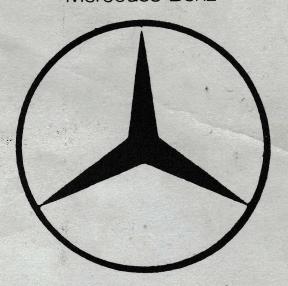
Owner's Manual 280 SL 280 SLC 380 SLC 380 SLC 500 SL 500 SLC

Mercedes-Benz



LE HS &



Drive Sensibly - Save Fuel

Fuel consumption depends largely on how the vehicle is driven and on the operating conditions.

In order to save fuel you should:

- ensure that tire pressure are correct
- not-carry unnecessary loads
- remove ski racks or roof-mounted luggage racks when not in use
- not warm up your vehicle at a standstill
- avoid frequent acceleration and deceleration
- avoid frequent braking
- shift gears on time, do not exceed % of the individual gears' max. speeds
- avoid unnecessarily high speeds
- have all the maintenance jobs specified by us carried out at regular intervals by a MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

For consumption data, refer to page 53

280 SL 280 SLC 380 SL 380 SLC 500 SL 500 SLC



This Owner's Manual also describes optional extras as far as an introduction on their handling is required. As these extras need to be ordered separately, the equipment of your vehicle may deviate from the descriptions and illustrations to some extent.	Obtaining Replacement Key Opening, Locking and Unlocking of Doors Master Lock System Seats Adjustment of Driver's Seat and Front Passenger Seat Safety Headrest Seat Heater Safety Belts
	Controls
	Combination Switch Tempomat
Le .	Heating and Ventilation

The last page

What you need to know at the petrol station

nanding	
Instruments and Controls	8
Instrument Cluster	12
Keys. Doors	14
Main and Secondary Keys	14
Flat Key	1

Obtaining Replacement Keys 14 Opening, Locking and Unlocking of Doors 14 Master Lock System 15 Seats 16 Adjustment of Driver's Seat and Front Passenger Seat 16 Safety Headrest 17 Seat Heater 17 Seat Heater 17 Safety Belts 18 Controls 20 Steering Lock 20 Lighting Switch 21 Switch for Headlamp Beam Control 22 Combination Switch 23 Tempomat 24 Heating and Ventilation 26 Air Conditioning 28 Interior Appointments 30 Interior Lamps 30 Rear View Mirrors 31 Sun Visor 31 Electric Lighter 31 Sliding Roof 32 Heated Rear Window 32 Electric Window Lifts 33 Radio 34 Roadster Top 37	E
Coupé Hardtop 38	

Driving

Bonnet '	12
Regular Inspections	43
Parking Brake	44
Starting and Stopping the Engine	45
Starting and Gear Changing	46
Manual Transmission	46
Automatic Transmission	47
Safe Driving	49
Brake Pad Wear Indicator	50
Brake Fluid	50
ARS Brake System	
(Anti-locking Brake System)	51
Charge Indicator Lamp	51
Revolution Counter	51
Oil Pressure Gauge	51
Headlamp Cleaning System	51
The First 1500 km/1000 Miles	52
The First 1500 km/1000 kmes	50
Driving Economically Gauge for Economical	02
Driving (ECONOMY)	52
Consumption Data	5
Fuel Consumption	5
Engine Oil Consumption	5
Travelling Abroad	5
Winter Driving	5
Snow Chains	5
Driving Instructions	5
Diffing mondone	

Contents

Vehicle Care	
MERCEDES-BENZ Maintenance	
System Severe Operating Conditions .	58
Severe Operating Conditions .	58
Engine Oil and Filter Change .	58
Automatic Transmission -	
Fluid and Filter Change	58
Spare Parts Service	
Cleaning and Care of the	
Vehicle	60
Jobs Related to Care,	
Care Products	61
Roadster Top	63
Practical Tips	
Ashtrays	66
Rear Seat Cushion	
	67
	67
	67
Spare Wheel, Jack, Tool Kit,	~-
	67
	68
	68
Changing Wheels	69
Tyre Pressure	70
Checking Fuels, Coolants,	
Lubricants, etc.	/1
Engine Oil Level Check	71
Coolant inspection	12
Fluid Level — Automatic	
Transmission	/3

Electrical System 74 Replacing Bulbs 74 Fuses 78 Battery 78 Spark Plugs 78	
Emergency Operating of	
Sliding Roof	
Unlocking of the Filler Flap 79 Tow-starting and	
Towing the Vehicle 80	
Jump Starting 81	
Technical Data – Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.	
Identification Plates 84	
Vehicle Data Cards 84	
Technical Data85	
000 01	
280 51	

Coolants, Lubricants, etc.
Identification Plates 84
Vehicle Data Cards 84
Technical Data 85
280 SL 85
280 SLC 87
380 SL89
380 SLC 91
500 SL 93
500 SLC 95
Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. 97
Capacities 97
Engine Oils 100
Fuels 100
Brake Fluid 100
Coolant 101
Printed Matter 102

Handling

Driving

Vehicle Care

Practical Tips

Technical Data - Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.

Left-hand drive vehicle

For more detailed descriptions see quoted pages.

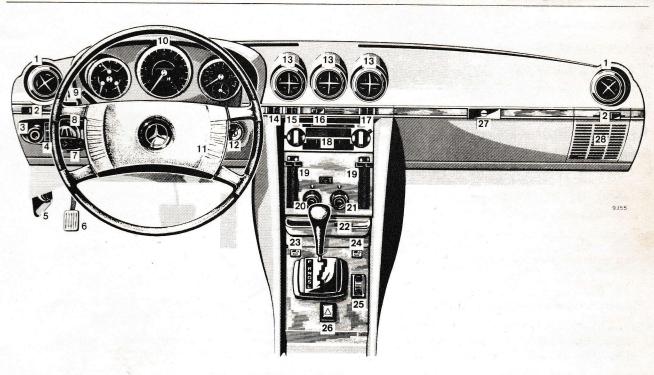
- 1 Swivelling side ventilation outlets (page 26)
- 2 Lever for side ventilation (page 26)
- 3 Parking brake release button (page 44)
- 4 Switch for headlamp beam control (page 22)
- 5 Bonnet release lever (page 42)
- 6 Parking brake pedal (page 44)
- 7 Combination switch (page 23)
- 8 Lighting switch (page 21)
- 9 Tempomat (page 24)
- 10 Instrument cluster (page 12)
- 11 Horn control
- 12 Steering lock with ignition/starter switch (page 20)
- 13 Swivelling outlets for nonheated fresh air (page 26)
- 14 280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL: Switch for front dome lamps

280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC: Switch for rear dome lamp

- 15 280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC: Control for electrically operated sliding roof (page 32)
- 16 Lever for nonheated fresh air (page 26)
- 17 Switch for heated rear window (page 32) (Coupé version only)
- 18 Radio (page 34)
- 19 Heating and ventilation (page 26)
- 20 Blower switch (page 26)
- 21 Temperature switch, air conditioner (page 28)
- 22 Ashtray with electric lighter (page 31, 66)
- 23 Switch for left front seat heater (page 17)
- 24 Switch for right front seat heater (page 17)
- 25 280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC: Loudspeaker – volume control
- 26 Switch for hazard warning flasher system Press switch = hazard warning flasher system switched on Press switch once more = hazard warning flasher system switched off
- 27 Glove compartment, illuminated (only if steering lock is in position "1" or "2") To open, move handle sideways
- 28 Loudspeaker grille, left and right

8

Instruments and Controls



Right-hand drive vehicle

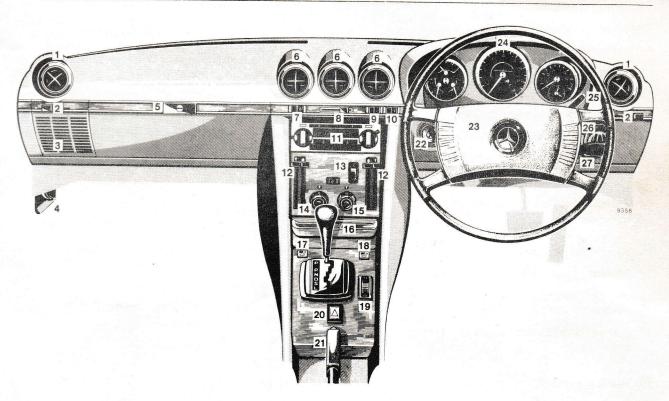
For more detailed descriptions see quoted pages.

- 1 Swivelling side ventilation outlets (page 26)
- 2 Lever for side ventilation (page 26)
- 3 Loudspeaker grille, left and right
- 4 Bonnet release lever (page 42)
- Glove compartment, illuminated (only if steering lock is in position "1" or "2")
 To open, move handle sideways
- 6 Swivelling outlets for nonheated fresh air (page 26)
- 7 Switch for heated rear window (page 32) (Coupé version only)
- 8 Lever for nonheated fresh air (page 26)
- 9 280 SLC, 380 SLC: Control for electrically operated sliding roof (page 32)
- 10 280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL: Switch for front dome lamps 280 SLC, 380 SLC: Switch for rear dome lamp
- 11 Radio (page 34)
- 12 Heating and ventilation (page 26)
- 13 Switch for headlamp beam control (page 22)

- 14 Blower switch (page 26)
- **15** Temperature switch, air conditioner (page 28)
- 16 Ashtray with electric lighter (page 31, 66)
- 17 Switch for left front seat heater (page 17)
- 18 Switch for right front seat heater (page 17)
- 19 280 SLC, 380 SLC: Loudspeaker volume control
- 20 Switch for hazard warning flasher system Press switch = hazard warning flasher system switched on Press switch once more = hazard warning flasher system switched off
- 21 Hand brake lever (page 44)
- 22 Steering lock with ignition/starter switch (page 20)
- 23 Horn control
- 24 Instrument cluster (page 12)
- 25 Tempomat (page 24)
- 26 Lighting switch (page 21)
- 27 Combination switch (page 23)

10

Instruments and Controls



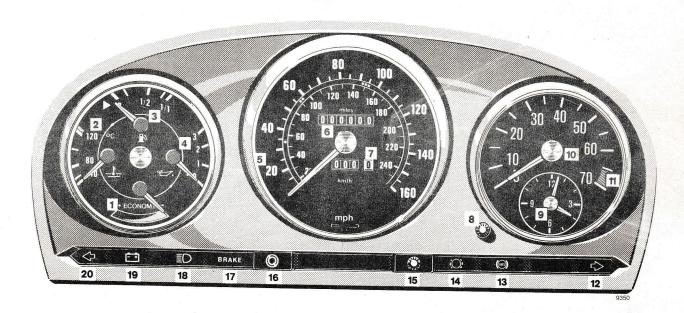
- 1 Gauge for economical driving (ECONOMY). See page 52.
- 2 Coolant temperature gauge (° C) Red marking: Maximum permissible temperature for an antifreeze-blended fill protecting down to -30°C/-22°F. See page 51.
- 3 Fuel gauge with reserve warning lamp (yellow)
 Fuel reserve and capacity, refer to page 99 and
 last page
- 4 Oil pressure gauge. See page 51.
- 5 Speedometer
- 6 Total mileage counter
- 7 Trip mileage counter
- 8 Knob for clock pointers (press in for adjustments)
- 9 Electric clock

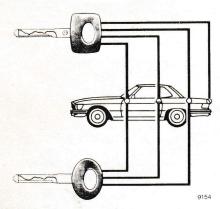
12

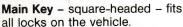
- 10 Revolution counter. See page 51
- 11 Red mark on revolution counter:
 Maximum permissible engine revolutions

- 12 Turn signal indicator lamp, right (green)
- **13** ABS (anti-locking brake system) indicator lamp (yellow). See page 51.
- 14 Brake pad wear indicator (red): Lights up during braking if the front wheel brake pads are worn down. See page 50.
- 15 Control knob for instrument lamps (continuous)
- 16 Resetting knob for trip mileage counter (push button)
- 17 Brake warning lamp (red): Illuminated if the parking brake is engaged or if the brake fluid level in the reservoir is low
- 18 Main beam indicator lamp (blue)
- 19 Charge indicator lamp (red): Illuminated when the steering lock key is switched to driving position "2" and must go out when the engine is running at idle. See page 51.
- 20 Turn signal indicator lamp, left (green)

Instrument Cluster





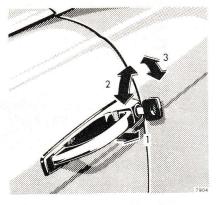


Secondary Key – rounded head – fits only the door locks, the steering lock and the fuel filler cap lock.

Flat Key



The flat key fits all vehicle locks. We recommend that you carry the flat key with you and keep it in a safe place so that it is always handy, if needed (e. g. in your wallet). Never leave the flat key in the vehicle.



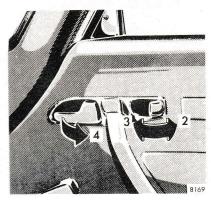
Obtaining Replacement Keys

Replacement keys can be obtained only via MERCEDES-BENZ service stations. If the keys are lost, assistance is rather time consuming and expensive.

Opening the Doors

From outside: swing handle outwards (1).

From inside: pull handle in door panel inwards (4).



Locking and Unlocking of Doors

From the outside: turn key. From the inside: actuate safety catch.

- 2 Unlocking
- 3 Locking

One cannot lock:

- The driver's door if it is open.
- Each door if the door lock has not engaged fully. In this case open the door and shut it again.

14

Master Lock System

The master lock system enables the passenger door, the fuel tank filler flap and the boot lid to be locked or unlocked together with the driver's door. When locking or unlocking, the locking slides on both doors must move simultaneously. If one locking slide fails to do so, the lock of that particular door is not properly engaged. The door must then be opened and shut correctly.

With the master lock system in the locked position, the front passenger door can be locked and unlocked either with the locking slide or with the key.

Actuation of the locking slide on the passenger door, however, is not

possible when the master lock system is in the unlocked position.

The boot lid on a vehicle with master locking system may also be unlocked individually. To do so, turn the main key to the left as far as it will go, then depress the boot lock push button with the key and open the boot. Turn the key to its initial position and withdraw it. To lock the boot lid, close it firmly; the boot will then be locked by the master lock system again.

The boot lid can also be locked independently (for instance in a workshop) without actuating the master lock system. Turn the master key to the right as far as it will go and withdraw it. In this case the boot lid can only be unlocked with

the master key which must be inserted and turned to the left.

Keys Doors

The master lock system is vacuum operated, the vacuum being supplied when the engine is running. A built-in reservoir enables the master lock system to be operated about 5 times when the engine is not running. If the doors can no longer be locked after this period, run the engine for a short while.

If there is no vacuum, the locks may be operated individually in the normal way. In this case the fuel tank filler flap remains unlocked.

Note:

If the filler flap cannot be opened when the master lock system is unlocked, refer to "Unlocking of the Filler Flap" (page 79).



Adjustment of Driver's Seat and Front Passenger Seat

Forward/backward adjustment: lift handle (1), push seat backwards or forwards and allow handle to engage.

Left front seat height adjustment (left-hand drive vehicles only), 3 positions: pull out rotary handles (2) at the rear ends of the guide rails, turn to desired position and allow to re-engage.



The height of the right front seat can be adjusted, if necessary, by relocating the guide rails (2 positions). To do so, unscrew both the rear clamping screws and screw in again at the respective hole.

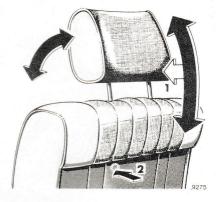
Backrest tilt: turn handwheel (3) back or forth.

280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL: After disengaging, the stop by lifting knob (4), the backrest can be folded forwards.

280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC: Backrests are vacuumlocked when the doors are closed.
One can unlock them from the rear seat by means of a button (5) accommodated in the respective lateral panelling of the rear passenger compartment. With opened doors the backrest will fold forward without pressing the buttons.

16





backrest covering material and pull up headrest, holding it by the LH headrest stirrup (viewed in driving direction). Finally pull out headrest completely with both

The headrest locking knob is located below the LH headrest stirrup (2).

Safety Headrest

Adjust headrest to support the back of the head at ear level.

Height adjustment:

Press headrest slightly forward (1) and reset upward or downward.

Detaching headrests:

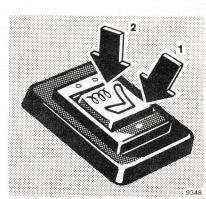
Pull headrest out to the stop. Release arrester by depressing locking knob to be felt under the

Seat Heater

An indicator lamp in the switch comes on when the seat heater is switched on.

The seat heater can be switched on when the steering lock is in position "1" or "2".

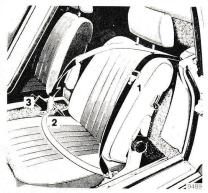
To save the battery, position 2 should not be switched on any longer than absolutely necessary if the engine is switched off.



Pushbutton center position = seat heater switched off

Pushbutton position 1 = continuous operation

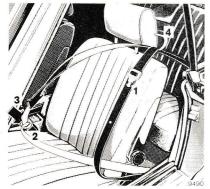
Pusbutton position 2 = quick heating



280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL

Safety Belts

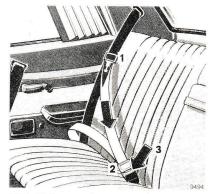
The following instructions only apply to belts installed in the automobile factory. Only safety belts recommended by us may be subsequently installed.



280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC

Fastening:

- Pull belt with tongue (1) over shoulder and lap. The belt must not be twisted.
- Press tongue (1) into buckle (2) and allow to engage audibly.



280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC

 The belt must be tight and must be checked for tightness immediately after fastening and regularly during the journey. If required, tighten lap belt by pulling up on the upper belt section.

On the coupe, the swivelling fitting which is mounted on the lower anchoring point to facilitate entering the vehicle must point forward.

18

Seats

Unfastening:

- Depress red button (3) in buckle.
- Return tongue (1) to initial position.

280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC: The belt must be disengaged from guide (4) before occupying or leaving the rear seat bench.

Operation:

The inertia reel of the safety belt stops the belt unwinding further in case of vehicle deceleration in any direction and if the belt is pulled out quickly.

Functional test:

The locking function of the inertia reel can be tested by braking, negotiating a bend or by pulling the belt out quickly.

Lap Belt in Rear Passenger Compartment:

Pull belt with tongue (1) across the lap, press tongue in lock (2) and allow to engage audibly. The belt



must not be twisted but must be tight.

To shorten the belt, pull belt end with the tongue engaged. To lengthen the belt, turn the tongue so that it is at a little more than 90° to the belt and pull before fastening the belt.

To disengage the belt, push red button (3) in the lock.

Notes:

All safety belts are designed for use by one person. Belts are not intended for children up to a height of approx. 140 cm.

Child restraint systems recommended by us can be fastened to the safety belts installed. Any MERCEDES-BENZ service station will gladly advise you accordingly.

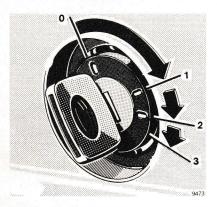
Safety belts which have been subjected to heavy strain during an accident must be replaced. Belt anchorage points should be checked.

Have damaged safety belts renewed.

Belt webbing must not be routed via sharp edges.

No modification which affect the efficiency of the belt must be made.

For cleaning and care of belt webbing, refer to page 61.



Steering Lock

- Steering is locked when the key is withdrawn and the steering lock is engaged. The key can be withdrawn only in zero position.
- Steering is unlocked. (If necessary, move steering wheel slightly to turn the key clockwise to position "1".)
- 2 Driving position.
- 3 Starting position.

Starting and stopping the engine, refer to page 45.

Notes:

Do not remove the key while the vehicle is still rolling as the car can then no longer be steered.

Before removing the key, turn wheels to the straight ahead position with the engine running. After removing the key, turn steering wheel slightly if required so that the steering lock can engage.

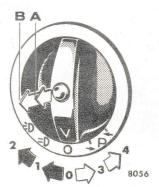
The following consuming units can be operated with the key in steering lock position "1":

Wipers, windscreen washer, headlamp cleaning system (only with lighting switch positions 1 or 2), headlamp flasher, electric lighter, glove box lamp, radio, seat heater, front.

The power supply to the standing lamps is disrupted if the key in the steering lock is in position "2".

20





Lighting Switch 1

- .0 Off-position
- Parking lamps (includes license plate lamp and instrument lamps)
- 2 As position 1 plus main or dipped beam
- 3 Standing lamp, right
- 4 Standing lamp, left
- A As position 1 or 2 plus fog lamps
- B As position A plus rear fog lamp. An indicator lamp comes on in the knob.

Note:

With the steering lock key removed and the driver's door or the front passenger's door open an acoustic signal sounds if the vehicle exterior lamps are not switched off (standing lamps excepted).

Deviations may occur in individual countries because of the legal requirements.

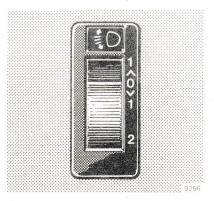


Switch for Headlamp Beam Control on Vehicles without Level Control

- O Driver's seat or both front seats occupied
- Rear seat bench occupied (not applicable to SL models)
- 2 Rear seat bench occupied plus luggage weight in the boot (not applicable to SL models)
 Driver's seat or both front seats occupied and maximum luggage
- 3 Possibly required for trailer operation

weight in boot

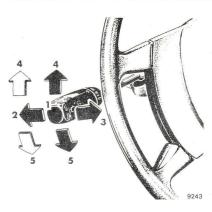
22



Switch for Headlamp Beam Control on Vehicles with Level Control

- 1 Rear seat bench occupied
- Driver's seat or both front seats occupied
- 1 Rear seat bench occupied plus luggage weight in the boot Driver's seat or both front seats occupied and maximum luggage weight in boot
- Possibly required for trailer operation

Controls



Combination Switch 1

- Dipped beam (turn lighting switch clockwise two notches)
- 2 Main beam (turn lighting switch clockwise two notches)
- 3 Headlamp flasher (main beam available independent of lighting switch position)



- 4 Turn signal, right
- 5 Turn signal, left

To operate the turn signals, engage combination switch. The switch is automatically reset when the steering wheel is turned through a fairly large distance.

To signal minor changes in the vehicle's direction, press combination switch to the point of resistance only and hold it there.

- 6 Control for
 - windscreen washer system
 - headlamp cleaning system (will work only with lighting switch in position 1 or 2)

 When in operation the wipers

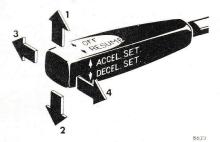
When in operation, the wipers are also activated

- 7 Windscreen wiper control
 - Windscreen wiper switched
 off
 - I Intermittent wiping
 - II Normal wiping
 - III Fast wiping

Note:

If one of the turn signals fails, the turn signal indicator system flashes and sounds at a faster sequence than under normal operating conditions.

Deviations may occur in individual countries because of the legal requirements. On RHD vehicles location is laterally inverted.



Tempomat

Any given speed above approximately 40 km/h/25 mph can be maintained with the Tempomat by operating the switch.

- 1 = Setting (touch switch) Accelerating (hold switch)
- 2 = Setting (touch switch) Decelerating (hold switch) Normally the vehicle is accelerated to the desired speed

with the accelerator. Speed is set by briefly pushing the switch to position "1" or "2", and the accelerator can be released.

The speed can be increased (e.g. for passing) by using the accelerator. As soon as the accelerator is released, the previously set speed will be resumed automatically.

If a set speed is to be increased or decreased slightly, e. g. to adapt to the traffic flow, retain switch in position "1" or "2" until the desired speed is reached. When the switch is released, the newly set speed remains.

3 = Cancelling To cancel the Tempomat, briefly push lever to position "3".

The Tempomat will also be cancelled if the brake pedal is actuated or if the vehicle speed drops below 40 km/h/25mph.

4 = Resume

If the lever is briefly pushed to position "4" when driving at a speed exceeding 40 km/h/
25 mph that speed is resumed which was set prior to the cancellation of the Tempomat. The most recently stored speed is cancelled when the key in the steering lock is reversed to position "1" or "0".

24

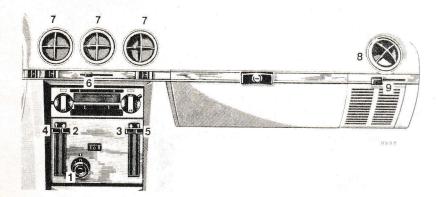
Controls

Important:

Only use the Tempomat if the traffic conditions make it advisable to travel at a steady speed.

Position "Resume" should be applied only if the driver is fully aware of this speed and wishes to resume this particular speed.

When driving with the Tempomat, the selector lever must not be shifted to position "N" as otherwise the engine will rev up.



1 Blower switch (four-speed) Turn to the right = on

To heat and ventilate the parked vehicle, or if an insufficient volume of air is available during the ride, move switch 1 at least to blower speed I. For speedy touring we recommend you to engage blower speed I, for city traffic speed II.

- 2 Air to windscreen Lever up = open
- 3 Air to front and rear footwells Lever down = open
- 4 Heating of LH side of car
- 5 Heating of RH side of car Lever up = hot Control air volume by means of switch 1

- 6 Lever for nonheated fresh air Lever to the left = open
- 7 Swivelling outlets for nonheated fresh air
- 8 Swivelling outlets for side ventilation
- 9 Lever for side ventilation Lever inwards = open

Should all levers be in the "closed" position, air will nevertheless be supplied to the vehicle interior through the indirect door ventilation system.

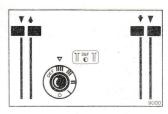
Fresh air enters the vehicle through openings in front of the windscreen (keep free of snow).

Coupé version: When the windows are closed the air is emitted through ventilation openings below the rear window. Do not cover up ventilation openings with clothes etc.

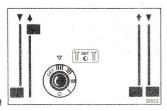
26

Heating and Ventilation

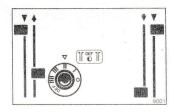
Examples for heating and ventilation settings



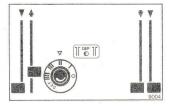
Maximum heating power and maximum air volume to the windscreen (DEF = Defrost). To defrost the side windows, in addition direct swivelling outlets 8 to the side windows and push lever 9 inward.



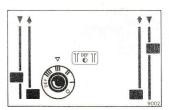
Maximum volume of air to the windscreen and to front and rear footwells (levers 6 and 9 completely opened). If air is intended to be supplied only through swivelling outlets 7 and 8, close levers 2 and 3 completely.



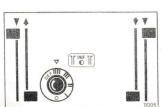
Maximum heating power and normal air volume to the windscreen as well as to front and rear footwells.



Normal volume of air to the windscreen and to front and rear footwells (open lever 6 halfway).



Varying heating power and increased air volume to front and rear footwells, left and right vehicle side.

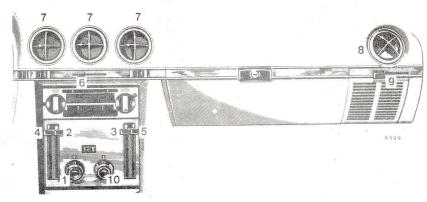


Maximum heating power and maximum air volume to front and rear footwells.

The temperature inside the vehicle can be lowered by means of the air conditioning system. When temperature switch 10 is switched on, the air is passed over an evaporator and is thus cooled and dehydrated at the same time.

The air is circulated by a blower and may be distributed according to preference by means of the ventilation system controls.

The air conditioning system operates only when the engine is running. High engine speed produces a high refrigerant compressor speed which in turn means incresed cooling.



O Temperature switch. Switch on by turning to the right. The cooling effect is increased up to the stop. After 2/3 of the switch travel the system changes over from fresh air cooling to circulation air cooling with a small proportion of fresh air. The blower is switched to low-speed operation. We recom-

mend selecting a higher blower speed with an increasing cooling effect.

Note:

If dust or smells are entering the vehicle from outside, turn temperature switch to recirculation cooling with a small flow of fresh air.

28

Air Conditioning

Rapid cooling:

- Turn temperature switch 10 and blower switch 1 clockwise to the stop.
- Move control levers 2 and 3 to the "closed" position and levers 6 and 9 to position "open".
- Close all side windows. (Hot inside air may first be evacuated by driving briefly with all the side windows down).

Mist on outer side of windscreen

In damp weather the outside of the windscreen may fog. In this instance, push down control lever 2 to supply less cold air to the windscreen.

Mist on inner sides of windows

In damp weather the air conditioner may be switched on in addition to the heater. By doing so, the moisture is extracted by the evaporator either from the fresh air or from the circulating air, depending on the setting of temperature switch 10. This cooled-down air may then be reheated to a pleasant

temperature by positioning heater control levers 4 and 5 accordingly. This action quickly dries up the windows.

Important!

In order to keep the air conditioning system in good working condition at all times, it is necessary to operate the system briefly at least once a month even during the seasons it is normally not required. To avoid annoying cold air, switch blower to the lowest speed only and turn on the heater, if desired.



Interior Lamps

The footwell lamps below the instrument panel are switched on as long as one of the doors is open. 280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL:

The front dome lamps are switched on and off by means of a rocker switch on the instrument panel.

280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC:

The switch for the front lamp has 3 positions.

Position I: the lamp is turned on and off by the door contact switches.

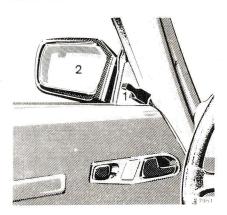
Position II: lamp permanently turned off.

Position III: lamp permanently turned on.

The rear dome lamp is switched on and off by means of a rocker switch in the instrument panel.

30

Interior Appointments



Rear View Mirrors

Outside rear view mirror: Outside rear view mirror (2) can be adjusted by means of lever (1).

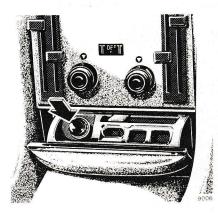
Inside rear view mirror: Can be tilted by means of lever on lower mirror edge. Lever in opposite driving direction = normal position. Lever in driving direction = anti-dazzle position.



Sun Visor

To protect against dazzling sunlight from ahead, fold the sun visor downwards.

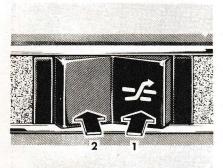
In the event of strong sunlight through the side windows, remove the sun visor from its inner fixture and swing it sideways.

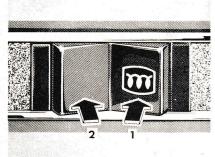


Electric Lighter

Key in steering lock position "1" or "2".

Press in electric lighter; it will pop out automatically when hot.





Sliding Roof

Turn key in steering lock to position "2".

Toggle switch push right (1) = opening

Toggle switch push left (2) = closing

If the electric drive fails, the sliding roof can also be moved by hand. Refer to "Emergency Operating of Sliding Roof".

Heated Rear Window

Turn steering lock key to position "2".

Toggle switch push right (1) = on Toggle switch push left (2) = off

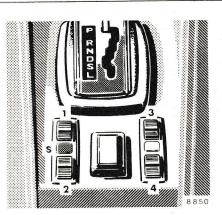
When the rear window heater is working, the indicator lamp in the switch comes on.

A heavy load is imposed on the battery due to the high power requirement. For this reason, switch off the heated rear window as soon as it is demisted or defrosted. It is cut out automatically after 30 minutes at the latest.

First of all, however, clear heavy layers of ice or snow.

32

Interior Appointments



8467



Switch group for window lifts:

- 1 Front, left
- 2 Rear, left
- 3 Front, right
- 4 Rear, right
- S Safety switch

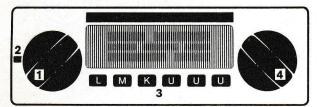
Key in steering lock in position "2". The side windows can be operated as follows:

- By a switch group on the forward end of the oddments tray with one switch for each window (1-4).
- By an individual switch (5) under each rear side window. If the safety switch (S) is not depressed, accidental operation of the rear windows (e.g. by children) is prevented.

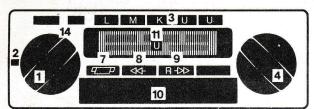


If the key is removed or in position "1" or "0" in the steering lock, the windows can only be operated if at least one of the doors is open.

To eliminate a possible source of danger to children left alone in the vehicle, the key should always be removed, however short the time.

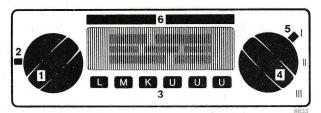


Radio with push buttons for band selection and tuning of preset stations

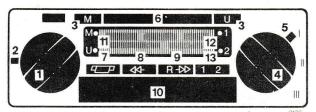


Radio with push buttons for band selection and tuning of preset stations and with built-in cassette player

- 1 On-Off/Volume control
- 2 Tone control
- 3 Push buttons for band selection and tuning of preset stations
- 4 Manual tuning control
- 5 Search sensitivity switch
- 6 Automatic tuning bar



Radio with push buttons for band selection and tuning of preset stations and with automatic station tuning



Radio equipped with reverse cassette player and automatic station tuning

- 7 Cassette release
- 8 Fast forward
- 9 Fast rewind
- 10 Cassette slot
- 11 Wave band indicator
- 12 Track indicator
- 13 Track change-over button
- 14 Mono-stereo reception button

34

Radio

The radio can only be operated with the ignition key in the number "1" or "2" position.

On-Off/Volume

Turn knob (1) clockwise to switch on radio and to increase volume. The green control lamp will come

Radio Fader Control Knob

If speakers are fitted in the rear of the car, the fader control knob balances front and rear speaker volume.

Tone

Turn lever (2) to alter the tone.

Station Tuning

Select desired wave band by pushing the respective button (3). The wave band selected is indicated by wave band indicator (11). The desired station is tuned in by turning the manual tuning knob (4). For good reception, accurate manual tuning is important.

To preset stations of various wave bands (except for cassette players with automatic tuning), pull out preset button (3) to the stop, tune in station with manual tuning knob (4) and push preset button in again to the stop.

Automatic Station Tuning

Select band and push automatic tuning bar (6).

Search sensitivity switch (5)

Position I: Pointer will stop at many stations, including the weak ones.

Position II: Pointer will stop at moderate or powerful stations only.

Position III: Pointer will stop at powerful stations only.

FM Stereo Reception

If an FM stereo station is tuned in the red stereo indicator lamp will come on. Good quality stereo reception, however, is possible only in areas of high field intensity. Accurate tuning to the strongest available stereo stations is of particular importance for fringe area reception.

Your radio is fitted with a continuously operating stereo decoder which automatically switches the radio from stereo to mono reception if the signal becomes too weak. The stereo indicator lamp remains lit. If the signals of the station tuned in become too weak, the stereo indicator lamp goes out.

The radio will return to stereo mode automatically when signal strength permits.

Mono-Stereo Reception Button

Depending on the reception quality, mono or stereo reception can be selected with the mono-stereo button (14). With button not pressed – stereo reception. Button pressed – mono reception, the stereo indicator lamp will not come on.

Tape Playback

Only use brand C 60 or C 90 cassettes. Push cassette into cassette slot as far as it will go with the full reel on the right side. The radio will then switch over from radio reception to tape playback. The cassette will be released automatically as soon as the tape reaches its end.

To play the other side of the tape, turn cassette upside down and reinsert it into cassette slot.

To manually eject the cassette, push release bar (7). When the cassette is ejected, the unit will switch over to radio reception automatically.

Push button 8 or 9 for fast forward or rewind of the tape. Briefly touching the counteracting button will stop the winding process.

Radio equipped with Reverse Cassette Player

Insert cassette (side 1 pointing upwards) into cassette slot and push in to the stop.

If one side of the tape is finished the player changes over to the other side of the tape automatically (continuous operation).

If tape sides are to be changed while playing, push track changeover button (13).

Track indicator (12) indicates the tape side being played.

Care and Maintenance

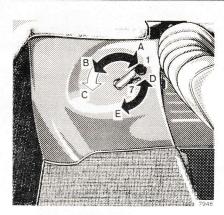
Since dirt deposits on the pick-up head are inevitable after a long period of operation, the pick-up head should be cleaned with a swab as soon as sound reproduction quality deteriorates.

To clean the pick-up head, push inward the swing-away door of the cassette slot and remove dirt with swab.

After approx. 1000 operating hours the equipment should be inspected by a specialist.

36

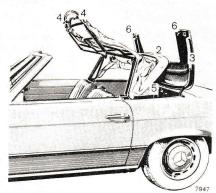
Roadster Top



If possible, park vehicle in the shade as continuous exposure to sun rays will harm canvas colour and rubber coating.

To lower or raise the folding top or to remove or attach the coupé hardtop, find two locking handles in a bag stowed in the glove compartment.

They are used to engage or disengage locks (4). Put locking handles back into the glove compartment after use.



Lowering the roadster top:

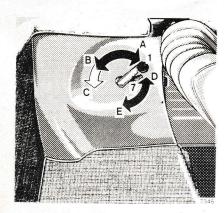
A wet or frozen canvas top must not be folded.

1. Unlock top bow (2) and top storage compartment cover (3) by shifting lever (1) to position C. Lever will automatically return to position B (bow remains unlocked but the top storage compartment cover can be locked). If the top bow cannot be raised in this position, shift lever (7) to position E.

- 2. Lift up top bow.
- Open top storage compartment cover (3).
- Disengage top framework by turning locks (4) inwards. Then detach locking handles.
- Swing back top framework and slip top into top storage compartment (5). Stow overhanging canvas in the storage compartment.
- Close top storage compartment cover, making sure that both ends (6) snap in.

Raising the roadster top:

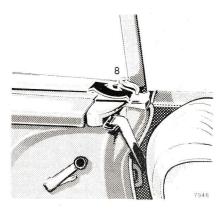
- Move lever (1) to position C and open top storage compartment cover (3).
- Pull top of storage compartment and rest top framework against windscreen upper frame.
- 3. Tighten top framework by turning locks (4) outwards.
- Close top storage compartment cover and be sure it engages at both ends (6).
- Move top bow downwards until it locks and tighten with lever (1) (position A).



Removal or attachment of the coupé hardtop is best done in a MERCEDES-BENZ service station, although this can also be carried out by 2 persons.

The roadster top must be completely dry before it is placed in the storage compartment.

To lower or raise the folding top or to remove or attach the coupé hardtop, find two locking handles in a bag stowed in the glove compartment. They are used to engage or



disengage the locks in windscreen upper frame and behind the doors (8). Put locking handles back into the glove compartment after use.

The coupé top is secured at 5 attachment points:

Front = two locks in windscreen upper frame

Side = one lock behind each door (8)

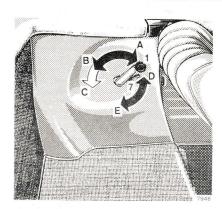
Rear = top bow lock

Removal of coupé hardtop:

- Disengage rear locks with levers (1 and 7). (Lever 1 in position B, lever 7 in position E).
- 2. Turn side locks (8) rearwards to the stop with locking handles.
- Insert locking handles into windscreen upper frame locks and swivel inwards. Detach locking handles.
- Disconnect plug connection of heated rear window on the RH side in the rear passenger compartment.
- 5. Carefully detach coupé hardtop by removing it to the rear.

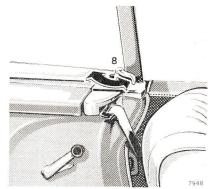
38

Coupé Hardtop



Attaching coupé hardtop:

- 1. Shift lever (1) to position B and lever (7) to position D.
- Carefully position coupé hardtop, at the same time inserting all locking pins into the respective locks.
- Insert both the locking handles into the forward locks and swing outwards.

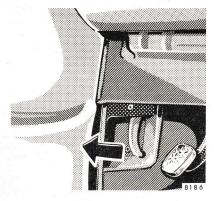


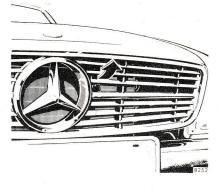
- Insert locking handles into side locks (8) and swivel forward to the stop.
- 5. Push lever (1) to position A.
- Connect plug connection of heated rear window on the RH side in the rear passenger compartment.

The roadster top may become mouldy if it is kept enclosed in the storage compartment for an extended period. We recommend you to have the roadster top removed in a MERCEDES-BENZ service station if you intend to drive only with the coupé hardtop for a lengthy period. Should the roadster top, however, be kept in the car, unfold and air it thoroughly (do not expose to the sun) at regular intervals during the wet and cold seasons.

A special container for the storage of roadster tops or coupé hardtops is available from your MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

Driving





To open, pull handle (below the L-H side of instrument panel) to unlock it. The bonnet opens to the safety catch stop. Pull lever in radiator grille as indicated by the arrow and lift bonnet (windscreen wiper arms must not be folded out).

To close, press down bonnet firmly.

Notes:

There is a risk of injury when the bonnet is open and the engine is running.

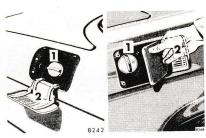
The engine is fitted with a transistorized ignition system. Because of the high ignition voltage it is very dangerous to

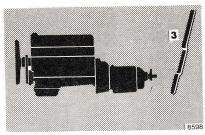
touch the components of the ignition system (ignition coil, ignition distributor, ignition cable, spark plug connectors, test socket) if

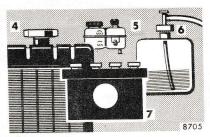
- the engine is running
- the engine is being started
- the key in the steering lock is in position "2" and the engine is cranked by hand.

42

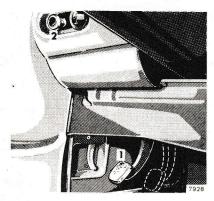
Have the following items checked regularly and before any long journey







1	Fuel Supply	Use premium fuel. For octane rating see "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. and last page". Do not load fuel tank flap.
2	Tyre Pressure	For tyre pressure table refer to fuel filler flap or last page. Check at least every other week. Further information see "Wheels, Tyres, Changing Wheels".
3	Oil/Fluid Level: Engine, Automatic Transmission	See "Checking Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc., Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. and last page".
4	Coolant Level	See "Checking Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants etc., Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. and last page".
5	Brake Fluid	When the minimum mark on the reservoir is reached, have the system checked (brake lining thickness, leaks).
6	Windscreen Washer Headlamp Cleaning System	Top up with water plus MERCEDES-BENZ windscreen washer detergent (container in the engine compartment). Follow the mixing ratio stated on the packet.
7	Battery	Top up with distilled water only. See "Electrical System".
7	Vehicle Lighting	Test for function and cleanness.



Left-hand drive vehicle

Depress parking brake pedal (1). When the key is in position "2" in the steering lock, the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster comes on.

To release, pull release button (2) on the instrument panel. The parking brake releases in one rapid movement. The brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster must go out.



Right-hand drive vehicle

Pull up the lever of the parking brake to the last possible notch. When the key is in position "2" in the steering lock, the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster comes on.

To release the parking brake, lightly pull up lever, depress button in handle and push down lever to the stop with the button depressed. The brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster must go out.

44

Starting and Stopping the Engine

Engage parking brake or service brake before starting the engine.

Move gearshift lever to neutral (selector lever positions "P" or "N" on automatic transmissions).

Turn key in steering lock to position "2". The charge indicator lamp must come on.

Engine cold

Turn key in steering lock clockwise to the stop. As long as the key is held against the stop the starter remains engaged. If necessary, press down the accelerator slowly after the engine has started firing. Release key only when the engine is firing regularly.

Due to the installed starter nonrepeat unit the key in the steering lock must be returned to "0" position before a new starting attempt is made.

Engine hot

Turn key in steering lock clockwise

to the stop. As long as the key is held against the stop the starter remains engaged. Simultaneously depress the accelerator slowly (if the engine is very hot, depress the accelerator completely). Release key and ease off accelerator after the engine has started firing.

Due to the installed starter nonrepeat unit the key in the steering lock must be returned to the "0" position before a new starting attempt is made.

Switching off

Turn the key in the steering lock to position "0" and only remove the key when the vehicle is at standstill.

If the coolant temperature is very high (e.g. after hard driving on mountain passes), do not switch off the engine immediately but allow it to run on for 1–2 minutes at increased idle speed.

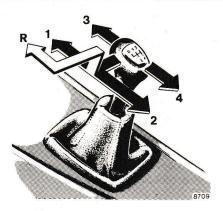
Notes

Observe the oil pressure gauge immediately after starting the engine. In a very cold engine the oil pressure will only rise slowly, some time after the engine has started. Do not rev up the engine before pressure is registered on the pressure gauge.

The charge indicator lamp must go out as soon as the engine has started.

Should too much fuel have entered the engine due to several unsuccessful starting attempts and the engine will no longer fire, depress the accelerator completely while starting. In this way the mixture becomes combustible again. Ease off the accelerator only when the engine is running smoothly.

If the vehicle has not been operated for several days and there have been low ambient temperatures, depress accelerator 2–3 times prior to starting.



Test the service brake after having pulled away.

Warm the engine smoothly. Do not place full load on the engine until the operating temperature has been reached.

Manual Transmission

See illustration for gearshift lever positions of the individual gears.

Engage reverse gear only with the vehicle at standstill; pull up gearshift lever and engage reverse gear shortly after declutching.

Do not exceed the maximum speed in the individual gears. See the markings on the speedometer.

Note:

When parking the vehicle, engage 1st or reverse gear and depress parking brake pedal.

46

Starting and Gear Changing

Automatic Transmission

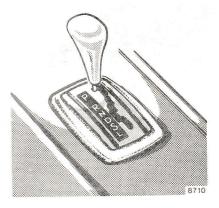
The automatic transmission facilitates and simplifies the operation of the vehicle. Changing is fully automatic and takes place from gear to gear depending on the selector lever position, driving speed and accelerator position.

Note

When parking the vehicle or if working on the vehicle with the engine running, depress parking brake pedal and move selector lever to position "P".

Starting

Move the selector lever into the desired position only when idling. The service brake should be actuated at the same time. The brakes should only be disengaged when the vehicle has started to move. With the selector lever in driving position the vehicle might otherwise start moving prematurely (creeping).



Accelerator position

Light throttle = early changing up = moderate acceleration

Full throttle = late changing up = rapid acceleration

Maximum acceleration is achieved by changing down into the next lower gear by means of the "kickdown", operated by depressing the accelerator pedal beyond the full throttle position. Once the desired speed is reached, reducing pressure on the accelerator will allow the transmission to change into a higher gear.

Gear changing is controlled by the vehicle speed.

Selector lever positions

With the selector lever it is possible to adapt the gear changing sequence to suit any traffic conditions.

- "P" Parking lock.
 An additional safety measure when parking the vehicle, it must only be engaged when the vehicle is stationary.
- 'R" Reverse gear.
 This should only be engaged with the vehicle at rest.
 - " Neutral.
 No power is transmitted from
 the engine to the rear axle.
 When the brakes are off, the
 vehicle can be moved freely
 (pushed, towed or towstarted). Do not engage "N"
 when driving except when
 the vehicle is in danger of
 skidding (e.g. on icy roads).
 See page 55.

Drive 280 SL/SLC, 380 SL/SLC: All gears are available. The vehicle starts off in 1st gear. Position "D" affords optimum driving characteristics under all normal operating conditions. 500 SL/SLC: All gears are available. 1st gear can be engaged only by means of kickdown. Position "D" affords optimum driving characteristics under all normal operating conditions.

Shifting up to 3rd gear only. Suitable for moderate ascents and descents. As the transmission changes up to 3rd gear only, this position permits the untilization of the engine braking effect.

"L" Low.

Changes to 2nd gear only. Suitable for driving on steep mountain passes, for trailer operation in mountainous regions, for driving under severe operating conditions and as a braking position on extremely steep declines.

Do not exceed top speeds corresponding to the individual selector lever positions. Refer to speedometer markings.

Towing a trailer

Never allow the engine revolutions to drop too low when driving uphill. Change down to position "S" or "L" in good time as dictated by the gradient.

Stopping

When stopped for a short time, e.g. at traffic lights, leave the selector lever in the drive position and hold the vehicle with the service brake. When stopped for a longer time with the engine running, put the selector lever in the "N" position. Use brakes, not accelerator, to hold the vehicle on slopes. Thus unnecessary heating of the transmission can be avoided.

Manoeuvring

When manoeuvring in very restricted spaces, e.g. into parking spaces, control the driving speed by light application of the service brake. Depress accelerator only slightly, do not pump it.

To rock the vehicle out of soft ground (mud or snow), use moderate throttle and alternate between forward and reverse gears.

48

Power assistance:

Caution: remember that until the engine is running the power steering and power-assisted brakes are inoperative, therefore requiring considerably increased effort to steer and stop the car.

Tyres:

Do not allow your tyres to wear down too far. With less than 3 mm/0.118 in of tread the skid resistance on a wet road falls off sharply.

Depending upon the weather and/or road pavement the grip of the tyres varies widely.

The retention of the specified tyre pressure is essential. This applies particularly if the tyres are subjected to high loads (e.g. high speeds, heavy loads, high ambient temperatures).

Aquaplaning:

Depending on the depth of the water layer on the road, aquaplaning may occur even with tyres still showing the full tread depth, and even at low speeds. Avoid track grooves in the road and apply brakes cautiously in the rain.

Tyre friction:

Dry road = 100 %

Wet road = from approx. 50 % to approx. 80 % (be particularly cautious on wet and dirty roads)

Icy road = approx. 15 %

A given speed at which a vehicle driven on dry roads can still be fully controlled must be reduced when the same vehicle is to be driven safely on a wet or icy road.

Reduce to approx. 90-70 % on wet roads and to less than 40 % on icy roads.

Safe Driving

You should pay particular attention to the condition of the road as soon as the prevailing temperatures fall close to the freezing point. If ice has formed on the road (e.g. due to fog), a thin film of water is then quickly produced on the ice which substantially reduces the grip of the tyres. Under such weather conditions, drive, steer and brake particularly carefully.

We recommend M+S radial-ply tyres for the winter. On black ice or packed snow they can reduce your stopping distance as compared with summer tyres. Stopping distance, however, is still considerably greater than when the road is wet or dry.

Brakes:

Relieve brakes when driving down long and steep declines by engaging a lower speed (selector lever position "S" or "L" in the case of automatic transmissions). This prevents overheating of the brakes and reduces brake pad wear.

After sharp braking it is advisable not to switch off the engine right away, but to drive on for a short time to enable the air stream to cool down the brakes more quickly.

When driving in heavy rain for some time without applying the brakes, the first braking action may be somewhat retarded and increased pedal pressure may be necessary.

For this reason, stay further away from vehicle in front.

If only moderate use is made of the brake system as a result of the prevailing operating conditions, (e.g. city driving) you should check its efficiency by occasionally braking hard at high vehicle speeds (avoid locking the wheels and endangering other road users). This will also improve the grip of the brake pads.

If the brake warning lamp in the instrument cluster comes on although the parking brake is released, this indicates a low fluid level in the brake fluid reservoir.

Brake pad wear or a leak in the system may be the reason for loss of brake fluid in the reservoir.

Have the brake system inspected at a MERCEDES-BENZ service station without delay.

Install only brake pads recommended by us. If other than recommended brake pads are installed the braking properties of the vehicle can be affected to an extent that the safety is substantially impaired.

Brake Pad Wear Indicator

The brake pad wear indicator in the instrument cluster lights up when the steering lock is turned to driving position "2" and must go out when the engine is idling. If the indicator lights up during braking, this shows that the front wheel brake pads are worn.

The brake system should be checked in a MERCEDES-BENZ service station as soon as possible.

Brake Fluid

As the vehicle is used the boiling point of the brake fluid is continuously reduced through the absorption of moisture from the atmosphere. Under extremely hard operating conditions (e.g. driving on mountain passes) vapor bubbles may thus be formed in the brake system. This will prevent it from working correctly. Brake fluid must therefore be changed annually, preferably in spring.

Use only recommended brake fluids. Refer to your MERCEDES-BENZ service station for information.

50

Safe Driving

ABS Brake System (Anti-locking Brake System)

The ABS indicator lamp in the instrument cluster comes on when the key in the steering lock is turned to position "2" and must go out together with the charge indicator lamp when the engine is idling.

The ABS brake system prevents locking of the wheels up to a point just before the vehicle stops irrespective of the road condition (approx. 5 km/h/3 mph). The vehicle therefore remains fully steerable even when braking.

During harder braking a vehicle vibration and a slight pulsating of the brake pedal occurs due to the brake pressure control action for the anti-locking device (ABS). This shows the driver that the ABS is operating.

If the ABS indicator lamp does not go out after the engine has started or if it comes on for some time while driving, this indicates that the ABS has cut out due to a fault. In this instance the normal braking effect is available, but there is no anti-locking protection. Have the ABS system checked at a MERCEDES-BENZ service station as soon as possible.

Charge Indicator Lamp

Should the charge indicator lamp fail to come on prior to starting when the ignition key is in position "2" or should it fail to go out after starting or during the ride, this indicates a fault which must be repaired at a MERCEDES-BENZ service station as soon as possible.

Revolution Counter

The red marking on the revolution counter indicates the engine overspeed range (avoid overrevving in the overrun mode). A built-in speed limiting device prevents the engine from exceeding the maximum speed during full throttle operation (see "Technical Data").

Oil Pressure Gauge

At operating temperature, the operational safety of the engine is

not jeopardized if the oil pressure at idling drops to 0.5 bar excess pressure. However, the oil pressure must increase immediately upon acceleration.

Coolant Temperature Gauge

Due to the pressurized cooling system the coolant only starts boiling at a temperature of approx. 125° C/257° F with an antifreezeblended coolant fill protecting down to -30° C/-22° F (see also "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.").

The coolant temperature may rise to the red marking in the case of high ambient temperatures and when travelling in mountainous terrain.

Headlamp Cleaning System

The condition of the wiper blades is decisive for permanent and satisfactory cleaning of the headlamp lenses. We therefore recommend you to inspect the blades at regular intervals.

Renew damaged wiper blades.

Avoid placing heavy loads on the engine during this time (driving flat out), high engine revolutions (max \%3 of permissible speed in any gear), and do not allow the engine to labour at low speeds.

Change gear in good time!

On vehicles with automatic transmission, avoid kickdown and do not change down by hand for braking, if possible. Engage selector lever position "S" or "L" only when travelling slowly (on mountain passes).

As of 1500 km/1000 miles, slowly increase to full road speed and/or maximum engine speed.

Driving Economically

Gauge for Economical Driving (ECONOMY)

The gauge for economical driving indicates the fuel consumption tendency during the various driving modes.

If, while driving, the pointer travels to the right into the red field, this indicates an increase in the momentary fuel consumption.

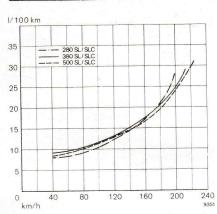
In order to drive economically you should try to keep the pointer of

the gauge away from the red field as much as possible in all gears.

Always select the highest possible gear, e.g. 4th gear on level ground at approximately 60 km/h/36 mph (selector lever position "D" on automatic transmissions). Using 3rd or 2nd gears (selector lever positions "S" or "L" on automatic transmissions) can involve an increased consumption of between 25–80% at this speed.

52

Consumption Data



Fuel consumption at continuous speed

Fuel Consumption

Increased fuel consumption results from very low ambient temperatures and driving in city traffic, from short distance driving and operation in mountainous terrain.

The installation of optional units (air conditioning) increases the consumption slightly.

Fuel consumption of passenger car measured acc. to DIN 70 030, part 1:

280 SL, 280 SLC

Manual transmission City operation: 17.6 l/100 km/16.1 m.p.lmp. gal At 90 km/h/56 mph: 9.4 l/100 km/30.1 m.p.lmp. gal At 120 km/h/75 mph: 11.7 l/100 km/24.1 m.p.lmp. gal

Automatic transmission City operation: 17.1 I/100 km/16.5 m.p. lmp. gal At 90 km/h/56 mph: 10.1 I/100 km/28.0 m.p. lmp. gal At 120 km/h/75 mph: 12.5 I/100 km/22.6 m.p. lmp. gal

380 SL, 380 SLC

City operation: 19.0 I/100 km/14.9 m. p. lmp. gal At 90 km/h/56 mph: 11.1 I/100 km/25.4 m. p. lmp. gal At 120 km/h/75 mph: 13.6 I/100 km/20.8 m. p. lmp. gal 500 SL, 500 SLC

City operation: 20.7 I/100 km/13.6 m.p.lmp.gal At 90 km/h/56 mph: 10.9 I/100 km/25.9 m.p.lmp.gal At 120 km/h/75 mph: 13.2 I/100 km/21.4 m.p.lmp.gal

Engine Oil Consumption

Engine oil consumption can only be determined after a certain mileage has been covered. During the running-in period, oil consumption may be higher than specified. Higher oil consumption will also be encountered when the engine is frequently driven at high speeds.

Engine oil consumption depends on the mode of driving: max. 0.25 l/100 km/141 m.p. lmp. pt. If only a fuel with a lower than specified octane rating is available and you are travelling to countries having no exhaust emission laws to be adhered to, the ignition timing can be adapted within certain limits to the fuel octane rating at a MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

This ignition timing alteration must be considered an emergency measure which is permissible only temporarily and full load must then not be imposed on the engine. This measure will also result in an output drop and in increased fuel consumption.

Your vehicle is equipped with asymmetrical headlamps, therefore, should you be driving in a country in which the traffic travels on the opposite side of the road to that in your home country, it is possible to correct the prismatic effect by attaching an opaque corrective adhesive tape.

Have your car winterized in a MERCEDES-BENZ service station before the onset of winter.

- Engine oil change: If no "all-year round" engine oil is used, fill with recommended winter oil. For viscosity and capacity, refer to "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. and last page".
- Antifreeze in coolant: Have antifreeze checked from time to time. For capacities, see "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.".
- Additive in the windscreen and headlamp washing system: Add MB windscreen washing detergent to the water.
- Battery check: Battery capacity drops with decreasing ambient temperature. Certain starting even at low ambient temperatures can only be assured by a well charged battery.

54

Winter Driving

- Underseal: Underseal is applied to the vehicle in the factory. In addition to this and as a preventive measure have the vehicle underside treated with a recommended underside protection wax to protect against thawing salts.
- Tyres: We recommend M + S radial tyres on all wheels for the winter season. Observe permissible maximum speed for M + S radial tyres und the legal speed limit.

Snow Chains

Snow chains can only be used on the driving wheels. Use only chains tested und recommended by us. Any MERCEDES-BENZ service station will readily advise you.

Retension the snow chains after driving for a short while. Do not exceed the maximum permitted speed limit 50 km/h/30 mph on snow covered roads. On roads clear of snow remove chains as soon as possible. Follow the fitting instuctions of the manufacturer.

Driving Instructions

The most important rule for icy roads is to drive sensibly and to avoid abrupt acceleration, braking and steering action.

When the vehicle is in danger of skidding, declutch or — in case of an automatic transmission — move selector lever to position "N". Try to keep the vehicle under control by means of corrective steering action.

Provided the traffic conditions will allow, only brake in a way that the wheels are locked for no more than fractions of a second as otherwise the steerability of the vehicle is lost.

Road salts can adversely affect braking efficiency. Increased pedal force may become necessary to produce the normal brake effect. We therefore recommend depressing the brake pedal repeatedly when travelling on salt-strewn roads at length. This can bring road salt impaired braking efficiency back to normal. A prerequisite is, however, that this is possible without endangering other drivers on the road.

If the vehicle is parked after being driven on salt treated roads, the braking efficiency should be tested as soon as possible after driving is resumed while adhering to the safety requirements. Should the braking efficiency have deteriorated considerably it can be improved again by braking several times.

Like all technical equipment your vehicle requires service and maintenance.

A maintenance booklet was supplied with your car containing all the maintenance work to be carried out at the following mileages:

- Once at 1000-1500 km/600-900 miles.
- At 20000 km/12000 miles and then every 20000 km/ 12000 miles.

Please also note the instructions given in the maintenance booklet regarding necessary service work (every 10 000 km/6000 miles), additional maintenance work (every 60 000 km/36 000 miles) and MB non-scheduled maintenance as required.

In the case of low mileage vehicles, service jobs must be carried out at least once a year and maintenance jobs not less than every 2 years.

Brake fluid must be renewed annually, preferably in the spring. Only use brake fluid recommended by us.

Please have the work carried out confirmed in the maintenance booklet.

Severe Operating Conditions

In the case of rigorous operating conditions or heavy use mainly in city traffic or over short distances, frequent mountain driving, poor roads, dusty and muddy conditions, trailer operation, hard and sporty driving, etc., it may be necessary to inspect e.g. the tyres and the air cleaner element at shorter intervals.

Any MERCEDES-BENZ service station will be pleased to give you expert and personal advice.

Engine Oil and Filter Change

If year-round oil is used, change every 10 000 km/6000 miles or at least once a year, otherwise at least twice a year (spring and autumn).

Under severe operating conditions every 5000 km/3000 miles.

For regular oil level checks, refer to "Checking Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.".

Automatic Transmission – Fluid and Filter Change

To be carried out every 60 000 km/ 36 000 miles.

Under severe operating conditions, change transmission fluid every 30 000 km/18 000 miles (without filter change).

58

Spare Parts Service

All MERCEDES-BENZ service stations store the MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts required for maintenance and repair work. Besides this bases are provided all over the globe intended to ensure the rapid supply of MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts.

More than 200 000 different spare parts, even for rather old vehicle models, are furthermore stocked in the central plant warehouses.

We guarantee maximum operational efficiency and reliability as well as optimum retention of the vehicle value when MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts are installed, as

they are subjected to most severe quality inspections. Each part has been specifically developed, manufactured or selected for and adapted to MERCEDES-BENZ vehicles.

For this reason, only MERCEDES-BENZ original spare parts should be installed. In operation your vehicle is subjected to many external effects which are harmful to body and underside. Besides the often rather inclement and alternating weather conditions this includes air pollution, thawing salts, tar, flying gravel and stones. In order to avoid damage to the paintwork, remove fuels, coolants, lubricants, brake fluid, bird droppings, wood resin and the like as fast as possible.

Special care may also be necessary in unfavourable conditions such as coastal regions, industrial areas (smoke, pollutants) and during winter operation.

Have vehicle checked regularly for damage inflicted by flying gravel or other causes. Damage should be repaired at earliest possible opportunity.

Have the engine compartment preserved every time the engine is washed. All throttle linkage bearing points must be lubricated prior to preservation.

We have selected car care products and listed recommendations which are specially suited to the care of our vehicles; these recommendations are constantly brought up to date. MERCEDES-

BENZ car care products are available at any MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

Deep scratches, corrosive deposits, etched spots and damage due to negligent or incorrect care cannot always be removed with the usual car care products. In such cases it is best to turn to the experts at your MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

The following is a review of the most important car care jobs with information about recommended MB products and other important details.

60

Cleaning and Care of the Vehicle

Insect Removal MB Insect Remover

Apply before washing the car.

Car Wash

Put MB Autoshampoo into Washing Water

Do not wash in the sunshine.

Spray the car with a diffused water jet. Only spray the entry portal of the ventilation system with a very light jet. Use plently of water. Wash out sponge and chamois often. Rinse with clean water and polish well with a chamois.

If the vehicle has been run through an automatic car wash – in particular one of the recessed sections provided in the tail lamps for improved prevention of soiling, if necessary. No solvents (fuels, thinners etc.) must be used.

In winter remove any traces of thawing salts immediately and thoroughly.

When washing the car underbody, do not fail to clean the inner side of the disc wheels.

Tar Stains

MB Tar Remover

Quickly remove tar stains before they dry as old stains are more difficult to dissolve.

Windows

MB Window Cleaner

Use for heavy and oily soiling of windows. Clean windscreen wiper blades with clean cloth and washing solution, replace blades once or twice a year.

Plastic Parts, Rubber Parts and MB-Tex Upholstery Covers

MB Autoshampoo as Washing Solution, MB Plastics Cleaner

Do not use any other solvents, do not oil or wax these parts.

Safety Belts

The webbing must not be treated with chemical cleansing agents but must be cleaned with clear lukewarm water and soap only.

Do not dry webbing at temperatures above 80°C/176° F or in direct sun radiation.

Never bleach or re-dye webbing.

Steering Wheel, Gear Shift Lever and Instrument Cluster

As Washing Solution Use MB Autoshampoo, Neutralized Dishwashing Detergent or Soft Detergent

Wipe with a lint-free cloth wetted in lukewarm solution. Do not use scouring agents.

Upholstery

MB Autoshampoo, MB Stain Remover

Fabric upholstery: Brush and vacuum-clean frequently. If heavily soiled, clean with dry shampoo.

Velours upholstery:
Pressure marks resulting from
dampness and heat may appear to
be stains. Such stains can be
removed by wiping with a moistened brush, ironing with a wet
cloth or by treating with dry sham-

poo. Do not sit on damp upholstery. Quick drying is achieved by applying hot air – e.g. by using a hair drier.

If in doubt, please consult your MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

MB Autoshampoo as Washing Solution

Wipe leather upholstery with a damp cloth and wipe dry.

Perforated leather must not be allowed to become wet on the reverse side; therefore be very careful when cleaning.

MB Leather Care

For care and anti-static protection.

Paintwork

MB Gloss Preserver, MB Polish, MB Buffing Cloth, MB Paint Cleaner

Do not apply when the car is parked in the sun or when the bonnet is still warm.

MB Gloss Preserver protects the paintwork and retains the gloss of the paintwork.

If the car is heavily dirtied, use MB Polish which also preserves the paintwork.

Also use MB Polish to preserve the gloss and to eliminate minor scratches on wooden parts.

MB Paint Cleaner is designed to clean old and weathered paintwork.

MB Touch-up Stick or MB Touchup Paint Spray

For quick and provisional repair of minor paint damage.

MB Polishing Compound

For polishing of heavily dirtied or weathered paintwork as well as for the removal of minor scratches.

Light Alloy Disc Wheels MB Autoshampoo, MB Light Alloy Wheel Care, MB Light Alloy Wheel Cleaner

If possible, clean wheels once a week with lukewarm water and MB

Autoshampoo. Use an ample supply of water.

MB Light Alloy Wheel Care is provided for the special care of light alloy disc wheels as is MB Light Alloy Wheel Cleaner for stubborn grime.

Follow instructions given on the packing.

Garnish Moulding

(Chromium-plated, Aluminium)

MB Chrome Care

For routine care.

MB Chrome Protective Wax, MB Chrome Protective Lacquer

For spray preservation in winter.

Underside of Vehicle Wax-based Underseal

For annual preservation.

62

Cleaning and Care of the Vehicle

Roadster Top

(Rubber-coated Canvas)

Stow only a completely dry top in the storage compartment. If the top is kept in the storage compartment for a lengthy period, unfold and air it well with the windows down from time to time.

Remove bird droppings immediately. The organic acid swells the rubber and causes the top to leak.

In general regular spraying or cleansing with clear water will do.

Wash top only when heavily soiled, not every time the car is washed.

Caution: Never use any petrol, thinner, tar and stain removers or similar organic solvents to clean top or rear window.

Dry cleaning:

Brush top (always from front to rear) with a soft-bristled brush.

Wet cleaning:

Brush the dry top. Wash with a mild detergent and an ample supply of lukewarm water by wiping the canvas with a soft-bristled brush or a sponge from front to rear. Then cleanse thoroughly with clear water.

If only parts of the top have been washed, wet the entire top at the end of the proceedings and allow the unfolded and tightened top to air-dry. Wipe the rear window with a cloth soaked with a detergent and rub dry. Do not use sharpedged instruments for the removal of ice and snow.

Important!

The seams of the top may start to leak due to improper care and cleaning, as well as due to usage over a long period of time. A resealing of the top seams can be carried out at every MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

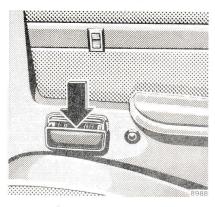
Practical Tips



Ashtrays

To remove front ashtray: Fold ashtray out and down to the stop, push down the locking spring (1) in the middle and pull out ashtray.

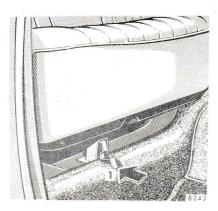
To install ashtray: Set the ashtray in position accurately and push in.



To remove rear ashtray (280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC):

Push the ashtray down while opening and remove.

To install ashtray: Set the ashtray in position accurately and push in.



Rear Seat Cushion

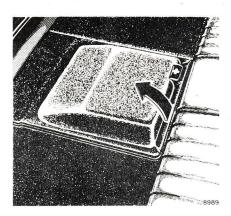
(280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC):

Removal: Push in left and right spring clamps (1), slightly raise rear seat cushion at the front side and pull towards the front.

Installation: Push rear end of rear seat cushion under rear seat back as far as it will go and press seat cushion front section downwards until it rests on the cushion support.

66

Practical Tips



First Aid Kit

The first aid kit is stowed in a cavity in the hat shelf at the rear.

Fire Extinguisher

The fire extinguisher is mounted in front of the driver's seat. It must be recharged after each use and inspected every 1–2 years.

Ski Racks and Roof Racks

In order to prevent damage to the vehicle, only use ski racks and roof racks tested and recommended by us.

Spare Wheel, Jack, Tool Kit, Warning Triangle

The spare wheel (1) is located in a trough underneath the folding boot floor panel (3).



The jack (2), the tool kit and the warning triangle are positioned on the right-hand side of the boot.

Note:

The jack is designed exclusively for jacking up the vehicle. Jack stands must be used when working under the vehicle.

Wheels, Tyres

In case of replacement we recommend you to use tyres of identical design, version and brand.

Your MERCEDES-BENZ service station has all the information on tested and recommended summer and winter tyres. Please allow them to advise you on all questions concerning wheels and tyres (maintenance and new tyres).

Mount single newly acquired tyres on the front wheels. If any tyres are replaced and the spare tyre is new and of the same make and version, mount the spare wheel on the vehicle as road wheel. We recommend that you run in new tyres for approx. 100 km/60 miles at moderate speed.

To prevent damage to the valves, vehicles equipped with steel disc wheels must only be driven with the wheel embellishers installed.

For tyre sizes see "Technical Data".

Interchanging wheels:

The wheels can be rotated according to the degree of tyre wear while retaining the same sense of rotation. Rotating, however, should be carried out before the characteristic tyre wear pattern (should wear on front wheels and tread center wear on rear wheels) becomes visible at a mileage of 5000 – 10000 km / 3000 – 6000 miles as otherwise the driving properties deteriorate.

Slowly leaking air (e.g. due to a nail in the tyre) may cause damage to the tyre such as pealing tread or breakage of cleats. Regular tyre pressure checks at intervals of no more than 14 days are therefore essential. For the tyre pressure checks, keep in mind that warm tyres show higher pressure than cold tyres. See tyre pressure chart. Should the tyre pressure decrease

constantly, check whether foreign bodies have penetrated the tyre or if disc wheel or valve allow the air to leak

Caution: Use longer wheel bolts for light alloy disc wheels than those required for steel disc wheels (see illustration page 69).

Thoroughly clean the inner side of the wheels any time you interchange the wheels or wash the underside of the vehicle.

Dented, bent or corroded rims cause tyre pressure loss and damage to the tyre beads. For this reason, check rims for damage at regular intervals. Derust sheet steel disc wheels and spot paint, if required.

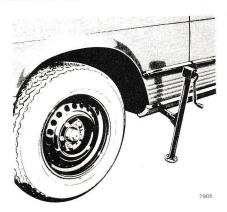
Check rim flanges of light alloy disc wheels for wear before a tyre is mounted. Remove burrs, if required.

Wheels Tyres Changing Wheels



Changing Wheels

- 1. Engage parking brake.
- With manual transmission, put the gear lever in first or reverse gear position, with automatic transmission, select the park position "P".
- Prevent the vehicle rolling away with chocks or similar. On slopes the chocks should be placed on the downhill side of the two opposite wheels: when changing the rear wheels on level roads, in front of and behind the opposite front wheel.



- Insert the combination wrench into one of the wheel embellisher slots and lever off the hub cap.
- Loosen the wheel bolts with the combination wrench but do not remove them as yet.
- If required, thoroughly clean the jack application tube on the vehicle. (Jack application tubes are behind the front wheel houses and in front of the rear wheel houses.)
- Insert the jack arm into the hole all the way to the stop. Position the jack so that it is always

Observe wheel bolts:

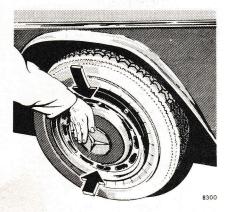
- 1 For light alloy disc wheel only
- 2 For steel disc wheel only



- vertical even on slopes. Jack up the vehicle until the wheel is clear of the ground.
- Now remove the wheel bolts completely; protect the threads from dirt and sand etc. when you put them down. Remove the wheel.

Note:

It must be ensured that light alloy disk wheels do not tip over after the last wheel bolt has been removed or while the first one is turned in as otherwise the wheel hub may suffer damage.



- Adjust the jack so that the spare wheel may be mounted without having to be lifted.
- 10. Mount the wheel (valve at the bottom) and press onto the wheel carrying plate. Tighten the wheel securing bolts. Use only wheel bolts fitting the disc wheels.

- Lower the vehicle and remove the jack. Tighten the five bolts alternately and evenly. Tightening torque 100 Nm/72.6 lb-ft.
- 12. Fitting the wheel embellisher: first position the tyre valve in the slot halfway between the two securing clips of the embellisher and press that section of the embellisher against the rim flange. Then position the two opposite clips in the rim and strike the embellisher firmly with the flat of the hand towards the valve so that the clips engage in the rim.
- 13. Check and adjust tyre pressure.

Tyre Pressure

A table (see fuel filler flap or last page) lists the tyre inflation pressures specified for summer and winter tyres as well as for the varying operating conditions. Tyre pressures listed for light loads are minimum values offering high driving comfort. Increased inflation pressures for heavy loads produce favourable handling characteristics with lighter loads and are perfectly permissible. The ride of the vehicle, however, will become somewhat harder.

Tyre temperatures and pressures tend to increase in direct relation to speed and load. Thus, in normal circumstances, the tyre pressure should only be corrected when the tyres are cold. The pressure of warm tyres should only be corrected when, even after consideration of the prevailing operating conditions, the value is less than that shown in the table.

70

Checking Fuels Coolants Lubricants etc.



280 SL/SLC

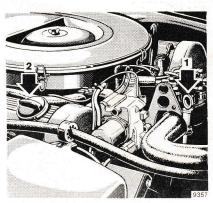
Engine Oil Level Check

- 1 Dipstick
- 2 Oil filler hole

Check engine oil level at regular intervals, e.g. after refueling, with the engine at operating temperature and shut off.



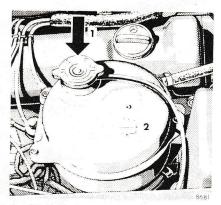
The vehicle should be parked on level ground and the oil level must be somewhere between the lower and upper mark on dipstick (1); do not replenish in excess of the upper mark.



380 SL/SLC, 500 SL/SLC

Wipe dipstick before any oil level measurement. To determine the oil level, check both sides of the dipstick. Always determine the oil level by means of the straight horizontal marking formed by the oil on one side of the dipstick.

For viscosity and capacity see "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc. and last page".



1 Coolant filler 2 Coolant level marking

Coolant Inspection

The coolant reservoir with filler neck is arranged away from the radiator. To replenish coolant, the car must be on level ground.

The radiator cap may only be opened at a coolant temperature under 90° C/194° F. Turn the cap to the first notch to release the excess pressure. Opening it all the way would allow hot water and steam to be sprayed out.

The coolant level must reach:

- the mark indicated on the container when the coolant is cold.
- approximately 2 cm/0.8 in higher when the coolant is hot.

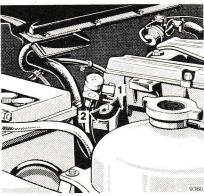
For antifreeze brands refer to "Fuels, Coolants, Lubricants, etc.".

280 SL/SLC: The drain plugs are situated on the right side of the engine and on the bottom of the radiator.

380 SL/SLC, 500 SL/SLC: The drain plugs are situated on the right and left side of the engine and on the bottom of the radiator.

72

Checking Fuels Coolants Lubricants etc.

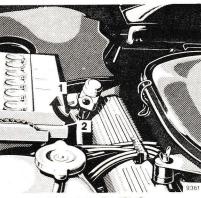


280 SL/SLC

Fluid Level – Automatic Transmission

The transmission fluid level check should be carried out together with the engine oil check regularly or before every longish journey.

Check transmission fluid level with the engine idling, parking brake engaged and selector lever in



380 SL/SLC, 500 SL/SLC

position "P". The vehicle must be parked on level ground. Before the check, allow engine to idle for approx. 1 to 2 minutes.

Measure fluid level with the dipstick completely inserted and the locking lever released (1).

Complete cleanliness must be observed. To wipe the dipstick, use a clean, lint-free cloth (or better still

leather). To fill the transmission with fluid, only pour it through a fine-mesh filter into the dipstick opening. Even the slightest impurity may cause operational troubles.

The fluid level in the transmission changes with the temperature. The markings on the dipstick (max. and min.) refer to a fluid temperature of 80° C/176° F – normal temperature with the transmission warm.

At a fluid temperature of 20–30° C/68–86° F, however, the maximum fluid level is about 5 mm/0.2 in below the minimum mark. This information serves as a guide for fluid change which is generally carried out at this temperature.

The maximum mark on the dipstick must not be exceeded. Possible excess of fluid should be drained or siphoned off.

Then push dipstick all the way in and swing locking lever downwards (2).



Fuses

Fuse box (1) is mounted below the instrument panel on the right.

A review of the protected equipment is located in the lid (2) of the fuse box.

Fuses must not be repaired or bridged.

Spare fuses (observe amperage and colour) are stowed in the tool kit.

Before exchanging a burnt-out fuse, ascertain the cause of the short circuit.

Battery

Check the fluid level in the cells from outside approximately every 4 weeks, and more often in summer and in hot areas.

The fluid level must be between the lower and the upper markings.

Only replenish with distilled water. Do not use metal funnels and do not perforate the diaphragm of the battery overfill protection.

The battery is filled to the maximum level when the water level in the cell filling chamber stops going down.

If battery acid is to be extracted for battery diagnosis purposes, perforate the diaphragm with the hydrometer or the tube attached to it.

Coat battery terminal clamps with acidproof grease. Keep battery clean and dry.

Only tow vehicle with the battery

Only charge battery with the rapid charger when it is disconnected from the vehicle circuit.

Note:

While the engine is running the battery terminal clamps must not be loosened or detached as otherwise the alternator and other electronic units would be damaged.

Spark Plugs

A special wrench must be used for the removal and installation of spark plugs.

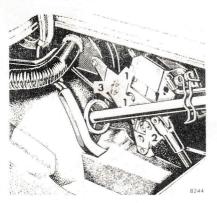
For standard spark plugs refer to "last page".

380 SL/SLC, 500 SL/SLC without automatic climate control

The battery must be removed before the spark plugs are changed. The special wrench required for this job is included in the vehicle tools.

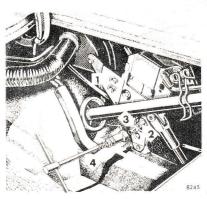
78

Emergency Operating of Sliding Roof



In the event of trouble with the electric drive, the roof can also be moved by hand.

For this purpose the drive motor (R-H side of boot) has a carrier disc (2). By means of the connecting piece (3) held in clips on the



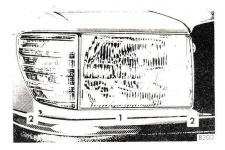
mounting plate (1) and the spark plug wrench (4), the carrier disc can be turned and the sliding roof moved in the desired direction.

To close the sliding roof, turn clockwise.

Unlocking of the Filler Flap



If the filler flap cannot be opened when the master lock system is unlocked, withdraw the link of the vacuum element (on RH side of the boot)



Replacing Bulbs

Only handle new bulbs for headlamps and tail lamps with tissue paper or similar.

Install only bulbs of prescribed wattage. Refer to "Technical Data and last page".

Headlamp Adjustment:

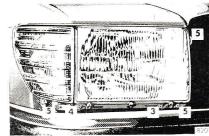
Check regularly and after each bulb replacement. Have headlamps readjusted, if necessary.

Prior to adjustment, run engine and turn switch of headlamp beam control to "0" position.

Headlamp unit, front

- 1 Cover plate
- 2 Cover plate fixing screws
- 3 Screws for horizontal adjustment
- 4 Screws for vertical adjustment
- 5 Fixing screws for headlamp unit

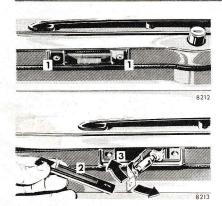
Open bonnet, loosen clamping screws 2 of cover panel, lift cover panel at the inner end and detach it. Then loosen clamp screws 5, pull away the bottom of the head-lamp cluster somewhat, push down and swing out top end.



- 6 Turn signal lamp bulb: Loosen attaching screw and detach lamp holder. Depress bulb, turn left and pull out.
- Main beam and dipped beam bulb: Pull plug connection off the lamp base, depress lamp holder (9), turn left and disengage from its bayonet catch. Remove bulb and install new one in a way that the guide lugs of the base mounting flange

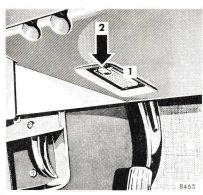
74

Electrical System



Number Plate Lamps

Loosen both the securing screws (1) of the lamp, detach lens with gasket (2) and pull down lamp holder (3) on the L-H side. When replacing the lens, it must be assured that the lug in the lens is on the left side.



Footwell Lamps

Press off lamp (1) at the nose (2), replace bulb and press lamp on again.



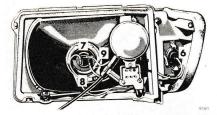
Dome Lamps

280 SLC, 380 SLC, 500 SLC:

To replace the bulb, slightly press forward dome lamp to the right (1), lift up at left side (2) and then pull out to the left.

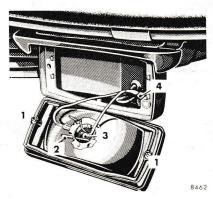
Remove rear dome lamp likewise. 280 SL, 380 SL, 500 SL:

To replace the bulb, pull out lamp.



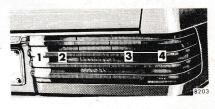
engage the socket recesses. Position lamp holder, depress and turn right to the stop.

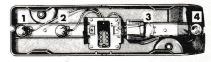
8 Parking lamp and standing lamp bulb: Disengage lamp holder 9, depress bulb, turn and take out. When installing, be sure the locating pins of the bulb are properly seated.



Fog Lamps

Loosen securing screws (1) and detach lens with reflector. Disengage retaining spring (2), remove bulb (3) and disconnect plug socket (4).





8204

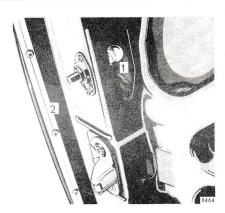
Rear Lamps

- 1 Reversing lamp
- 2 Stop lamp
- 3 Standing lamp/tail lamp Rear fog lamp (on driver's side only)
- 4 Turn signal lamp

Loosen both the knurled nuts in the boot and detach lamp bracket. To replace the bulbs, depress, turn left and pull out.

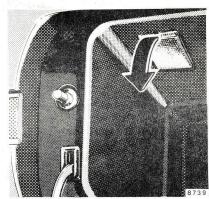
75

Electrical System



Boot Lamp

The boot lamp (1) is easily accessible when the boot lid (2) is opened. To replace the bulb, depress, turn counterclockwise and take it out.



Glove Box Lamp

To replace the bulb, pull out lamp.

Towing eyes are situated underneath the front and rear end on the R-H side. Use a tow-bar or long cable.

Only tow-start vehicle with the battery connected and the key in steering lock position "2".

Caution: remember that until the engine is running the power steering and power-assisted brakes are inoperative, therefore requiring considerably increased effort to steer and stop the car.

Tow-starting a Vehicle with Automatic Transmission

Selector lever in position "N", switch on ignition and then have the vehicle tow-started.

Tow the vehicle until a speed of 30 km/h/18 mph is reached (transmission very cold) or 50 km/h/30mph (warm transmission) and

maintain this speed for about one minute to ensure sufficient oil pressure in the transmission.

For starting the engine, set selector lever to "L". When doing so, never touch the accelerator pedal before the engine is running. As soon as the engine has started, move the selector lever back to position "N" immediately.

If the engine has not started after several seconds, move the selector lever back to "N" position from "L", otherwise the transmission may be damaged.

Tow the vehicle again for some time with the selector lever in "N" position before attempting to start again. Proceed as before.

The same procedure may be used for starting the engine while rolling downhill.

Towing a Vehicle with Automatic Transmission

To tow a vehicle a distance of up to 120 km/75 miles, move the selector lever to position "N" and do not exceed a towing speed of 50 km/h/30 mph to avoid the risk of causing damage to the transmission.

A vehicle which has suffered damage in an accident or which has a defective transmission or needs to be transported over a long distance can be towed only with the rear axle lifted up or with the propeller shaft unflanged (at the rear axle).

The best solution is transportation on a special automobile transporter truck or trailer. If in doubt, this method should be preferred.

80

Jump Starting

If the battery is flat the engine can be started with jumper cables (minimum lead cross section is 35 mm²) and the (12 V) battery of another vehicle. Proceed as follows:

- Turn key to steering lock position "0".
- Run engine of jumper vehicle at high idle.
- First connect jumper cables to the positive battery terminals and then to the negative terminals.
- Start engine as normal.
- After the engine has started, first remove jumper cables from the negative battery terminals and then from the positive terminals.

Instructions:

A flat battery can freeze at approx. –10° C/14° F. In all cases it must be thawed out before jumper leads are used.

Never lean over batteries while jump starting, you might get burnt.

Technical Data Fuels Coolants Lubricants etc. When ordering spare parts please quote chassis and engine numbers.

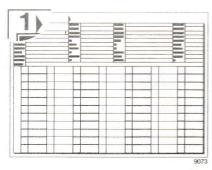
The vehicle data cards bear all the important data relating to your vehicle.



The illustration shows type 380 SL; on the other types the positioning of the indentification plates is basically the same.

- Identification plate
- Chassis No. Body No., Paint code No.
- Engine No. (280 SL/SLC front left)

Data card No. 1 - sent through the mail - containing information concerning the key number should not be left in the vehicle under any circumstances so as to permit you to request a replacement key from your MERCEDES-BENZ service station in case the key is lost.



Data card No. 2 gives no key number and is kept in the maintenance booklet. Presenting this card to the service station will facilitate the processing of the order.

84

Technical Data 280 SL

Type	280 SL (107 042)	Transmission	
		Standard	Manual four-speed
Engine			transmission
		Optional extra	Automatic four-speed
Engine	110		torque-converter
Work cycle	4 cycle,		transmission
	fuel injection		
Number of cylinders	6	Steering	
Bore	86 mm/3.39 in	Oteering	
Stroke	78.8 mm/3.10 in	Standard	Power steering
Total piston displacement	2746 cm 3/167.6 in 3	Glandard	1 Ower steering
Compression ratio	9		
Output acc. to DIN:		Disc Wheels - Tyres	
kW at 1/min	136/5800		
hp at 1/min	185/5800	Disc wheels	6½ J×14H2
Max. torque at	4500/min	Summer tyres:	
Max. engine speed	6500/min	Radial-ply tyres	195/70 HR 1489 H
Valve clearance Intake	0.10 mm/0.004 in		195/70 R 14 89 H
(cold engine)	0.25 mm/0.010 in		
Firing order	1-5-3-6-2-4	Winter tyres:	
Fuel consumption	"D	Radial-ply tyres	195/70 SR 14 89 Q M+S
Engine oil consumption	see "Driving"		195/70R1489QM+S
V-belts:			
Fan - alternator			
without air conditioner	9.5× 930	Floatrical System	
with air conditioner	9.5× 960	Electrical System	
Power steering	12.5× 818	Alternator	14 V/55 A
Air conditioning	12.5×1285	Starter motor	12 V/1.5 kW
			12 V/ 1.5 KW 12 V/55 Ah
The stated output acc. to DIN is the power		Battery	see "last page"
since all auxiliary requirements have alread	iy been deducted.	Spark plugs	see last page

Bulbs Main and dip beams Fog lamps Turn indicator lamps Stop lamps Reversing lamps Number plate lamps (soffitte) Tail/standing lamps, rear (soffitte) Parking/standing lamps, front Rear fog lamp	12 V H 4 (60/55 W) ² H 3 (55 W) ² 21 W 21 W 21 W 5 W	Speeds Top speeds Manual transmission 1st gear 54 km/h / 34 mph 2nd gear 94 km/h / 58 mph 3rd gear 152 km/h / 95 mph 4th gear approx 200 km/h / 125 mph Top speeds Automatic transmission 1st gear 40 km/h / 25 mph 2nd gear 94 km/h / 58 mph
Footwell lamps (soffitte) Dome lamps (soffitte) Glove box lamp (soffitte)	10 W 5 W 5 W	3rd gear 152 km/h / 95 mph 4th gear approx. 195 km/h /121 mph
Boot lamp Main Dimensions Overall vehicle length Overall vehicle width Overall height ready for driving Roadster Coupé Wheel base	5 W 4390 mm/172.9 in 1790 mm/ 70.5 in 1300 mm/51.2 in 1290 mm/50.8 in 2460 mm/96.9 in 1452 mm/57.2 in 1440 mm/56.7 in 1540 kg/3395 lb 1920 kg/4230 lb 940 kg/2070 lb	Uphill Gradients (Vehicle loaded with 2 persons) Manual transmission 1st gear 4 43 % / 1 in 2.3 2nd gear 32 % / 1 in 3.1 3rd gear 17 % / 1 in 5.9 4th gear 10 % / 1 in 10.0 Automatic transmission 1st gear 4 43 % / 1 in 2.3 2nd gear 43 % / 1 in 2.3 3rd gear 26 % / 1 in 3.8 4th gear 10 % / 1 in 10.0
Permissible axle load, rear Permissible hard top load Boot load max	980 kg/2160 lb 30 kg/ 65 lb 100 kg/ 220 lb	3 Curb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optiona extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load. 4 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standsti with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GWW: 17%/1 in 5.88 with manual transmission; at least 20%/1 in 5.00 with automatic transmission.

Technical Data 280 SLC

Type	280 SLC (107 022)	Transmission	
		Standard	Manual four-speed
Engine			transmission
= -		Optional extra	Automatic four-speed
Engine	110		torque-converter transmission
Work cycle	4 cycle,		transmission
and the second second	fuel injection	Steering	
Number of cylinders	6 86 mm/3.39 in		
Bore	78.8 mm/3.10 in	Standard	Power steering
Stroke Total piston displacement	2746 cm ³ /167.6 in ³		
Compression ratio	9		
Output acc. to DIN:	0		
kW at 1/min	136/5800	Disc Wheels - Tyres	
hp at 1/min	185/5800		
Max. torque at	4500/min	Disc wheels	$6\frac{1}{2}J\times14H2$
Max. engine speed	6500/min	Summer tyres:	195/70 HR 14 89 H
Valve clearance Intake	0.10 mm/0.004 in	Radial-ply tyres	195/70 R 14 89 H
(cold engine) Exhaust	0.25 mm/0.010 in		193/7014 14 8911
Firing order	1-5-3-6-2-4	Winter tyres:	
Fuel consumption	see "Driving"	Radial-ply tyres	195/70 SR 14 89 Q M+S
Engine oil consumption	1 /8	Hadiai-ply tyres	195/70 R 14 89 Q M + S
V-belts: Fan – alternator			
without air conditioner	9.5× 930	Electrical System	
with air conditioner	9.5× 960	Electrical Oystem	
Power steering	12.5× 818	Alternator	14 V/55 A
Air conditioning	12.5×1285	Starter motor	The second control of
to also second description of the second sec		Battery	12 V/55 Ah
¹ The stated output acc. to DIN is the power since all auxiliary requirements have alrea	effectively available at the clutch, dv been deducted.	Spark plugs	

Bulbs	12 V H 4 (60/55 W) ²	Speeds Top speeds
Fog lamps	H 3 (55 W) ²	Manual transmission
Turn indicator lamps	21 W	1st gear 54 km/h/ 34 mph
Stop lamps	21 W	2nd gear 94 km/h/ 58 mph
Reversing lamps	21 W	3rd gear 152 km/h/ 95 mph
Number plate lamps (soffitte)	5 W	4th gear approx 200 km/h/125 mph
Tail/standing lamps, rear		Top speeds
(soffitte)	5 W	Automatic transmission
Parking/standing lamps, front	4 W	1st gear
Rear fog lamp	21 W	2nd gear 94 km/h / 58 mph
Footwell lamps (soffitte)	10 W	3rd gear
Dome lamps (soffitte)	10 W	4th gear approx
Glove box lamp (soffitte)	5 W	Till godi approx.
Boot lamp	5 W	11-1:11 O F1-
Main Dimensions		Uphill Gradients
Overall vehicle length	4750 mm/187 in	(Vehicle loaded with 2 persons)
Overall vehicle width	1790 mm/70.5 in	Manual transmission
Overall height		1st gear ⁴
ready for driving	1330 mm/52.4 in	2nd gear 32%/1 in 3.1
Wheel base	2820 mm/111 in	3rd gear
Track, front	1452 mm/57.2 in	4th gear 10%/1 in 10.0
Track, rear	1440 mm/56.7 in	Automatic transmission
Weights		1st gear ⁴ 43 % / 1 in 2.3
Vehicle weight ³	1550 kg/3415 lb	2nd gear 43 % / 1 in 2.3
Gross vehicle weight	2040 kg/4495 lb	3rd gear 26%/1 in 3.8
Permissible axle load, front	1000 kg/2205 lb	4th gear 10 % / 1 in 10.0
Permissible axle load, rear	1040 kg/2290 lb	
Permissible hard top load	80 kg/ 175 lb	3 Curb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optional
Boot load max	100 kg/ 220 lb	extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load. 4 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standstill
² Halogen headlamps.		with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GVW: 16%/1 in 6.25 with manual transmission; at least 20%/1 in 5.00 with automatic transmission.)

Type	380 SL (107 045)	Transmission	
		Standard	Automatic four-speed torque-converter
Engine			transmission
Engine	116		
Work cycle	4 cycle, fuel injection	Steering	
Number of cylinders	8	Standard	Power steering
Stroke	92 mm/3.62 in 71.8 mm/2.83 in 3818 cm ³ /233 in ³		
Total piston displacement Compression ratio	9	Disc Wheels - Tyres	
Output ¹ acc. to DIN: kW at 1/min	160/5500	-	017 12/14/10
hp at 1/min	218/5500 4000/min	Disc wheels	6½ J×14H2
Max. torque at	6600/min	Radial-ply tyres	205/70 VR 14
Firing order Fuel consumption Engine oil consumption	1-5-4-8-6-3-7-2 see "Driving"	Winter tyres: Radial-ply tyres	205/70 SR14 93 QM+S 205/70 R14 93 QM+S
V-belts:			
Fan – waterpump – power steering	2×9.5×1140 9.5× 920	Electrical System	
Air conditioner	12.5× 850	Alternator Starter motor	
The stated output acc. to DIN is the power since all auxiliary requirements have alread	effectively available at the clutch, by been deducted.	Battery Spark plugs	

since all auxiliary requirements have already been deducted.

Technical Data 380 SL

Bulbs Main and dip beams Fog lamps Turn indicator lamps Stop lamps Reversing lamps Number plate lamps (soffitte) Tail/standing lamps, rear	12 V H 4 (60/55 W) ² H 3 (55 W) ² 21 W 21 W 21 W 5 W	Weights Vehicle weight 3	1580 kg/3485 lb 1960 kg/4320 lb 945 kg/2085 lb 1015 kg/2235 lb 30 kg/65 lb 100 kg/220 lb
(soffitte)	5 W		
Parking/standing lamps, front	4 W		
Rear fog lamp	21 W	Speeds	
Footwell lamps (soffitte)	10 W	Top speeds	
Dome lamps (soffitte)	5 W	1st gear	50 km/h/ 31 mph
Glove box lamp (soffitte)	5 W	2nd gear	103 km/h/ 64 mph
Boot lamp	5 W	3rd gear	172 km/h/107 mph
		4th gear approx	215 km/h/134 mph
Main Dimensions			
Overall vehicle length	4390 mm/172.9 in	Uphill Gradients	
Overall vehicle width	1790 mm/ 70.5 in	(Vehicle loaded with 2 persons)	
Overall height	1730 111117 70.5 111	1st gear4	44 % / 1 in 2.3
ready for driving Roadster	1300 mm/51.2 in	2nd gear	44%/1 in 2.3
Coupé	1290 mm/50.8 in	3rd gear	26%/1 in 3.8
Wheel base	2455 mm/96.7 in	4th gear	12%/1 in 8.3
Track, front	1452 mm/57.2 in		
Track, rear	1440 mm/56.7 in		

² Halogen headlamps.

Technical Data 380 SLC

Туре	380 SLC (107 025)	Transmission	
Engine		Standard	Automatic four-speed torque-converter transmission
Engine	116 4 cycle,	Steering	
Number of cylinders Bore Stroke Total piston displacement	fuel injection 8 92 mm/3.62 in 71.8 mm/2.83 in 3818 cm ³ /233 in ³	Standard	Power steering
Compression ratio Output! acc. to DIN:	9	Disc Wheels - Tyres	
kW at 1/minhp at 1/min Max. torque at	218/5500 4000/min	Disc wheels	6½ J×14H2
Max. engine speed Firing order	6600/min 1-5-4-8-6-3-7-2	Radial-ply tyres	205/70 VR 14
Fuel consumption	see "Driving"	Winter tyres: Radial-ply tyres	205/70 SR14 93 Q M+S 205/70 R14 93 Q M+S
V-belts: Fan - waterpump - power			
steering	2×9.5×1140 9.5× 920	Electrical System	
Air conditioner	12.5× 850	Alternator Starter motor Battery	12 V/1.5 kW
The stated output acc. to DIN is the power of since all auxiliary requirements have alread	effectively available at the clutch, y been deducted.	Spark plugs	

⁹¹

⁹⁰

Gurb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optional extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load.
 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standstill with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GVW: at least 20%/1 in 5.00.)

Bulbs Main and dip beams Fog lamps Turn indicator lamps Stop lamps Reversing lamps Number plate lamps (soffitte) Tail/standing lamps, rear	12 V H 4 (60/55 W) ² H 3 (55 W) ² 21 W 21 W 21 W 5 W	Weights Vehicle weight Gross vehicle weight Permissible axle load, front Permissible axle load, rear Permissible hard top load Boot load max	1560 kg/3440 lb 2050 kg/4520 lb 995 kg/2195 lb 1055 kg/2325 lb 80 kg/ 175 lb 100 kg/ 220 lb
(soffitte) Parking/standing lamps, front Rear fog lamp Footwell lamps (soffitte) Dome lamps (soffitte) Glove box lamp (soffitte) Boot lamp	5 W 4 W 21 W 10 W 10 W 5 W	Speeds Top speeds 1st gear 2nd gear 3rd gear 4th gear approx.	50 km/h / 31 mph 103 km/h / 64 mph 172 km/h /107 mph 215 km/h /134 mph
Main Dimensions Overall vehicle length Overall vehicle width Overall height ready for driving Wheel base Track, front Track, rear	4750 mm/187 in 1790 mm/70.5 in 1330 mm/52.4 in 2820 mm/111 in 1452 mm/57.2 in 1440 mm/56.7 in	Uphill Gradients (Vehicle loaded with 2 persons) 1st gear 4 2nd gear 3rd gear 4th gear	44 % / 1 in 2.3 44 % / 1 in 2.3 26 % / 1 in 3.8 12 % / 1 in 8.3

Technical Data 500 SL

Type	500 SL (107 046)	Transmission	
Engine	S	Standard	Automatic four-speed torque-converter transmission
Engine	117 4 cycle, fuel injection	Steering	
Number of cylinders	8 96.5 mm/3.80 in 85.0 mm/3.35 in 4973 cm ³ /303.5 in ³ 8.8	Standard	Power steering
Output acc. to DIN:	477/4750	Disc Wheels - Tyres	
kW at 1/minhp at 1/min Max. torque at	177/4750 240/4750 3200/min	Disc wheels	6½ J×14H2
Max. engine speed	5950/min 1-5-4-8-6-3-7-2	Radial-ply tyres	205/70 VR 14
Fuel consumption Engine oil consumption		Winter tyres: Radial-ply tyres	205/70 SR 14 93 Q M+S 205/70 R 14 93 Q M+S
V-belts: Fan - waterpump - power			
steering	2×9.5×1110 9.5× 960	Electrical System	
Air conditioner	12.5× 910	Alternator	14 V/70 A 12 V/1.5 kW 12 V/66 Ah
The stated output acc. to DIN is the power since all auxiliary requirements have alrea		Spark plugs	see "last page"

since all auxiliary requirements have already been deducted.

² Halogen headlamps.

Curb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optional extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load.
 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standstill with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GVW: at least 20%/1 in 5.00.)

Bulbs	12 V	Weights	
Main and dip beams	H 4 (60/55 W) ²	Vehicle weight ³	1580 kg/3485 lb
Fog lamps	H 3 (55 W) ²	Gross vehicle weight	1960 kg / 4320 lb
Turn indicator lamps	21 W	Permissible axle load, front	935 kg/2060 lb
Stop lamps	21 W	Permissible axle load, from	1025 kg/2260 lb
Reversing lamps	21 W		
Number plate lamps (soffitte)		Permissible hard top load	30 kg/ 65 lb
Number plate lamps (soffitte)	5 W	Boot load max	100 kg/ 220 lb
Tail/standing lamps, rear	E 14/		
(soffitte)	5 W		
Parking/standing lamps, front	4 W		
Rear fog lamp	21 W	Speeds	
Footwell lamps (soffitte)	10 W	Top speeds	
Dome lamps (soffitte)	5 W	1st gear	50 km/h/ 31 mph
Glove box lamp (soffitte)	5 W	2nd gear	112 km/h/ 70 mph
Boot lamp	5 W	3rd gear	187 km/h/116 mph
		4th gear approx	225 km/h/140 mph
Mail Division			
Main Dimensions		11 1 21 6 12 1	
Overall vehicle length	4390 mm/172.9 in	Uphill Gradients	
Overall vehicle width	1790 mm/ 70.5 in	(Vehicle loaded with 2 persons)	
Overall height		1st gear ⁴	44 % / 1 in 2.3
ready for driving Roadster	1300 mm/51.2 in	2nd gear	44 % / 1 in 2.3
Coupé .	1290 mm/50.8 in	3rd gear	38 % / 1 in 2.6
Wheel base	2455 mm/96.7 in	4th gear	16%/1 in 6.3
Track, front	1452 mm/57.2 in		
Track, rear	1440 mm/56.7 in		

² Halogen headlamps.

Technical Data 500 SLC

Type	500 SLC (107 026)	Transmission	
		Standard	Automatic four-speed torque-converter
Engine			transmission
Engine	117		
Work cycle	4 cycle, fuel injection	Steering	
Number of cylinders	8	Standard	Power steering
Bore Stroke	96.5 mm/3.80 in 85.0 mm/3.35 in		440
Total piston displacement Compression ratio	4973 cm ³ /303.5 in ³ 8.8		
Output ¹ acc. to DIN:	*	Disc Wheels - Tyres	
kW at 1/minhp at 1/min	177/4750 240/4750	Disc wheels	61/2 J×14H2
Max. torque at	3200/min 5950/min	Summer tyres: Radial-ply tyres	205/70 VR 14
Firing order	1-5-4-8-6-3-7-2		
Fuel consumption	see "Driving"	Winter tyres: Radial-ply tyres	205/70 SR 14 93 Q M+ 205/70 R 14 93 Q M+
V-belts: Fan – waterpump – power			
steering	2×9.5×1110 9.5× 960	Electrical System	
Air conditioner	12.5× 910	AlternatorStarter motor	14 V/70 A 12 V/1.5 kW
The stated output acc. to DIN is the power since all auxiliary requirements have alread		Battery Spark plugs	12 V/66 Ah see "last page"

Ourb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optional extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load.
4 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standstill with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GVW: at least 20%/1 in 5.00.)

Bulbs Main and dip beams Fog lamps Turn indicator lamps Stop lamps Reversing lamps Number plate lamps (soffitte) Tail/standing lamps, rear (soffitte) Parking/standing lamps, front Rear fog lamp Footwell lamps (soffitte) Dome lamps (soffitte) Glove box lamp (soffitte) Boot lamp	12 V H4 (60/55 W) ² H3 (55 W) ² 21 W 21 W 21 W 5 W 4 W 21 W 10 W 10 W 5 W	Weights 1515 kg/3340 Vehicle weight 3 2005 kg/4420 Gross vehicle weight 2005 kg/4420 2005 kg/4420 Permissible axle load, front 2025 kg/2260 980 kg/2160 Permissible hard top load 300 kg/175 80 kg/175 Boot load max. 100 kg/220 Speeds 50 km/h/31 m 1st gear 50 km/h/70 m 3rd gear 187 km/h/116 m 4th gear approx. 225 km/h/140 m	Ib Ib Ib Ib Ib Ib nph nph nph
Main Dimensions			
Overall vehicle length	4750 mm/187 in	Uphill Gradients	
Overall vehicle width	1790 mm/70.5 in	(Vehicle loaded with 2 persons)	3
Overall height		100 900.	
ready for driving	1330 mm/52.4 in	2nd gear	
Wheel base	2815 mm/110.8 in	4th gear	
Track, front	1452 mm/57.2 in	4III year	
Track, rear	1440 mm/56.7 in		

Curb weight according to DIN 70 020 for basic version vehicles. Optional extras increase this value and consequently decrease the safe load.
 Achievable on roads offering good traction. (Climbing ability from the standstill with 1500 kg/3305 lb trailer load and permissible GVW:at least 20%/1 in 5.00.)

² Halogen headlamps.

96

Coolants Lubricants etc. Capacities **Fuels**

Vehicle components and lubricants must match.

Therefore, use only brands tested and approved by us.

Enquire at your MERCEDES-BENZ service station.

	Type	Capacity	Fuel, coolant, lubricant, etc.
			Recommended engine oils
	280 SL/SLC	6.0 I/10.6 lmp. pt	Ambient temp. SAE-grades
Engine oil with			F C + 86 + 490 + 20 + 20
oil filter	380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC	8.0 I/14.1 lmp. pt	SAE 40 may be used if ambient temperatures constantly exceed +30° C/+86° F.

8	Type	Capacity	Fuel, coolant, lubricant, etc.
Manual transmission	280 SL/SLC	1.6 l/2.8 lmp. pt	Automatic transmission fluid (ATF) Type A Suffix A
Automatic transmission	280 SL/SLC 380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC	Initial fill: 7.3 I/12.9 lmp. pt 7.3 I/12.9 lmp. pt 8.6 I/15.1 lmp. pt	Automatic transmission fluid (ATF)
Automatic transmission	280 SL/SLC 380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC	Fluid change: 6.2 I/10.9 Imp. pt 6.2 I/10.9 Imp. pt 7.7 I/13.6 Imp. pt	
	280 SL/SLC	1.0 l/1.8 lmp. pt	Hypoid gear oil SAE 90, 85 W 90 With optional limited slip rear axle a special hypoid oil must be used.
Rear axle	380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC	1.3 l/2.3 lmp. pt	
Level control	280 SLC 380 SLC 500 SLC	3.5 I/6.2 Imp. pt	Hydraulic oil
Power steering	280 SL/SLC	1.4 l/2.5 lmp.pt	Automatic transmission fluid (ATF) Type A Suffix A
Front wheel bearings 380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC		70 g each, approx. 2.5 oz each, approx.	Multipurpose grease

	Type	Capacity	Fuel, coolant, lubricant, etc.
Grease fitting	Турс	Capacity	Multipurpose or lubrication grease
Door locks	280 SL/SLC 380 SL/SLC 500 SL/SLC		Special grease
Battery terminals			Bosch special lubricant
Brake system and (with manual transmission) clutch		approx. 0.5 I/0.9 lmp. pt	Brake fluid according to DOT 4
Windscreen washer system		approx. 5.0 I/8.8 Imp. pt	Water with MB windscreen washer detergent
Windscreen washer system and headlamp cleaning system		approx. 5.0 l/8.8 lmp. pt	
Fuel tank including a reserve of		approx. 90 l/19.8 lmp. gal approx. 13 l/2.9 lmp. gal	Premium fuel with minimum rating of 98 RON/88 MON
	280 SL/SLC 380 SL/SLC	12 l/21.1 lmp. pt	
Cooling system		12.5 I/22.0 Imp. pt	Coolant
	500 SL/SLC	13 l/22.9 lmp. pt	

Engine Oils

The suitability of the various engine oils is specially tested in our engines. For this reason, use only those engine oils which have been approved by our company. MERCEDES-BENZ service stations have all the information on approved brands.

A new or replacement engine is filled with an initial operation oil by the MERCEDES-BENZ factory or service station. This is specially developed for the particular operating conditions during the first 1000 — 1500 km/600 — 900 miles.

If the oil level drops to the minimum mark on the dipstick before the first inspection (1000–1500 km/600–900 miles), a recommended engine oil may be added.

Fuels

The standard compression engine requires premium fuel for knockfree operation. A minimum octane rating of 98 according to Research Method (RON) and one of 88 according to Motor Method (MON) is necessary.

Brake Fluid

The brake fluid must be renewed once a year, preferably in spring.

Use exclusively brake fluids recommended by us. For detailed information, refer to "Safe Driving".

100

Coolant

The coolant is a mixture of water and antifreeze. In the works the coolant is blended with antifreeze offering protection to approx.

-30° C/-22° F. The coolant temperature gauge in the instrument cluster is matched with it and corrosion inhibition in the cooling system is ensured at the same time

The coolant remains in the cooling system all year long and must be renewed after 3 years at the latest.

If coolant is lost, replace missing quantity with water (potable water quality) plus antifreeze of a recommended brand.

For reasons of corrosion inhibition the minimum proportion of antifreeze must be 34 %, which gives antifreeze protection down to -20° C/ -4° F.

If no antifreeze is available, add a treating agent to the cooling water (for corrosion inhibition in the cooling system). To treat the cooling water, do not use more than 1% (10 cm³/liter) of a recommended treating agent.

Without antifreeze the coolant boils at approximately 118° C/244° F. Also check coolant temperature gauge.

Antifreeze

Before the onset of the cold season, check the coolant for its resistance to cold. Repeat this check during the cold spell. Regular testing of the antifreeze concentration is carried out only during each MERCEDES-BENZ maintenance service.

To prevent damage to the cooling system, fill only with recommended brands of antifreeze.

Any MERCEDES-BENZ service station will readily advise you on recommended antifreeze brands.

280 SL/SLC 380 SL/SLC

Coolants

Fuels

Lubricants etc.

Protects Antifreeze up to 4.50 1/ -20° C ı 4.25 1/ 7.9 Imp. pt 7.5 Imp. pt - 4° F -30° C 5.50 1/ 5.50 1/ 9.7 Imp. pt 9.7 lmp. pt -22° F J -40° C (6.50 I/ 6.25 I/ 11.0 lmp. pt 11.4 lmp. pt -40° F J

500 SL/SLC

Protects up to	Antifreeze		
-20° C } - 4° F } -30° C } -22° F	4.50 l/ 7.9 lmp. pt		
-30° C }	5.75 I/10.1 Imp. pt		
-40° C } -40° F }	6.75 I/11.9 lmp. pt		

Premium fuels, mimimum 98 RON / 88 MON. Fuel tank capacity approx. 90 I / Fuel:

19.8 lmp. gal. This includes a 13 I / 2.9 lmp. gal reserve.

Only fill fuel tank until the discharge nozzle unit cuts out - do not overfill.

Engine Oil: Check engine oil level regularly and prior to every long journey. See page 71.

Quantity differential between upper and lower dipstick marking level:

280 SL/SLC: 1.5 I / 2.6 lmp. pt \cdot 380 SL/SLC, 500 SL/SLC: 2.0 I / 3.5 lmp. pt. Year-round multigrade oils 10 W - 40/10 W - 50/15 W - 40/15 W - 50.

For further data see page 97.

Automatic Transmission: Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF). For level checks and replenishment,

refer to page 73.

For normal replenishment, use water (potable water quality). Coolant:

For further information (e. g. antifreeze), refer to page 101.

Main and dipped beam H 4 (60/55 W), tail lamps 5 W, turn signal lamps 21 W, stop lamps 21 W. **Bulbs**:

For further information, refer to "Technical Data"

Beru 14-7 D, Bosch W 7 D, Beru 175/14/3 A, Bosch W 175 T 30, Champion N 9 Y. Spark Plugs:

2.5

36

Tyre Pressure: (bar exess pressure)

Cold tyres:

32

2.2

bar 2.21 32 2.51 361

Summer tyres: Radial-ply tyres Winter tyres: Radial-ply tyres Warm tyres:

Pressure may rise by up to +0.5 bar/+8 psi Never release any air!

When driving at speeds above 200 km/h /125 mph + 0.2 bar/+ 4 psi

When driving at speeds up to 175 km/h /110 mph - 0.2 bar/- 4 psi