

**GM**

# Getting to Know Your 2004 Century

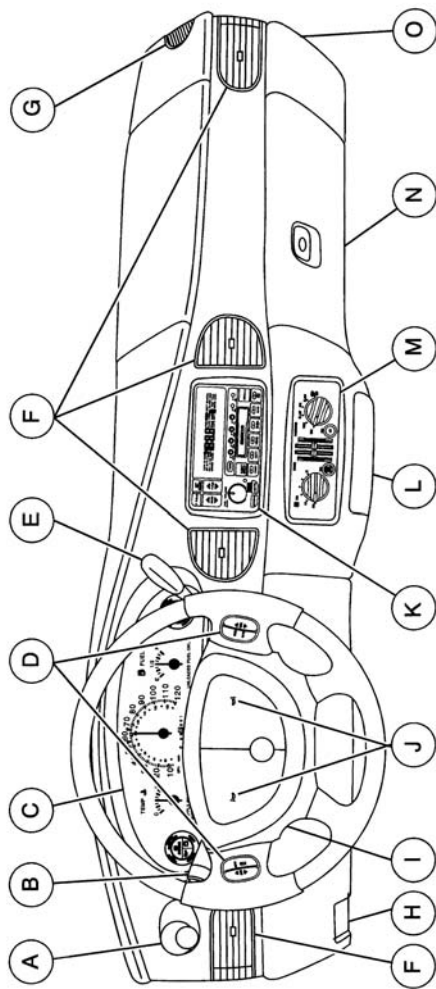


Congratulations on your purchase of a Buick Century. Please read this information and your Owner Manual to ensure an outstanding ownership experience. Note that your vehicle may not include all the features described in this booklet. Place this booklet in your Owner Manual portfolio for easy reference.

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## Instrument Panel

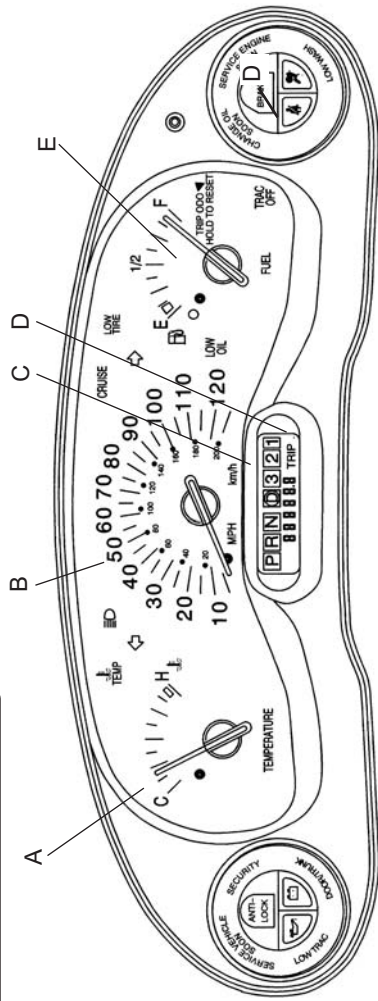


- A. Exterior Lamps Control
- B. Turn Signal/Multifunction Lever
- C. Instrument Panel Cluster
- D. Audio Steering Wheel Controls
- E. Gear Shift Lever

- F. Air Outlets
- G. Side Window Defogger Outlet
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- J. Horn

- K. Audio System
- L. Ashtray
- M. Climate Control
- N. Glove Box
- O. Instrument Panel Fuse Block

## Instrument Panel Cluster



Your vehicle's instrument panel is equipped with this cluster or one very similar to it. The instrument panel cluster includes these key features:

- A. Engine Coolant Temperature Gauge
  - B. Speedometer
  - C. Gear Shift Indicator
  - D. Trip Odometer
  - E. Fuel Gauge
- IMPORTANT:** The instrument panel cluster is designed to let you know of many important aspects of your vehicle's operation. It is important to read your Owner Manual and become familiar with the information that is being relayed to you by the lights, Gauges and indicators, and what action can be taken to ensure safety and to prevent damage

See Section 3 of your Owner Manual.

### Daytime Running Lamps/ Automatic Headlamp Control

Daytime Running Lamps are an additional safety feature that makes it easier for others to see your vehicle during the day. The headlamp system works automatically to help provide the right amount of lighting at all times of the day or night. You can still turn your headlamps on manually whenever you wish.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual*.

### Delayed Headlamp Illumination

If the Automatic Headlamp Control system turns on your headlamps, they will stay on for 90 seconds after you turn off the ignition. Delayed Headlamp Illumination provides lighting when exiting your car and the lamps shut off automatically. This feature can be turned off by following the instructions in your Owner Manual.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual*.

### Turn Signal/Multifunction Lever

The Turn Signal/Multifunction Lever located on the left side of the steering column controls these features:

- Turn and Lane-Change Signals
- Headlamp High/Low Beam Changer
- Flash-to-Pass
- Windshield Wipers
- Windshield Washers
- Cruise Control




### Turn and Lane-Change Signals

The turn signal has the following positions: two upward (for right) and two downward (for left). These positions allow you to signal a turn or lane change. To signal a lane change, raise or lower the lever until the arrow starts to flash. The lever will return by itself when released.

To signal a turn, move the lever all the way up or down. A chime will sound if you leave the turn signal on for more than 3/4 mile (1.2 km).

### Headlamp High/Low Beam Changer

To change your headlamps from low beams to high beams, or high to low, pull the multifunction lever all the way toward you, then release it. When the

high beams are on, a  symbol located in the instrument panel will illuminate.

### Flash-to-Pass

This feature uses the vehicle's high beams to alert the driver in front of you that you intend to pass. To use it, pull the turn signal lever toward you slightly, but not so far that you hear a click. The high beams will remain on for as long as you hold the lever toward you.

### Windshield Wipers

To operate the windshield wipers, turn the WIPER band located on the multifunction lever upward or downward.

To turn off the windshield wipers, turn the band to OFF.

For low speed wiping, turn the band away from you to the LO setting. For high speeds, turn the band to HI.

Five sensitivity settings, located between the OFF and HI settings, are provided for a delayed wiping cycle.

Turn the band to the MIST setting for a single wiping cycle. Hold the band until the wipers begin, then let it go.

### Windshield Washers

The windshield washer paddle is marked PUSH and is located on top of the multifunction lever. Push the paddle to spray washer fluid onto the windshield. The wipers will run for several sweeps, then stop or return to your preset speed.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual*.

## Cruise Control



The Cruise Control feature is located at the end of the Turn Signal/Multifunction Lever. Cruise Control allows you to maintain a speed of about 25 mph or more (but not below 25 mph) without keeping your foot on the accelerator. To use Cruise Control:

1. Move the Cruise Control switch to ON.
2. Achieve the speed you desire.
3. Press the SET button at the tip of the multifunction lever, then release it. (The CRUISE light in the instrument panel cluster will illuminate.)
4. Remove your foot from the accelerator.

Cruise Control disengages when you apply the brakes.

### Resuming a Set Speed

To return to a preset speed after having applied the brakes, once you've reached 25 mph or more, simply move the Cruise Control switch from ON to R/A (Resume/Accelerate).

### **Increasing Speed While Using Cruise Control**

There are three ways to increase vehicle speed while using Cruise Control:

1. Use the accelerator pedal to reach the higher speed. Press the SET button, then release the button and the accelerator pedal.
2. Move the Cruise Control switch from ON to R/A. Hold it there until reaching the desired speed, then release it.
3. Momentarily push the R/A button. For every push, vehicle speed will increase by about 1 mph (1.6 km/h).

### **Reducing Speed While Using Cruise Control**

To reduce speed while using Cruise Control, use one of the following methods:

- Press the SET button until you reach the lower speed you want, then release it.
- To reduce speed in smaller increments, press the SET button briefly. Each time you press it, you'll reduce speed by about 1 mph (1.6 km/h).

### **Passing Another Vehicle While Using Cruise Control**

Use the accelerator pedal to increase speed. After removing your foot from the pedal, the vehicle will return to the Cruise Control speed set earlier.

### **Ending Cruise Control**

There are two ways to disengage Cruise Control:

- Step lightly on the brake pedal.
- Move the cruise switch to off.

*See Section 3 of your Owner Manual.*

### **Oil Life Monitor**

The Oil Life Monitor shows an estimate of the oil's remaining useful life. When the oil life index is less than 10 percent, the CHANGE OIL SOON light will illuminate in the instrument panel. After having the oil changed, reset the system so it can calculate when the next oil change is required. If you change your oil prior to the illumination of the CHANGE OIL SOON light, reset the system.

### **Resetting the Oil Life Monitor**

To reset the Oil Life Monitor, follow these steps:

1. With the engine off, turn the ignition key to RUN.
2. Fully push and release the accelerator pedal slowly three times within five seconds. (If the CHANGE OIL SOON light flashes, the system is resetting.)
3. Turn the key to OFF, then start the vehicle. The oil life will change to 100 percent.

*See Section 5 of your Owner Manual.*

## Tire Inflation Monitor System (if equipped)

A **LOW TIRE** light will come on if the air pressure in one tire becomes approximately 12 psi lower than the car's normal tire pressure. After filling a low tire with air, or after changing or rotating your tires, the Tire Inflation Monitor must be reset. The red reset button is located inside the fuse box, found near the end of the instrument panel on the passenger side. To reset the monitor, turn the ignition switch to **RUN**, then press and hold the reset button for at **least 5 seconds**.

See *Section 5 of your Owner Manual*.

## Audio System



### Controls:

**PWR** (Power)

**VOL** (Volume)

**DISP** (Display): Press this button to switch the display between the radio station frequency and the time.

**SCV** (Speed-Compensated Volume): SCV adjusts the audio system volume automatically to make up for road and wind noise as you drive. To access the SCV display, press the **TUNE/AUDIO** button repeatedly until **SPEED VOL** appears. Then, select from **OFF**, **MIN**,

**MED** or **MAX**. Each higher choice allows for more volume compensation at faster vehicle speeds.

**BAND**: Press this button to switch between **AM**, **FM1** and **FM2**.

**TUNE**: Turn this knob to choose a radio station.

**[SEEK]**: Press the right or left arrow to go to the next or to the previous station and stay there. To scan stations, press and hold one of the **SEEK** arrows for two seconds until **SCAN** appears on the display. Press one of the **SEEK** arrows to stop scanning.

### Numbered Buttons

The six numbered pushbuttons let you return to your favorite preset stations. (See your Owner Manual for setting your favorite stations.)

**AUDIO**: Allows you to adjust the Bass, Treble, Balance and Fade.

**EQ**: (Equalizer)

### Using the RDS

The Radio Data System (RDS) uses the FM band to: seek to stations broadcasting the selected type of programming, receive local or national emergency announcements, display radio station messages or seek stations with traffic announcements. This system only works when information is available from the stations.

When using RDS, the station name, call letters or program type (PTY) information will appear in the display instead of the frequency. The RDS system includes these controls:


**P-TYP** (Program type): Press this button to find and select a desired program type.


**INFO** (Information): If the current station has a message, INFO will appear in the display. Press this button to view the message.

**TRAF** (Traffic): Press this button to seek to a station that broadcasts traffic announcements.

### Playing a Compact Disc


After inserting a CD into the faceplate slot, use the following controls to operate the player:

 **(Reverse)**: Press/hold this button to reverse within a track. Release it to play the passage.

 **(Forward)**: Press/hold this button to advance within a track. Release it to play the passage.

**4 RDM (Random)**: Press this button to play tracks in random order. Press RDM again to turn off random play.

**DISP (Display)**: Press this button to see which CD track is playing.

 **(SEEK)**: Press the left arrow to go to the start of the current track. Press the right arrow to go to the next track. Holding or pressing either arrow more than once will advance you either backward or forward within the track.


**BAND**: Press to listen to the radio when a CD is playing


**CD**: Press when the radio is playing to listen to a CD.

: Press this button to eject a CD.


### Cassette Player (If equipped)

Use the following controls to operate your cassette player:

 **(Reverse)**: Press this button to reverse the tape rapidly. Press it again to return to playing speed.

 **(Forward)**: Press this button to advance quickly to another part of the tape. Press the button again to return to playing speed.

**SIDE**: Press this button to play the other side of the tape.

 **(SEEK)**: Press the left or right arrow to go to the previous or next selection on the tape. (See your Owner Manual for additional SEEK functions.)

**BAND**: Press this button to listen to the radio when a cassette is playing.

**CD TAPE**: Press this button to play a tape when listening to the radio.

: Press this button to eject a tape.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual*.



## Automatic Power Door Locks



The Automatic Power Door Locks can be programmed in the following ways:

**Choice 1:** All doors will automatically lock when you shift out of PARK. They will all automatically unlock when you shift back into PARK.

**Choice 2:** All doors will lock automatically when you shift out of PARK. But only the driver's door will unlock when shifting back into PARK.

**Choice 3:** All doors will automatically lock when you shift out of PARK. But you choose no automatic unlocking feature.

**Choice 4:** You can also select no automatic door lock or unlock.

See Section 2 of your Owner Manual.

## Delayed Locking (Automatic Power Door Locks)

Your doors will remain unlocked for 3 to 5 seconds after you press the door lock button, in case you need to get right back into your car. To lock the doors immediately, simply press the lock switch a second time. Refer to your Owner Manual if you prefer to completely disable this feature.

See Section 2 of your Owner Manual.

## Remote Keyless Entry Signal (Security Feedback)



Your Remote Keyless Entry system provides a signal to tell you it's working. There are four signals to choose from, and you can choose a different security signal for lock and unlock.

**Choice 1:** Headlamp flash only.

**Choice 2:** Horn chirp only.

**Choice 3:** Both a horn chirp and a headlamp flash.

**Choice 4:** No signal — no headlamp flash, no horn chirp.

See Section 2 of your Owner Manual.

### Restraint System for Children (LATCH)

Your vehicle's LATCH system provides quick and easy installation of child seats that are equipped with the Lower Anchorage tether system. The system uses six anchors on the rear seat with locations marked on the seatback.

In addition, a top strap anchor is located behind the rear seat filler panel. In order to get to the bracket, you must open the trim cover.

See *Section 1 of your Owner Manual.*

### Trip Odometer

In addition to a mileage odometer, your vehicle has a trip odometer that informs you how far you've traveled on weekend trips, back and forth to work, or anywhere else you happen to drive. It is located in the same place as your mileage odometer.

To display it, press and release the black stem located on the right side of your instrument cluster. To set the trip odometer to zero, press and hold the black stem for **at least two seconds**. To recall the mileage odometer, press and release the black stem again.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual.*

### Window Defogging (HVAC)

Under high humidity and low temperature conditions, the windows may fog. To remove this humidity, turn the control knob to the DEF position. Then, set the fan to high speed and raise the temperature to the maximum.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual.*

### Trunk Lock Release



To unlock your trunk, press the button located behind the glove box door. You can also unlock the trunk by pressing the car symbol shown on your Remote Keyless Entry transmitter. Or, simply use your door key to open the trunk.

See *Section 2 of your Owner Manual.*

### Trunk Storage

Your vehicle's trunk lid has a four-bar linkage design which provides more usable trunk space and will not crush cargo or intrude into the storage area.

See *Section 2 of your Owner Manual.*

## Dual Climate Control System

This system controls the heating, cooling and ventilation of your vehicle.



The left knob operates the fan and provides five speed settings ranging from LO to HI. The knob on the right offers six operating modes:

**MAX:** (Maximum Air Conditioning)

**VENT:** (Ventilation)

**BI-LEVEL:** (Bi-Level)

**HTR:** (Heater)

**BLEND:** This mode directs half of the air to the floor outlets and half to the defroster and side window outlets.

**DEF:** This mode directs most of the air through the defroster and the side window outlets.

### Air Conditioning and Rear Defogger

The two buttons located at the bottom of the climate control system faceplate control the air conditioning and the rear window defogger:

**AC:** Press this button to turn the air conditioning on and off. An indicator light above the button will illuminate when the system is on.

**REAR:** Press this button to turn the rear window defogger on. The defogger will shut off automatically after about 15 minutes.

### Individual Temperature Control

The driver and front passenger can select their own air temperatures.

**DRIVER:** The lever on the left adjusts the temperature for the driver's side outlets. Slide the lever up to raise the temperature and down to lower the temperature.

**PASSENGER:** The lever on the right adjusts the temperature for the passenger's side outlets. Slide the lever up to raise the temperature and down to lower the temperature.

See *Section 3 of your Owner Manual.*

## Antilock Brakes (ABS) (if equipped)

Your vehicle is equipped with an antilock brake system (ABS), an advanced electronic brake system that will help prevent a braking skid. When you start your engine or begin to drive away, you may hear a slight noise or feel a brake pedal vibration — this is normal; the system is simply checking itself.

### Using Antilock Brakes:

- Never pump your brakes. Just hold the brake pedal down firmly and steer.
- You may feel a slight pedal pulsation or notice some noise — that's OK — it means your ABS is working properly.

See *Section 4 of your Owner Manual.*

## Roadside Assistance Program

### **Buick Roadside Assistance:**

1-800-252-1112

Buick Motor Division is proud to offer Buick Premium Roadside Assistance to customers for vehicles covered under the 3-year/36,000-mile (60,000 km) new car warranty (whichever occurs first).

Our commitment to Buick owners has always included superior service through our network of Buick dealers. Buick Premium Roadside Assistance provides an extra measure of convenience and security.

Buick's Roadside Assistance toll-free number is staffed by a team of technically trained advisors, who are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

We take the anxiety out of certain situations by providing minor repair information over the phone or making arrangements to tow your vehicle to the nearest Buick dealership.

We will provide the following services for 3 years/36,000 miles (60,000 km), at no expense to you:

- Fuel delivery
- Lock-out service (ID required)
- Tow to nearest dealership for warranty service
- Flat tire change
- Jump starts

We have quick, easy access to telephone numbers of these services to meet your specific needs:

- Hotels
- Glass replacement
- Tire repair facilities
- Vehicle rentals/taxis
- Airports/train stations
- Police, fire and hospitals

When calling, please have the following information ready:

- Vehicle location
- Telephone number at your location
- Vehicle model/year/color
- Vehicle mileage on odometer
- Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
- Vehicle license plate number

Buick reserves the right to limit services or reimbursement to an owner or driver when, in Buick's judgment, the claims become excessive in frequency or type of occurrence.

## My GMLink

The Buick Owner Center at My GMLink is a complimentary service for Buick Owners, a one-stop resource to enhance your Buick ownership experience. Exclusive member benefits include online service reminders, vehicle maintenance tips, online owner manual, special privileges and more. Sign up today at [www.mygmlink.com](http://www.mygmlink.com)

Certain restrictions, precautions and safety procedures apply to your vehicle. Please read your Owner Manual for complete instructions. All information contained herein is based on information available at the time of printing and is subject to change without notice. Copyright 2003 by GM Corp. All rights reserved.



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