

Handbrake Light Sticking On?

You will need

- Screwdriver

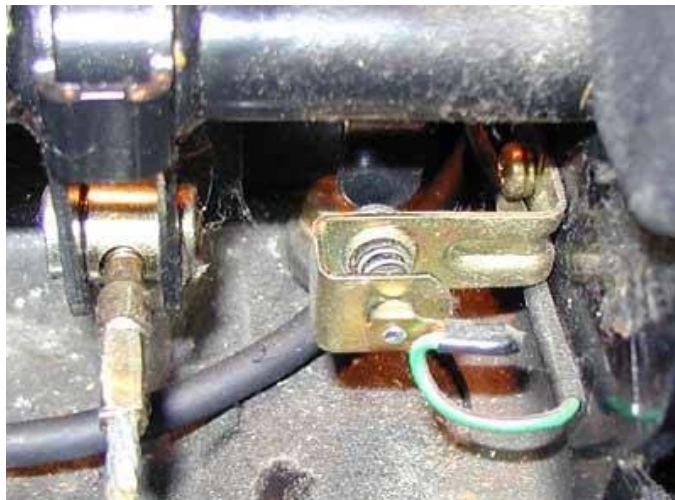
If your handbrake light is sticking on, it is most likely to be the switch under the handbrake lever which is sticking. It may, however, be that your brake fluid is low so check that first (located under the bonnet at the top left beside the driver - a white capped container with 'max' and 'min' written on the side).

It is usually just a case of un-sticking the switch, and here's how:

Remove the cup holder by pulling upwards - it just pops out. Underneath you will see two screws which you need to take out. Lift the box lid between the seats and undo the two screws at the bottom of the box. See the diagram below:



Once removed the centre console can come up, and away exposing the handbrake cable, the lever bracket, and the plunger switch. See below:



As you can see from this photo there gathers a lot of crap under here. Clean the plunger and oil it slightly if required. Check the contact of the green wire, and bend the bracket slightly forward to get a better movement of the lever. Test it a few times to make sure the light goes out. If it does, you're sorted, if it doesn't it may be something more serious to do with your brakes and you should ask a mechanic.

Refit the trim.

If it still sticks on...

If the light is still stuck on after you've tested the switch, it's probably other more serious reasons. The first thing you should do is check the level of fluid in your brake fluid reservoir at the top left of the engine bay (nearest the steering wheel). This should be between the Max and Min. If it's too high, remove some, if it is too low, add some.

Note: If, when you removed the big plastic cup, there was a vacuum inside and the fluid kinda 'dropped' then this could be one of two reasons. Firstly, the cap was obviously on too tight and as the fluid dropped the sensor registers it and the light goes out. However, it may also be a sign that your brake pads are about finished as the brake caliper pistons are so far out there's a vacuum in the reservoir. Check your pads now (most likely it's going to be the front pads which are worn). If you need help changing the pads, see [changing brake pads](#).

If you've done all of these things and the light is still on, then disconnect the small multiplug located next to the brake fluid reservoir. This is the plug from the fluid level sensor and it should put the light out when you disconnect it. If it does, then this is most likely a sensor failure and should be taken to a garage to get fixed (and get your wallet out!). If the light STILL remains on, then it's a wiring/loom problem and you should take it to an auto electrician.
