

Feature Demonstrations Can Change Antagonists into Advocates

Demonstrating Tire Pressure Monitor System (TPMS)

Many Toyotas have such a long list of features that a new owner may not even be aware of everything the new vehicle can do. This can be especially true of newer types of features, such as the Tire Pressure Monitor System (TPMS). This unfamiliarity with the features could lead the customer to mistakenly think something is wrong with the vehicle when, for example, the TPMS indicator illuminates on the instrument panel. In order to avoid customer misunderstanding, it's important for the sales professional to demonstrate key features of the vehicle when it is delivered.

How Tire Pressure Monitor System (TPMS) Works



TPMS is designed to alert the driver when one or more tires may be critically under-inflated. TPMS helps by giving the owner an additional layer of confidence between regular tire pressure checks.

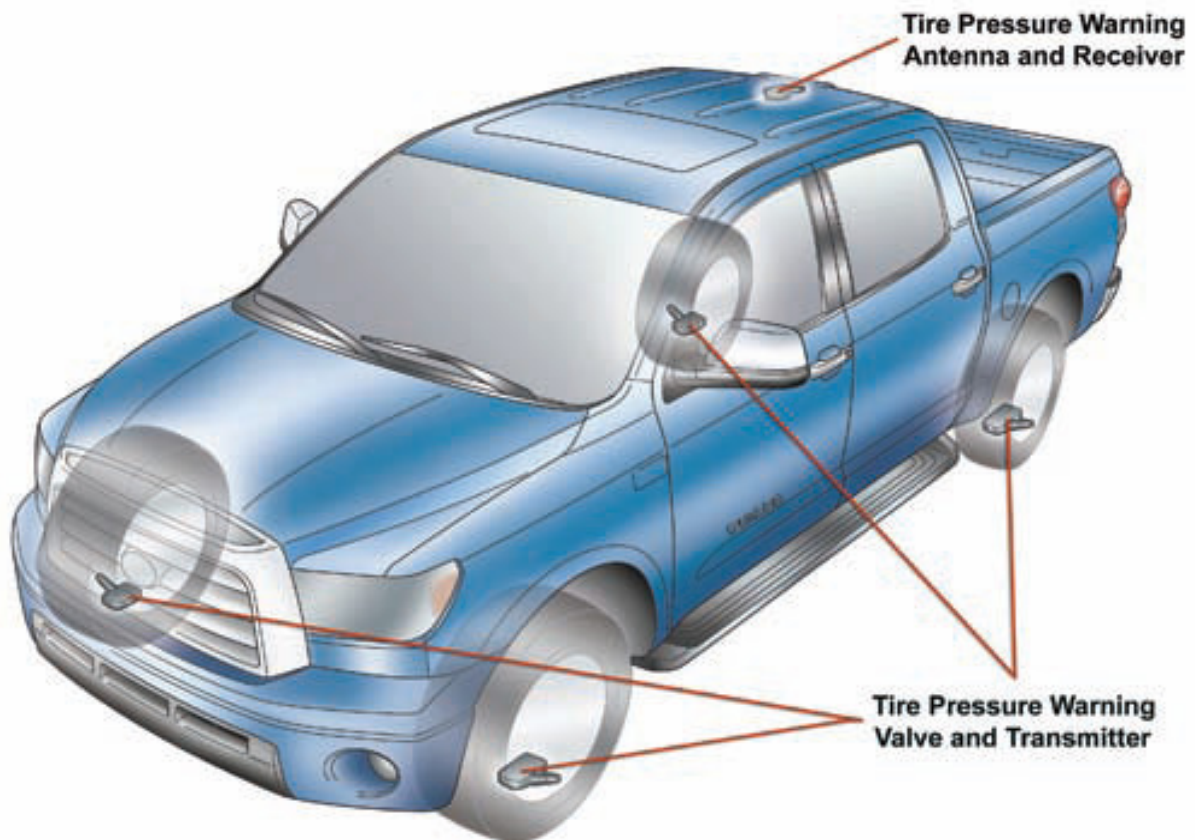
Toyota vehicles feature a direct type of TPMS, which uses a small electronic signal transmitter inside each wheel's valve stem. The sensor measures the pressure and the transmitter communicates the result to an Electronic Control Module (ECM) behind the dashboard.

The module compares the readings to a reference reading stored for each wheel. If it finds a discrepancy it triggers the system to illuminate a warning light on the instrument panel. Depending on the model of Toyota, the system may also monitor pressure in the spare tire.

Getting the Most from a TPMS

- Tire pressure may change over time due to natural air leakage. Left unchecked, this could trigger the system.
- A TPMS is not a substitute for manually checking tire pressure.
- If the TPMS warning light illuminates, avoid abrupt steering and braking.
- Check and adjust tire pressure as soon as possible after the warning light illuminates.
- Do not use liquid sealant in tires if the wheels are equipped with direct TPMS sensors.

- Have tires repaired or replaced at a Toyota dealer. The sensors may be affected by improper tire removal.
- Tire pressure changes caused by temperature or elevation may trigger the system.
- Make sure any replacement wheels are compatible with direct TPMS sensors.
- Information about a vehicle's tires and their correct inflation pressure can be found on a label affixed to the driver's door jam. The owner's manual also contains complete information.
- If the TPMS malfunctions, the warning light flashes for one minute, then remains on.



Resetting the TPMS

TPMS must be reset after rotating or replacing the wheels or tires. To reset the system, follow these steps (See the owner's manual for specific information on each Toyota vehicle's TPMS.):

- Park the vehicle and turn the ignition to **OFF**.
- Adjust tire pressure to the correct pressure.
- Turn the ignition to **ON**.

- Push and hold the reset switch until the warning light blinks three times.
- The reset process will complete over the next 20 minutes of driving.
- The tire's pressure at the time the TPMS is reset will become the pressure benchmark for that tire.

