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Chevrolet Malibu Classic

2008 Chevrolet Malibu Classic Owner's Manual

Your comprehensive guide to operating and maintaining your vehicle.

Introduction

This manual is designed to help you understand the features, operation, and maintenance of your 2008 Chevrolet Malibu Classic. Familiarizing yourself with this information will ensure safe and efficient use of your vehicle and help maintain its performance and longevity. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating your vehicle.

Getting Started & Personal Settings

This section covers initial setup and personal adjustments to ensure a comfortable and safe driving experience.

Remote Keyless Entry System

Your vehicle is equipped with a remote keyless entry system for convenient access. Refer to the full manual for detailed instructions on programming and using your remote.

- **Lock/Unlock:** Press the respective buttons on the remote to lock or unlock all doors.
- **Trunk Release:** Press and hold the trunk release button to open the trunk.
- **Panic Alarm:** Press the panic button to activate the vehicle's alarm system.

Personal Fit Features

Adjust your seating and steering for optimal comfort and control.

- **Manual Seat Adjustments:** Levers located at the side and front of the seat allow for fore/aft, recline, and height adjustments.
- **Power Seat Adjustments:** If equipped, use the controls on the side of the seat to adjust position.
- **Lumbar Adjustment:** Adjust the lumbar support for lower back comfort.
- **Shoulder Belt Height Adjustment:** Ensure the shoulder belt is positioned correctly across your shoulder, not your neck or arm.
- **Adjustable Throttle and Brake Pedals:** If equipped, use the control to move pedals closer or further away.
- **Steering Wheel Adjustment:** Adjust the steering wheel for tilt and telescope to achieve a comfortable driving position while maintaining clear visibility of the instrument panel.

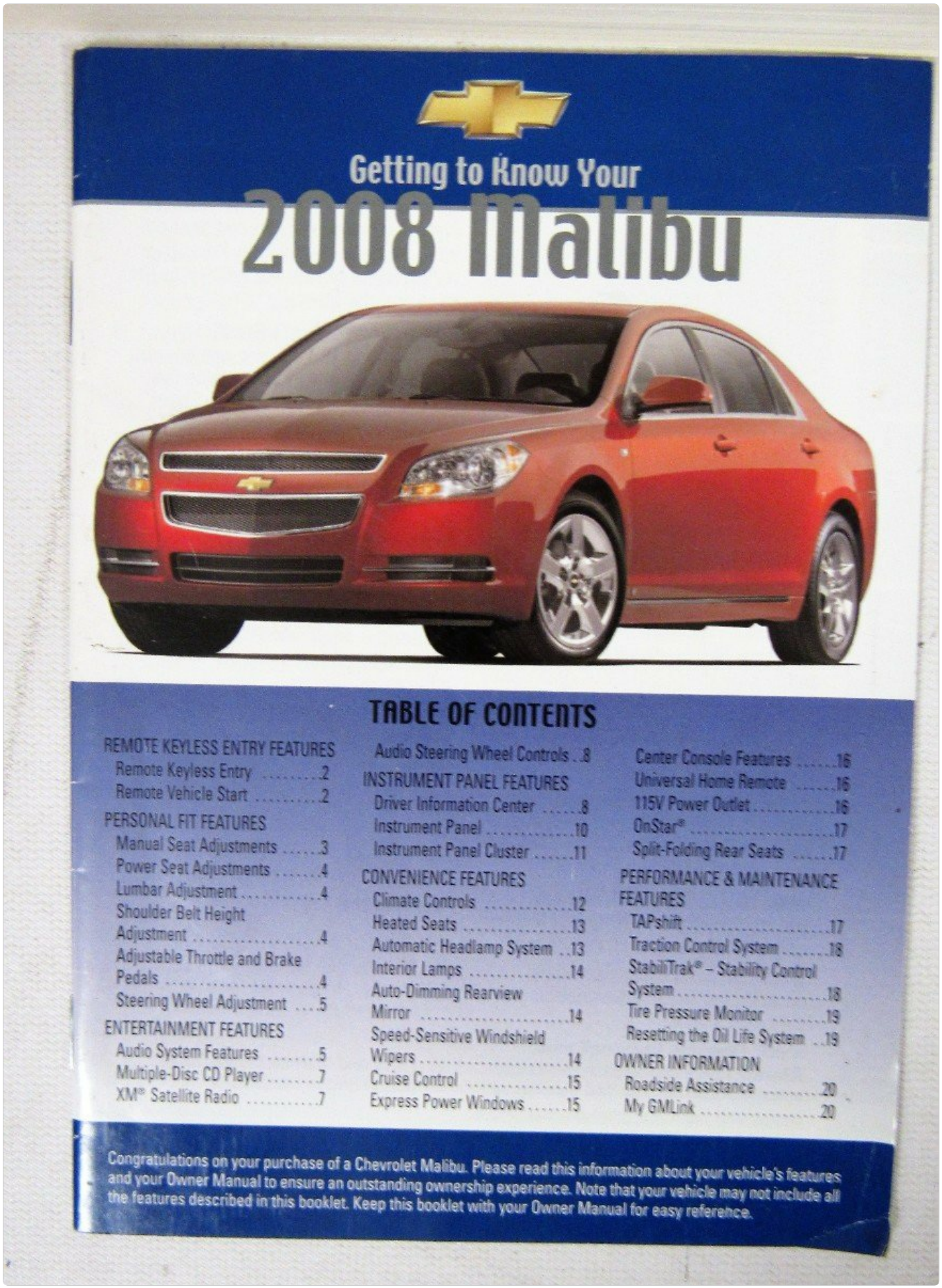

Image: Front view of a 2008 Chevrolet Malibu Classic, illustrating the vehicle's design and key features. This image also shows a partial table of contents from the owner's manual, highlighting sections like Remote Keyless Entry, Personal Fit Features, Entertainment, and Instrument Panel Controls.

Operating Your Vehicle

This section details the operation of various vehicle systems and features.

Entertainment Features

- **Audio System:** Controls for radio, CD player, and auxiliary inputs.
- **Multiple-Disc CD Player:** Instructions for loading and playing multiple CDs.
- **XM Satellite Radio:** Information on activating and using XM Satellite Radio services.
- **Audio Steering Wheel Controls:** Buttons on the steering wheel for convenient audio system operation.

Instrument Panel & Controls

- **Driver Information Center (DIC):** Displays important vehicle messages and settings.
- **Instrument Panel Cluster:** Overview of gauges and indicator lights (speedometer, tachometer, fuel gauge, temperature gauge).

Convenience Features

- **Climate Controls:** Adjusting temperature, fan speed, and air distribution.
- **Heated Seats:** Operation of the seat heating function.
- **Automatic Headlamp System:** How the headlamps automatically turn on/off based on ambient light.
- **Interior Lamps:** Controls for dome lights, map lights, and courtesy lights.
- **Auto-Dimming Rearview Mirror:** Reduces glare from headlights of vehicles behind you.
- **Speed-Sensitive Windshield Wipers:** Wipers adjust speed based on vehicle speed.
- **Cruise Control:** Setting and adjusting vehicle speed for highway driving.
- **Express Power Windows:** One-touch operation for power windows.
- **Center Console Features:** Storage compartments and power outlets.
- **Universal Home Remote:** Programming and using the remote for garage doors or gates.
- **115V Power Outlet:** Using the onboard power outlet for accessories.
- **OnStar:** Overview of OnStar services and how to use them.
- **Split-Folding Rear Seats:** Instructions for folding down rear seats to expand cargo space.

Maintenance & Care

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and performance of your 2008 Chevrolet Malibu Classic.

Routine Checks

- **Engine Oil:** Check oil level regularly and change according to the maintenance schedule.
- **Coolant Level:** Ensure coolant is at the proper level to prevent overheating.
- **Brake Fluid:** Check fluid level and condition.
- **Tire Pressure:** Maintain recommended tire pressure for safety and fuel efficiency.
- **Wiper Blades:** Inspect and replace worn wiper blades for clear visibility.

Scheduled Maintenance

Refer to your full owner's manual for a detailed maintenance schedule, including:

- Oil and filter changes
- Tire rotation

- Brake inspection
- Fluid flushes and replacements
- Spark plug replacement
- Belt and hose inspection

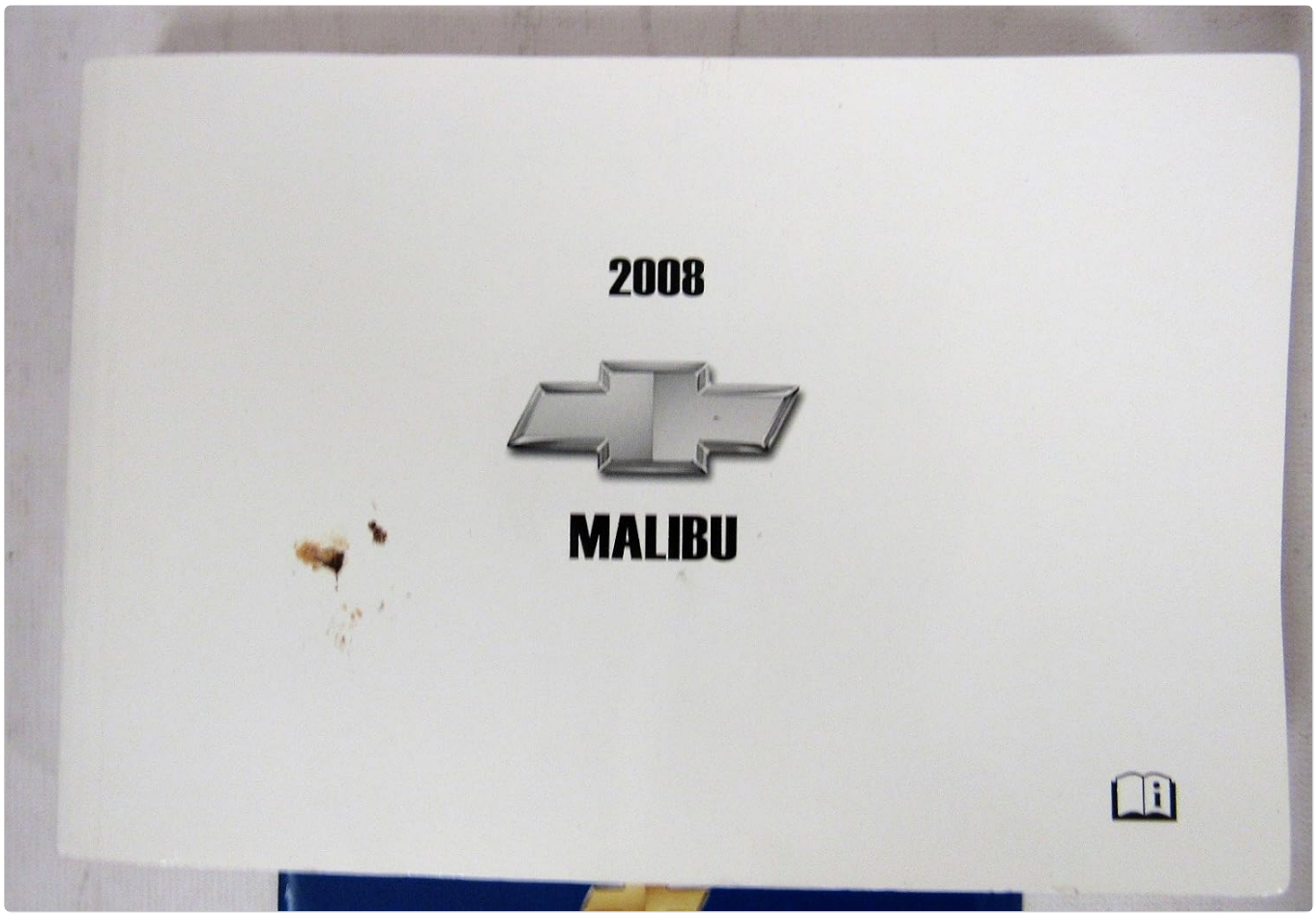

Image: The front cover of the 2008 Chevrolet Malibu Owner's Manual, featuring the year "2008", the Chevrolet logo, and the "MALIBU" model name. This manual contains all detailed maintenance schedules and procedures.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

This section provides guidance on addressing common operational issues you might encounter.

Warning Lights

- **Check Engine Light:** Indicates a potential issue with the engine or emissions system. Consult a qualified technician.
- **Oil Pressure Light:** Indicates low engine oil pressure. Stop the vehicle safely and check oil level immediately.
- **Battery Light:** Indicates a problem with the charging system.
- **Brake Warning Light:** May indicate low brake fluid or a problem with the braking system.

Starting Problems

- **Engine Cranks but Won't Start:** Check fuel level, battery connections, and ensure the correct key is used.
- **Engine Doesn't Crank:** Could be a dead battery, faulty starter, or transmission not in Park/Neutral.

Other Issues

- **Flat Tire:** Refer to the manual for instructions on changing a flat tire and locating the spare.

- **Overheating:** If the engine temperature gauge rises, pull over safely, turn off the engine, and allow it to cool before checking coolant levels.

Specifications

Key specifications for the 2008 Chevrolet Malibu Classic (may vary by trim level).

Category	Specification
Engine Options	2.2L Ecotec I4, 3.5L V6, 3.6L V6
Transmission	4-speed automatic or 6-speed automatic (depending on engine)
Fuel Tank Capacity	Approx. 16.0 gallons (60.6 liters)
Seating Capacity	5 passengers
Wheelbase	Approx. 112.3 inches (2852 mm)

Note: Specific specifications may vary based on trim level and optional equipment. Consult your vehicle's original documentation for precise details.

Warranty and Support

For detailed information regarding your vehicle's warranty coverage, please refer to the separate Warranty Information Booklet provided with your vehicle at the time of purchase. This booklet outlines the terms, conditions, and duration of your vehicle's limited warranties.
For further assistance or service inquiries, please contact your authorized Chevrolet dealership. They are equipped to provide expert service and genuine Chevrolet parts.
You can also visit the official Chevrolet website for additional support resources and owner information.

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