Active Park Assist

Active park assist uses an ultrasonic-based sensing system and electric power-assisted steering (EPAS) to position the vehicle for parallel parking, calculate the optimal steering angle and quickly steer the vehicle into a parking spot.

Active park assist is available on Focus, Fusion, Taurus, Flex, Escape and Explorer.

How it works

1. The driver activates the system by pressing a center console button, which activates ultrasonic sensors that measure and identify a feasible parking space.

2. The system then prompts the driver to accept parking assistance. The steering system then takes over and steers the car into the parking space hands-free. The driver still shifts the transmission and operates the gas and brake pedals.

3. A visual and/or audible driver notification advises the driver about the proximity of other cars and objects and provides instructions. While the steering is all done automatically, the driver remains responsible for safe parking and can interrupt the system by grasping the steering wheel.

Additional benefits

- Active park assist is enabled by Ford’s advanced EPAS technology. In addition to helping with parallel parking, EPAS improves fuel economy by up to 5 percent, while reducing CO₂ emissions and improving steering performance compared with traditional hydraulic power-assisted steering systems.
- EPAS saves fuel primarily because the steering system is powered by an electric motor connected to the vehicle’s battery, as opposed to an engine-mounted hydraulic pump steering system.

Complementary technology

Active park assist works in tandem with other new technologies Ford has developed, including:

- Blind Spot Information System (BLIS®) employs sensors on the outboard rear quarter panels that help monitor the traditional blind spot area. The system can notify the driver with a warning indicator light on the corresponding sideview mirror if the sensors detect a vehicle in the blind spot.
- Cross-traffic alert uses BLIS sensors to help detect and warn drivers of cross traffic when backing out of a parking space.
- BLIS with cross-traffic alert is available on Ford Edge, Ford Explorer, Ford Fusion, Ford Fusion Hybrid, Ford Taurus, Lincoln MKT, Lincoln MKX, Lincoln MKZ and Lincoln MKZ Hybrid.
- EPAS also features as standard equipment pull-drift compensation, a software-based technology that helps drivers offset vehicle pulling or drifting that can occur in steady crosswinds or on uneven roads.

Availability

Available on Ford Focus, Ford Flex, Ford Escape, Ford Escape Hybrid, Ford Explorer, Lincoln MKS and Lincoln MKT.