The feature slows the EV as it’s braking or coasting and simultaneously sends energy back to the vehicle’s battery to recharge it, making the car more energy efficient.

Sounds wonderful, right?

In theory, maybe. But some EVs have regenerative braking settings that rapidly decrease the vehicle’s speed—even stopping it—without the driver physically using the brake pedal.

The Problem

With regenerative braking, an EV driver can use their accelerator pedal to not only speed up the vehicle but also to slow it down by simply adjusting the pressure they apply to the pedal. Merely easing off the accelerator pedal without entirely removing all pressure can trigger rapid slowing of the car, depending on the regenerative braking settings.

An EV’s rapid deceleration without a brake light warning can potentially cause accidents. . .

Unfortunately, the brake lights on some EVs do not illuminate when the regenerative feature decelerates the EV aggressively unless the driver completely removes their foot from the accelerator pedal.

Many drivers using one-pedal driving keep some pressure on the accelerator pedal while they slow down their EV because it makes the transition from a higher to a lower speed smoother.

This poses a safety risk because other drivers might not realize that the EV ahead of them is slowing down and stopping until it’s too late. An EV’s rapid deceleration without a brake light warning can potentially cause accidents, putting EV drivers and others on the road in serious danger.

Unfortunately, no specific standard has been established in the U.S. regarding brake light activation during deceleration that doesn’t involve the application of a vehicle’s service brakes. Moreover, brake light activation is



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Why Tires “Tire Out” Faster on an EV

Electric vehicles deliver environmental benefits and lower fuel costs. They also eliminate some of the ongoing maintenance requirements that cars and trucks with internal combustion engines face. However, they have some unique care concerns. For example, EVs go through tires approximately 20 percent faster than gas-powered vehicles.

Why, you ask?

1. EVs weigh more than their gas-powered counterparts.

An EDR records moments leading up to a crash, giving investigators information about what might have caused the accident. Its primary purpose is to provide insights that can help manufacturers better design vehicles to prevent collisions.

EV batteries can weigh hundreds—even thousands—of pounds more than batteries made for similarly sized gas-powered vehicles. That extra weight puts more pressure on the tires. Additional weight means more resistance when driving, which naturally wears down the tread more quickly.

2. EVs deliver more torque.

EV motors produce more power (provided they have the necessary battery support) than most gas and diesel engines. While that elevated torque delivery allows EVs to accelerate faster and get up to speed more quickly, it also puts immediate and intense pressure on the tires.

3. EVs’ regenerative braking feature subjects tires to more friction.

The automatic and repeated episodes of rapid slowing down tend to work tires harder than manual braking.

Tips for Getting Better Tire Life on Your EV

Fortunately, you have ways to minimize the tire changes your EV will need.

- **Buy tires that can handle the EV’s load.**
- **Check tire pressure often**—driving on under- or over-inflated tires expedites tread wear.
- **Check tread depth regularly**—you may need to rotate or replace tires depending on how much wear they’ve experienced.
- **Rotate your EV’s tires** every few months or as often as recommended by the tire manufacturer.



Proper tire care is essential regardless of whether your car or truck is powered by gas, diesel, or electricity, proper tire care is essential. If you have questions or need assistance, we’re just a phone call away!

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optional when another system (e.g., regenerative braking) slows the car.

Consumer Reports tested various EVs and released their findings in June of this year. The makes and models of EVs found to have issues with their brake lights during regenerative braking include:

- **2022 Hyundai Ioniq 5 SEL AWD**
- **2023 Genesis GV60 Advanced**
- **2023 Genesis Electrified GV70**
- **2022 Kia EV6 Wind AWD**
- **2023 Kia Niro EV Wind**

Manufacturers have responded they are working on a solution. It can’t come too soon!

Moral of the Story

Drivers of EVs with this brake light issue who use the regenerative braking feature risk getting rear-ended or even pulled over by the police for faulty brake lights. And if a rear-end collision occurs because an EV’s brake lights didn’t illuminate, the EV driver might be found at least partially at fault for the accident.

ALL drivers should stay aware and alert at all times.

Many EVs are already on the roads—with many more to come as multiple manufacturers plan to produce only EVs by the 2030s. Avoid getting distracted, and always keep an eye on the car ahead of you so you can detect if it’s slowing down even if its brake lights haven’t given you the cue.

SOURCES FOR SAFETY ALERT ARTICLE (ABOVE):

<https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/car-safety/brake-lights-can-fail-to-provide-fair-warning-on-some-evs-a9533519285>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0YW7x9U5TQ>

SOURCES FOR WHY TIRES “TIRE OUT”(LEFT): <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jimhenry/2021/04/12/the-switch-to-electric-vehicles-means-changing-tires-too-michelin/?sh=3a5834827e60>

<https://cleanfleetreport.com/tech-why-dont-tires-last-as-long-on-an-ev>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2023/07/electric-vehicles-tires-wearing-out-particulates/674750>

HUMOR
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ELECTRIC CAR PUNS AND JOKES

- **I used to think I was good with jokes until I got hit by an electric car.** I did not hear that one coming.
- **Did you hear about a new electric car from Germany?** It’s called a Voltswagen.
- **Why did the electric car go to court?** It was charged with battery.
- **Why did the electric car finish the race early?** It had a short circuit.
- **Apple is set to release their new electric smart car in 2024.** It will be the first apple product with windows.
- **What do you call an electric car that isn’t moving?** Static.
- **Can I use cash to pay for a new electric car?** No, you have to charge it.
- **I wanted to buy an electric car** And the prices were shocking.

From

<https://jokojokes.com/electric-car-jokes.html#electric-car-puns>

- 2 lbs russet or Idaho potatoes (5-6 medium potatoes)
- 1 cup milk or cream
- 1/4 cup butter
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 egg yolk

FOR THE MEET FILLING:

- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup carrots peeled and diced small
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 lbs ground beef
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon ketchup
- 1 cup beef broth
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon dried rosemary leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
- 1/2 cup frozen corn kernels
- 1/2 cup frozen English peas

Directions: Peel the potatoes and cut into half inch pieces. Place in a sauce pan and cover with water. Bring to a boil and cook until tender, approximately 15 minutes. Drain the potatoes and then add milk, butter, salt and pepper and continue to mash until smooth. Stir in the yolk until well combined.

Place the canola oil in a large skillet and set over medium high heat. Add the onions and carrots and sauté approximately 3 to 4 minutes. Add garlic and stir to combine. Add beef, salt and pepper and cook until brown. Sprinkle the meat with the flour and toss to coat. Continue to cook for another minute. Add ketchup, beef broth, Worcestershire, rosemary, and thyme. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat to low, and simmer slowly until the

sauce has thickened slightly.

Add corn and peas to the beef mixture and spread evenly into a 9 x 13 glass baking dish. Cover with mashed potatoes. Bake 350 degrees for 25 minutes or just until the potatoes begin to brown. Let set for 15 minutes before serving.

Note - can be made ahead and refrigerated. May take up to an hour to bake.



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