Airbag System

GL1800DA

This section describes some important safety precautions. For airbag system components and features, see "Airbag System." ➡ P. 64

The airbag system is an integral part of your vehicle and is covered by your new vehicle warranty.

The most important things you need to know about your airbag are:

- The airbag has a limited but very important role.
  The airbag can reduce the severity of injuries and help save your life in certain severe frontal impacts. It cannot prevent all injuries or deaths that can occur in a crash, and some crashes are too severe for any safety feature or system to prevent death.
- The airbag is designed to deploy in a severe head-on or nearly head-on frontal impact. The impact can be with another vehicle or an object, such as a concrete highway barrier. A severe frontal impact is one in which the rider would be thrown forward off the front of the vehicle.
- The airbag might deploy in a severe angled frontal collision, or in a sideswipe, or if the vehicle underrides the rear of another vehicle.
  However, because there are many variables in a collision, the airbag might not be able to reduce the severity of injuries to the rider.
- The airbag might deploy if the front tire drops into a sharp depression, such as a pothole, or strikes a hard raised object, such as a curb.
  A brief high rate of deceleration can cause the airbag to deploy, even though it would not be needed.
- The airbag is designed to help protect the rider.
  It is not designed to help protect a passenger.
- The airbag is not intended to replace a helmet.
  Helmets have proven effective in reducing the severity of head injuries in all types of crashes. So always wear a helmet, and make sure a passenger wears one as well.

There are several situations in which the vehicle airbag should not deploy. Four of the more common situations are discussed here.

- If a rider is traveling at a moderate speed and has a minor frontal collision, such as running into the rear of a car slowing down ahead, or stopped at a traffic light, the rate of deceleration should be low enough for the rider to either stay on the vehicle or receive less than severe injuries to the head or chest.
- Being struck in the side or rear by another vehicle can result in very serious injuries. But since the sensors are attached to the frame, such a crash cannot be detected by the sensors. Therefore, the airbag should not deploy, and it would not be helpful to the rider even if it did deploy.
- Another situation that should not result in airbag deployment is if the vehicle slides out and goes down on a slippery surface. Again, the crash would not be detected or determined to be a severe frontal impact, and the airbag would not benefit the rider even if it did deploy.

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