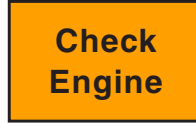


Computer Controls & Diagnostics

As cars become more complex, diagnosis becomes more complex. In the late 80's cars had only one computer. Today's vehicles have many. At British American we keep up-to-date with all the new advances by providing training, using support lines, computers, software and the very best equipment available.

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT (OBD II)



Where is my "check engine light"?

The Check Engine Light is located in the instrument cluster on your dashboard. It is identified in a variety of ways, from vehicle to vehicle, but usually appears as one of the above.

What is OBD II?

On-Board Diagnostics - Generation II (OBD II) is a complex computer package installed on some 1994 and 1995 and on all 1996 and newer cars and light trucks. This system is an early warning of potentially high emissions and is designed to predict both engine tailpipe and evaporative (fuel system) emissions, then notify the driver if these pollution sources might be higher than they should be.

What OBD II means to you!

Your Check Engine Light will come on whenever the OBD II computer finds a fault that could cause your emissions to exceed standards. It could be activated by something as simple as you not replacing the gas cap, or it could be something more serious. If your Check Engine Light comes on, and there are no drive-ability problems you can probably continue without causing any damage. If your engine is not running smoothly you should seek assistance immediately. In either case, call us and we can tell you what is best in your specific circumstance. **NOTE:** If the light is flashing, you should stop driving as soon as possible or expensive catalyst damage may result.

Repairing OBD II

Our first procedure is to connect a computer to your vehicle so that we can scan your vehicle's computer for codes that will tell us where the fault may be. We can also download information that indicates what was happening when the light came on, vehicle speed, engine temperature, position of gas pedal, etc.

Our next stage is to interpret the information collected, and diagnose what made the light come on. Once this is done, we can estimate the repair costs.

Finally the system is repaired and the vehicle's computer reset. During the next couple of weeks the vehicle must not be taken for an emissions test. The computer needs to reestablish a base line by monitoring and checking the vehicle's system.