

Situations in which the airbags will not necessarily deploy:

- the ignition is switched off
- there is a minor frontal collision
- there is a minor side collision
- there is a rear-end collision
- in the event of the vehicle overturning if the dynamic characteristics measured by the control unit are too low,
- the impact speed is lower than the reference value programmed in the control unit.

WARNING

- **The seat belts and airbags can only provide maximum protection if the occupants are seated correctly >>> page 38.**
- **If a fault has occurred in the airbag system, have the system checked immediately by a specialised workshop. Otherwise there is a danger that during a collision, the system may fail to trigger, or not trigger correctly.**

Airbag activation

The airbags deploy extremely rapidly, within thousands of a second, to provide additional protection in the event of an accident. A fine dust may develop when the airbag deploys. This is normal and it is not an indication of fire in the vehicle.

The airbag system is only ready to function when the ignition is on.

In special accidents instances, several airbags may activate at the same time.

Airbags **do not activate** in the event of minor head-on and side collisions or rear-end collisions.

Activation factors

The conditions that lead to the airbag system activating in each situation cannot be generalised. Some factors play an important role, such as the properties of the object the vehicle hits (hard/soft), angle of impact, vehicle speed, etc.

Deceleration trajectory is key for airbag activation.

The control unit analyses the collision trajectory and activates the respective restraint system.

If the deceleration rate is below the predefined reference value in the control unit the airbags will not be triggered, even though the accident may cause extensive damage to the car.

The following airbags are triggered in serious head-on collisions:

- Driver airbag.
- Front passenger front airbag
- Head airbags.

In the event of serious side collisions, some (or all) of the following airbags can be activated (depending on the severity of the collision):

- Head airbags.
- Front side airbag on the side of the accident.
- Central airbag.

In an accident with airbag activation:

- the interior lights switch on (if the interior light switch is in the courtesy light position);
- the hazard warning lights switch on;
- all doors are unlocked;
- the high voltage system is switched off;
- an emergency call is started.

Airbag system control lamps



Lights up on the instrument cluster

Fault in the airbag system and seat belt tensioners. Have the system checked immediately by a specialised workshop.



Lights up on the instrument cluster

Airbag or belt tensioner system deactivated by a diagnostic tester. Contact a specialised workshop and get it to check whether the airbag or belt tensioner system should remain deactivated.



OFF Lights up on the roof console





Front passenger front airbag deactivated. Check if the airbag should be kept deactivated.

ON Lights up on the roof console

Front passenger front airbag activated. The control lamp turns off automatically 60 seconds after the ignition is switched on.

Several warning and control lamps light up for a few seconds when the ignition is switched on, signalling that the function is being verified. They will switch off after a few seconds.

If the airbag and seat belt tensioner system control lamp  remains on or flashes, it indicates a malfunction in the airbag and seat belt tensioner system >>> . Have the system checked immediately by a specialised workshop.

If the front passenger airbag has been deactivated, the warning lamp **OFF**  remains lit on the roof console to remind you that the airbag is deactivated. If, with the front passenger airbag deactivated, this lamp **does not remain lit** or if it is lit along with the control lamp  on the instrument panel, there is a fault in the airbag system >>> . If the control lamp is flashing, there is a fault in the disabling of the airbag system >>> . Have the system checked immediately by a specialised workshop.

WARNING

In the event of a fault in the airbag and seat belt tensioner system, the airbags and seat belts may not trigger correctly, may fail to trigger or may even trigger unexpectedly.

- The vehicle occupants run the risk of sustaining severe or fatal injuries. Have the system checked immediately by a specialised workshop.
- Do not mount a child seat in the front passenger seat or remove the mounted child seat! The front passenger front airbag may deploy during an accident in spite of the fault.

NOTICE

Always pay attention to any lit control lamps and to the corresponding descriptions and instructions to avoid damage to the vehicle or harm to the occupants.

Front airbags

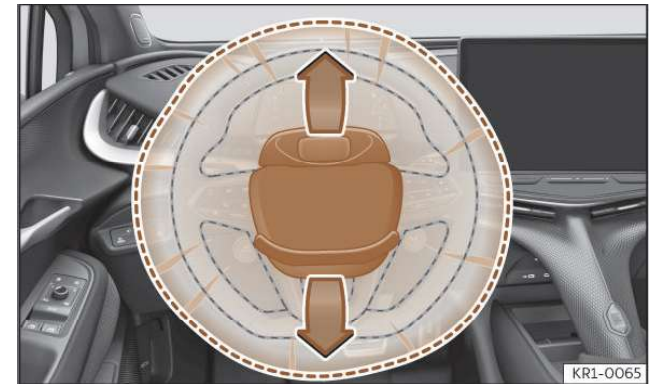


Fig. 25 Driver's airbag in the steering wheel.



Fig. 26 Front passenger airbag located in dash panel.

The driver's front airbag is housed in the steering wheel and that of the front passenger, on the dash panel. Airbags are identified by the word "AIRBAG".