

SECTION 1-2

FEATURES ON NEW TOYOTA RAV4 EV

How to drive

Before starting the traction motor	14
Motor switch with steering lock	14
How to start the traction motor	15
How to drive	17
Parking brake	21
Tire pressure warning system	21

1-2

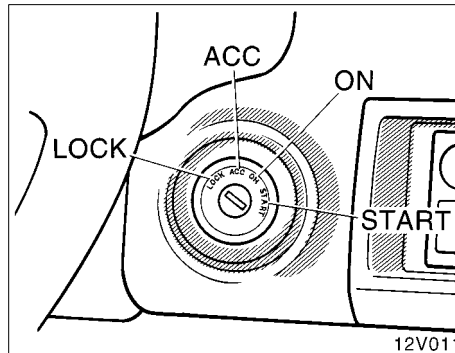
Before starting the traction motor

1. Check the area around the vehicle before entering it.
2. Adjust seat position, seatback angle and head restraint height.
3. Adjust the inside and outside rear view mirrors.
4. Lock all the doors.
5. Fasten seat belts.

When you get in a vehicle, check whether the "READY" light is on or not.

Because the electric vehicle does not produce any noise or vibration when the vehicle is ready to start with the "READY" light on, be careful not to start the vehicle abruptly by depressing the accelerator pedal inadvertently.

Motor switch with steering lock



If you leave the key in the "ACC" or "LOCK" position and open the side door, a buzzer will remind you to remove the key.

"LOCK"—Traction motor is off and the steering wheel is locked. The key can be removed only at this position.

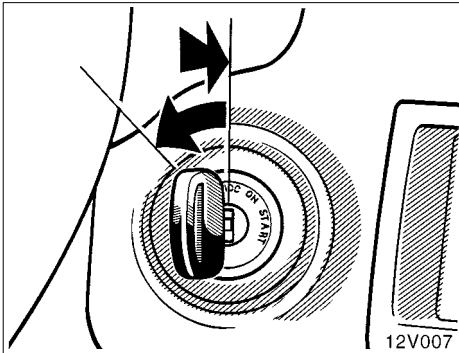
"START"—Traction motor is ready to run. The key will return to the "ON" position when released.

Hold the motor switch at this position until the "READY" light comes on and a beep sounds.

"ON"—Traction motor starts to run when the accelerator pedal is depressed with the "READY" light on, and all accessories on.

This is the normal driving position.

"ACC"—Accessories such as the radio operate, but the traction motor is off.



You must push in the key to turn it from "ACC" to the "LOCK" position.

When starting the traction motor, the key may seem stuck at the "LOCK" position. To free it, first be sure the key is pushed all the way in, and then rock the steering wheel slightly while turning the key gently.



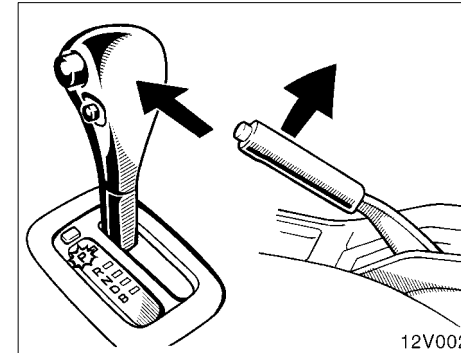
CAUTION

Never remove the key when the vehicle is moving, as this will lock the steering wheel and result in loss of steering control.

NOTICE

Do not leave the key in the "ON" position. The auxiliary battery will discharge and the traction motor could be damaged.

How to start the traction motor— (a) Before starting the traction motor



1. Make sure the charge coupler is not connected.

If the charge coupler is connected when the motor switch is turned to "START", the traction motor is not ready to start. Make sure the charging is finished and disconnect the charge coupler.

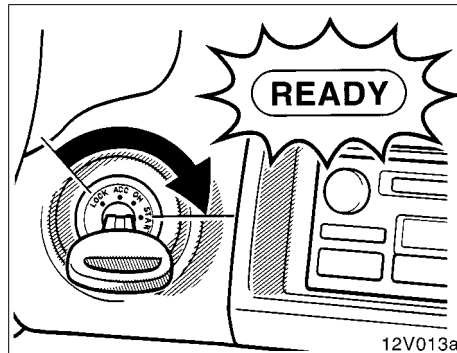
2. Make sure the parking brake has been applied.

3. Make sure the selector lever is in the "P" position.

Although you may turn on the traction motor with the selector lever in the "N" position, for your safety, be sure to start the vehicle with the selector lever in the "P" position.

4. Depress the brake pedal and hold it to the floor until driving off.

(b) Turning on the traction motor



Before starting the traction motor, be sure to follow the instructions in "(a) Before starting the traction motor".

Normal starting procedure

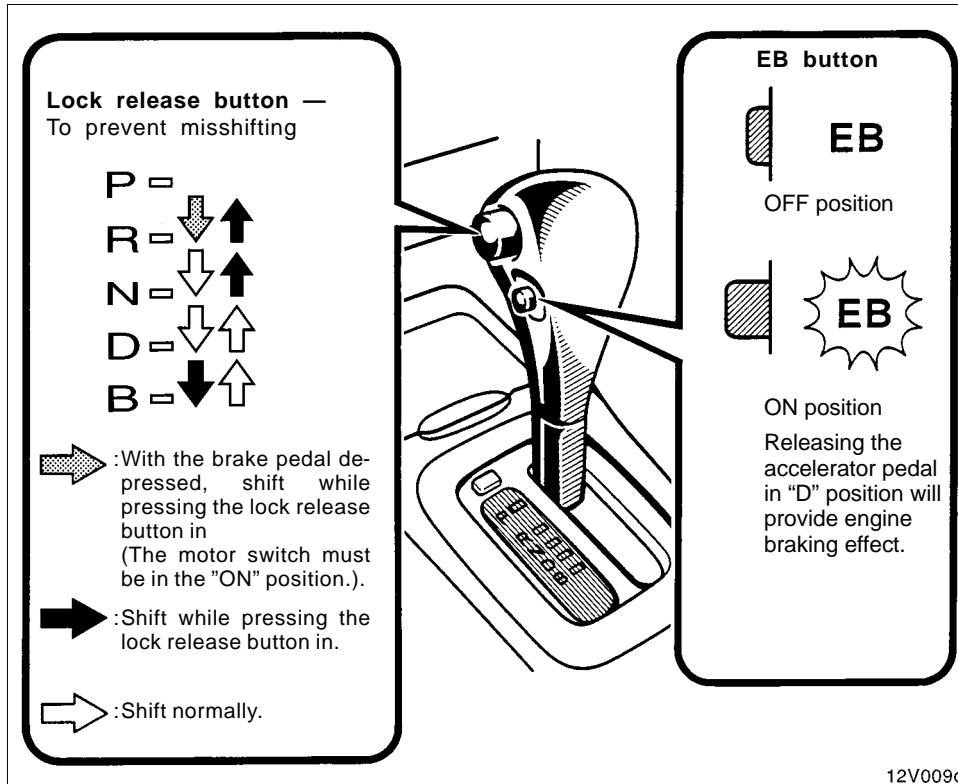
Turn and hold the motor switch to "START" with the brake pedal depressed until the "READY" light comes on and a beep sounds. After making sure the "READY" light is on, release your hand from the motor switch.

The "READY" light does not come on when you depress the accelerator pedal and/or the selector lever is put in a position other than "P" or "N". Release your foot from the accelerator pedal and/or put the selector lever in "P" and turn the motor switch to "START" again.

NOTICE

- ◆ *If there is a problem in the traction motor system, the "READY" light does not come on. Instead the motor system caution light comes on. If this happens, contact EV service station.*
- ◆ *With the auxiliary battery discharged, turning the motor switch to "START" will not turn on the "READY" light. If this happens, contact EV service station.*

How to drive



Selector Lever Position

- P — Parking, motor starting and key removal position
- R — Reverse position
- N — Neutral position
- D — Normal driving position

When releasing the accelerator pedal with the EB button in ON position, engine braking effect will be applied.

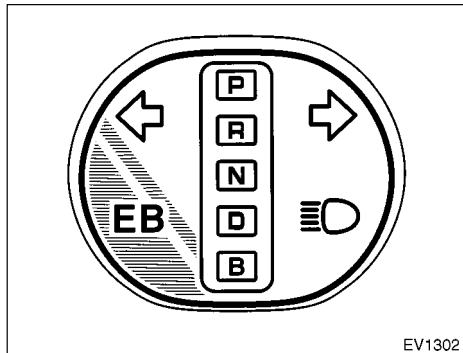
- B — Position for engine braking effect
More powerful engine braking effect than EB mode will be applied.

Although the EB indicator light comes on with the EB button ON, additional EB engine braking effect will not be applied.

Do not press the lock release button unless otherwise necessary.

You cannot shift the selector lever from "P" with the motor switch at "ACC" or "LOCK" even after you depress the brake pedal.

You cannot shift the selector lever if you depress the brake pedal with the lock release button pressed. You must first depress the brake pedal, then push in the lock release button and shift the selector lever.



(a) Normal driving

1. Shift the selector lever to "D" or "R" with the brake pedal depressed.

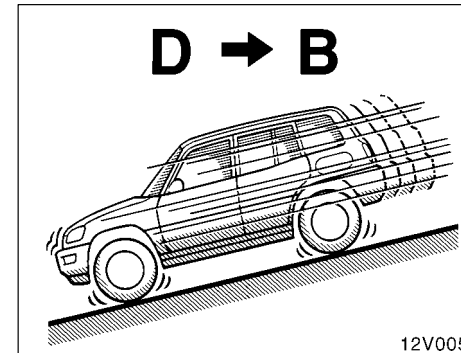
! CAUTION

Never put your foot on the accelerator pedal while shifting.

2. Release the parking brake.
3. Release your foot from the brake pedal and depress the accelerator pedal to start the vehicle.

Operate the accelerator pedal carefully because the speed at starting is controlled only by the accelerator pedal.

4. The selector lever should be operated in the same manner as an ordinary gasoline-fueled vehicle with an automatic transmission. If you desire an "engine braking effect", push the "EB" button (EB indicator lamp will illuminate). The "engine braking effect" is similar to that as an ordinary gasoline-fueled vehicle with an automatic transmission. "Engine braking effect" is not applied without the "EB" mode in "D" position. For an additional "engine braking effect", move the selector lever to the "B" position.



Whenever you select "EB" or "B" mode, the vehicle speed will decrease depending on the road conditions when you release the accelerator pedal. Select "B" mode if more powerful engine braking effect is needed. Under certain driving conditions, such as downhill driving or long decelerations, the "EB" and "B" mode can be used to recharge the traction batteries and increase the vehicle's driving range. See "Regenerative Brake" on page 132 in Section 3 for additional information.

CAUTION

Be careful when downshifting on a slippery surface. Abrupt shifting could cause the vehicle to spin or skid.

(b) Backing up

1. Bring the vehicle to a complete stop.
2. With the brake pedal held down with your foot, shift the selector lever to the "R" position.

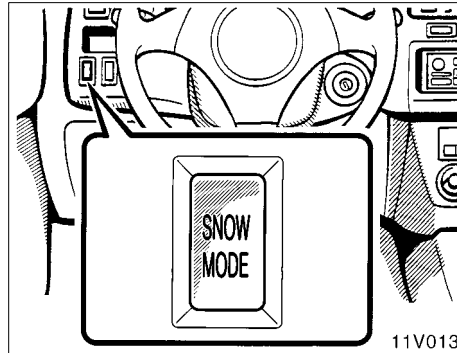
NOTICE

Never shift into reverse while the vehicle is moving.

(c) Parking

1. Bring the vehicle to a complete stop.
2. Pull the parking brake lever up fully to securely apply the parking brake.
3. With the brake pedal pressed down, shift the selector lever to the "P" position.

If the driver's door is opened with the "READY" light on and the selector lever at a position other than "P", you hear beeps.



(d) Driving in "SNOW MODE"

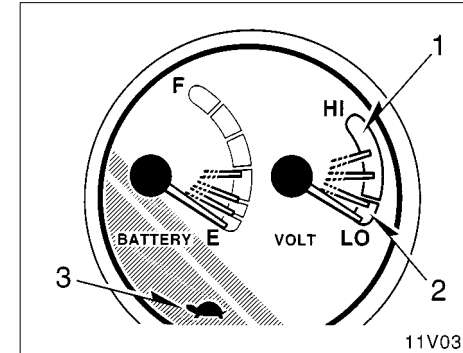
Push the switch to turn on the snow mode when the vehicle is stopped.

The motor traction is controlled in this mode, so you can start the vehicle smoothly on the road in snow.

When you push the switch again, the snow mode turns off.

NOTICE

Do not turn on or off the switch during driving. This operation will cause acceleration shock.



(e) Good driving practices

Tips for Driving Distance:

1. Traction battery voltmeter
2. Yellow zone
3. Output control warning light

The output control warning light comes on when the voltmeter enters the yellow zone because of rapid acceleration, increasing energy consumption, etc. When the voltage drops, the warning light comes on. The buzzer sounds at further drop of voltage. As the ambient temperature becomes colder, the voltmeter tends to enter the yellow zone. To have a longer driving range, continue your driving while keeping the voltmeter from entering the yellow zone.

Avoid the driving that may cause an excessive load applied to the vehicle.

Driving such as high speed driving, driving on a slope, rapid speed increases, frequent speed increases or decreases will shorten the driving range.

Check the condition of the traction batteries with the SOC meter and traction battery voltmeter and charge if required.

If the traction battery's capacity or voltage is excessively low, you might not be able to drive the electric vehicle.

If the needle of the traction battery voltmeter enters the yellow zone frequently, the driving range will be shortened.

(f) Effective operation for a longer battery life

- Avoid acceleration at full throttle or deceleration by applying the brakes fully.
- Charge the traction batteries before the SOC meter needle enters the yellow zone.

 **CAUTION**

- **While the vehicle is moving, never attempt to move the selector lever into "P" position under any circumstances. Serious mechanical damage and loss of vehicle control may result.**
- **Always keep your foot on the brake pedal while stopped with the "READY" light on. With the selector lever in a position other than "P" or "N", if you depress the accelerator pedal advertently, the vehicle may start abruptly.**

NOTICE

Do not hold the vehicle on an up-grade with the accelerator pedal. It can cause the traction motor system to overheat. Always use the brake pedal or parking brake.

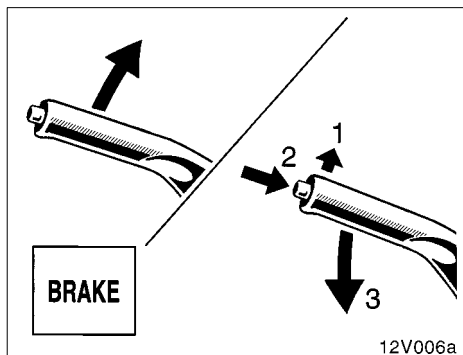
(g) If you cannot shift the selector lever out of "P" position.

If you cannot shift the selector lever from the "P" position even though the brake pedal is depressed, use the shift lock override button. For instructions, see "If you cannot shift running mode selector lever" on page 161 in Section 5.

 **CAUTION**

Only use the shift lock override button in an emergency. If you must use the shift lock override button, the safety interlock of the selector lever is not functioning properly. For your safety, have the vehicle serviced immediately.

Parking brake



When parking, firmly apply the parking brake to avoid inadvertent creeping.

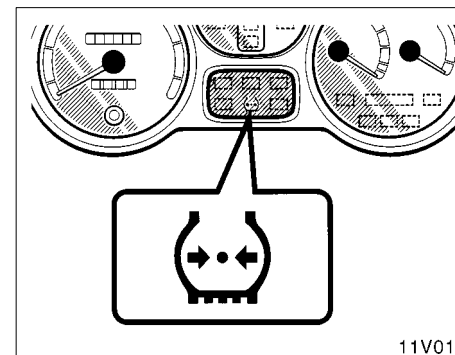
To set: Pull up the lever. For better holding power, first depress the brake pedal and hold it while setting the parking brake.

To release: Pull up the lever slightly (1), press the lock release button (2), and lower (3).

To remind you that the parking brake is set, the parking brake reminder light in the instrument panel remains on until you release the parking brake.



Tire pressure warning system



The tire pressure warning system is designed to provide warning when tire pressure of any one of the tires is critically reduced while the vehicle is moving. The low tire pressure warning light comes on to inform you that such low tire pressure may hamper driving.

This system is not designed to operate when the vehicle is stopped. Therefore, check the tire pressures regularly. The recommended cold tire pressures, tire sizes and the vehicle capacity weight are given in Section 9. The recommended cold tire pressures and tire sizes are also on the tire pressure label. (For instruction, see "Checking tire pressure" on page 186 in Section 8-2.)

Installed tires should be of the specified size. They should be of the same size and construction. If tires other than of the specified size are used, or if tires of different sizes or constructions are mixed, the tire pressure warning system will not function properly.

LOW TIRE PRESSURE WARNING LIGHT

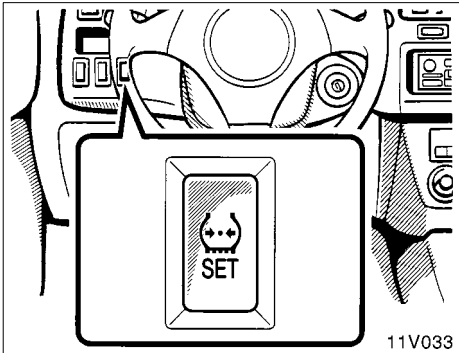
This light comes on when the motor switch is turned to the "ON" position. It goes off after about 3 seconds. This indicates that the tire pressure warning system is functioning properly.

If the low tire pressure warning light comes on while driving, adjust tire pressure to the specified level. (See "Tires" on page 207 in Section 9.)

After the tire pressure is adjusted, the light should go off after driving at about more than 30 km/h (19 mph) for some time. If the light still remains on, have the tire pressure warning system checked at your EV service station.

The tire pressure warning system does not function properly under certain circumstances. In the following cases, the low tire pressure warning light may not come on even if the tire pressure is low, or it may come on when the tire pressure is actually normal.

- If the tread wear is uneven among the installed tires.
 - If a compact spare tire, snow tires, or tire chains are used.
 - If the tire pressure is excessively higher than specified, or if tire pressure is suddenly reduced due to bursts or other causes.
 - If the vehicle is driven on a slippery road surface such as rough road and frozen road.
 - If the vehicle speed is less than 30 km/h (19 mph) and if the driving duration is less than about 5 minutes.
- After the replacement of wheels, the tire pressure warning system may not work properly. Contact EV service station.



SET SWITCH

This switch is provided to inspect the tire pressure warning system by EV service station. So you do not need to operate it in ordinary driving. Even if you push the switch, it does not affect anything.

