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Lexus RX 300

2001 Lexus RX 300 Owner's Manual

Your comprehensive guide to operating and maintaining your vehicle.

Introduction

This manual provides detailed instructions and important information regarding the operation, maintenance, and safety of your 2001 Lexus RX 300. To ensure safe and proper use of your vehicle, please read this manual thoroughly and keep it in your vehicle for future reference. All information, illustrations, and specifications in this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication.



Image: Front cover of the 2001 Lexus RX 300 Owner's Manual, displaying the vehicle model and Lexus logo.

Additional supplementary documents may be included with your vehicle, such as the Navigation System Owner's Manual and Quick Reference Guides, which provide specific details for those systems.

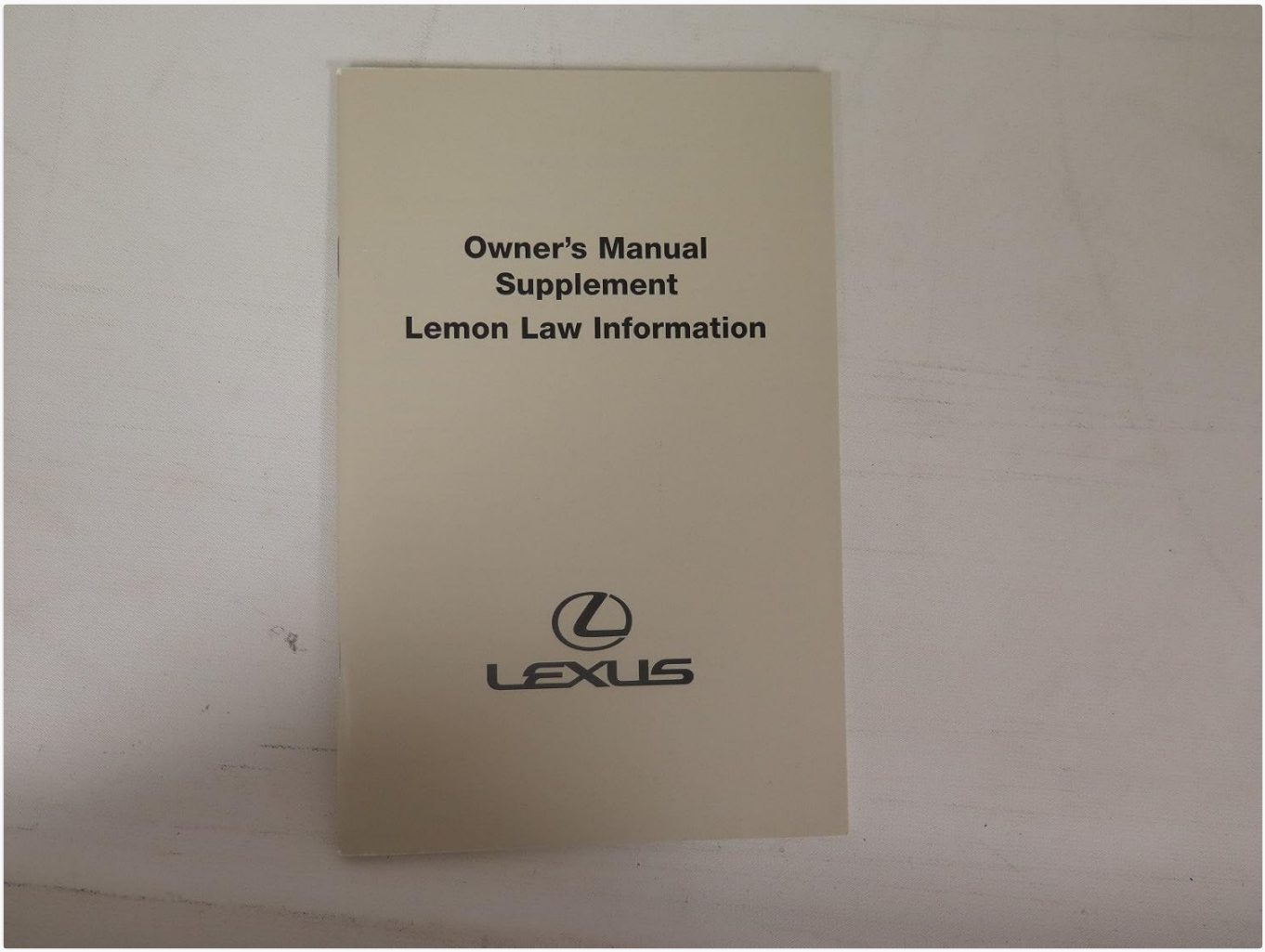

Image: Cover of the 2001 Lexus Navigation System Owner's Manual for the RX 300.

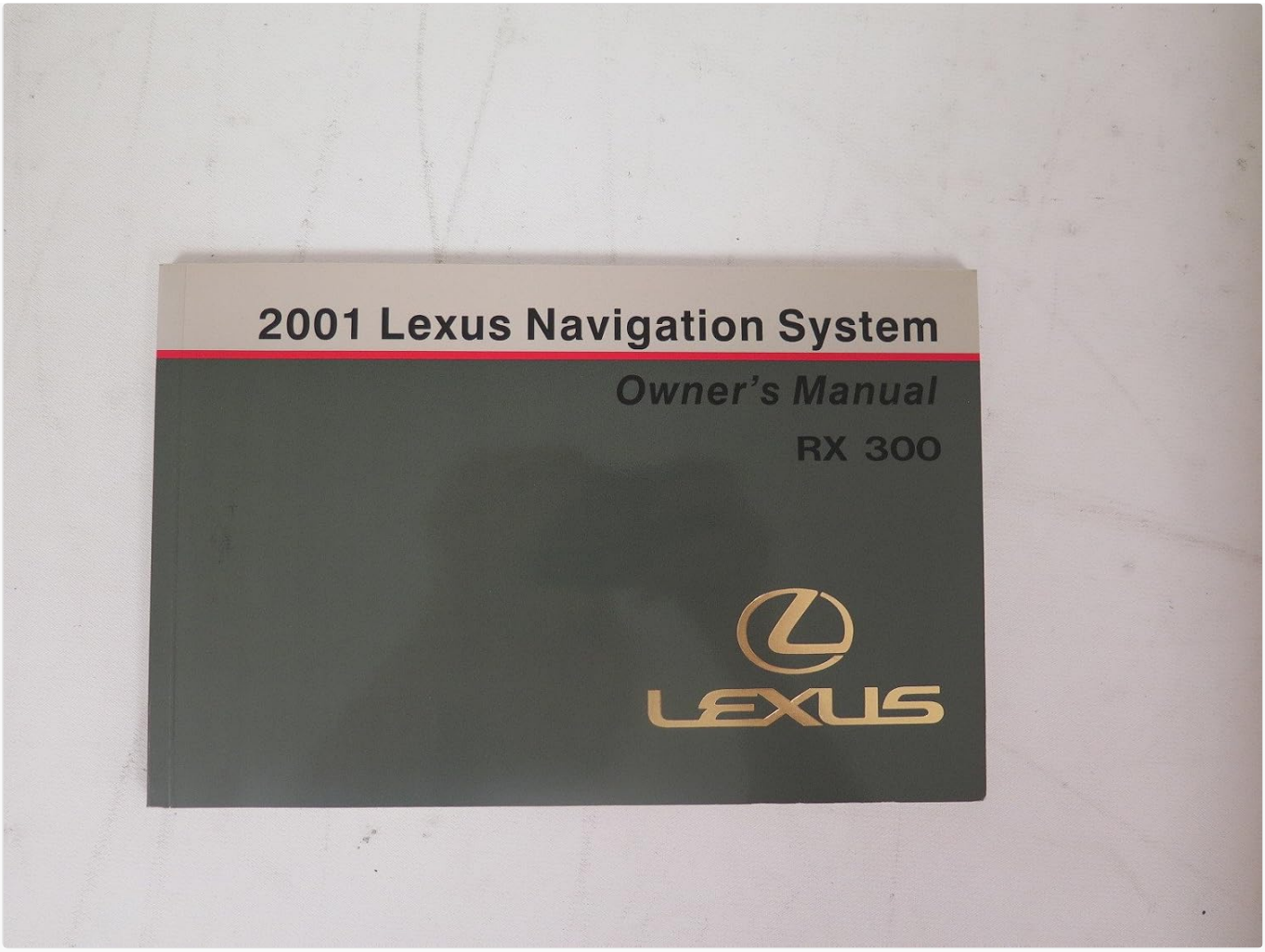

Image: Cover of the 2001 Lexus Navigation System Quick Reference Guide.

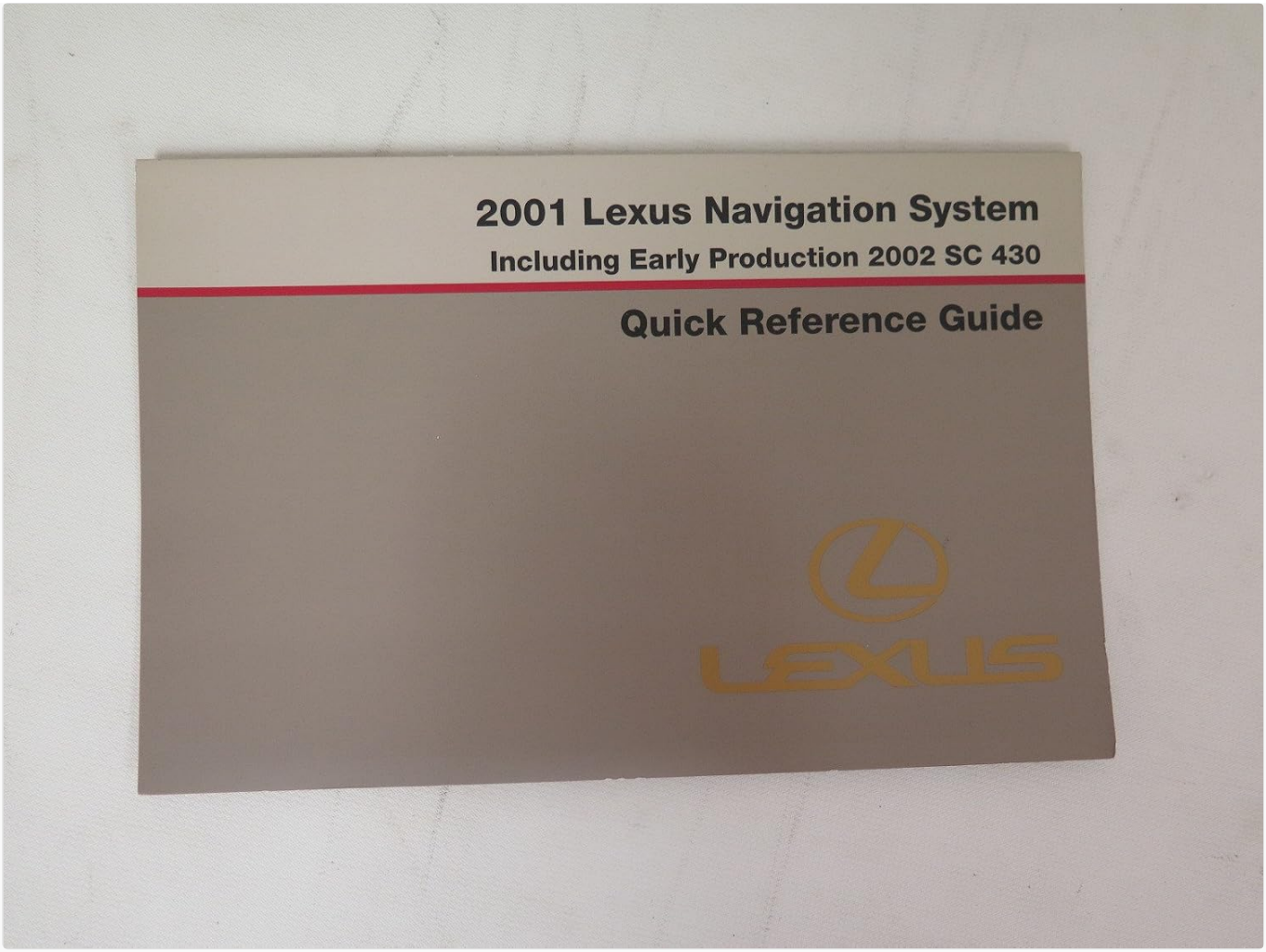

Image: Cover of a 2001 Lexus Owner's Manual Supplement for LX 470 and RX 300, detailing owner amenities, warranty, and maintenance.

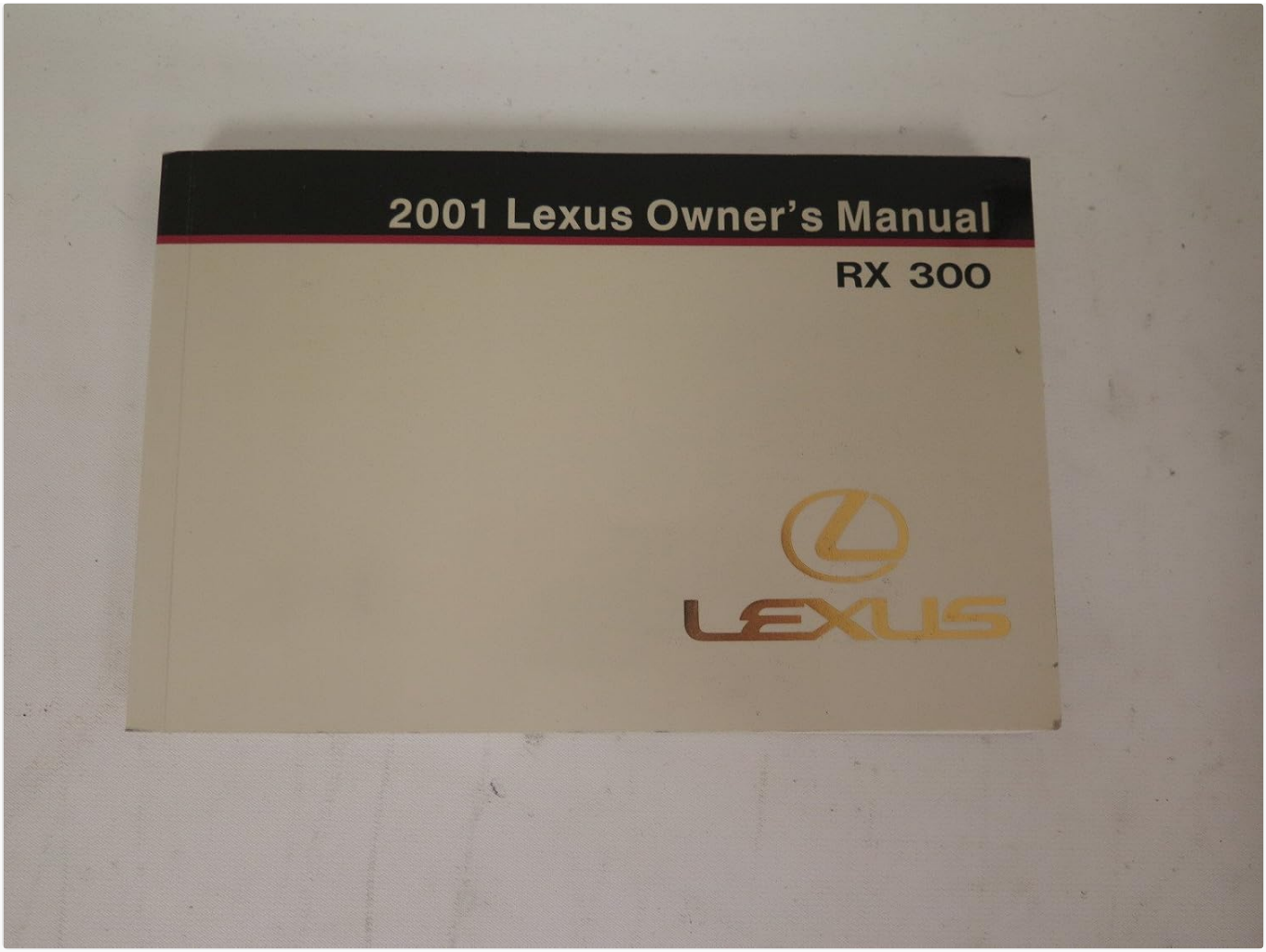

Image: Cover of an Owner's Manual Supplement providing Lemon Law Information.

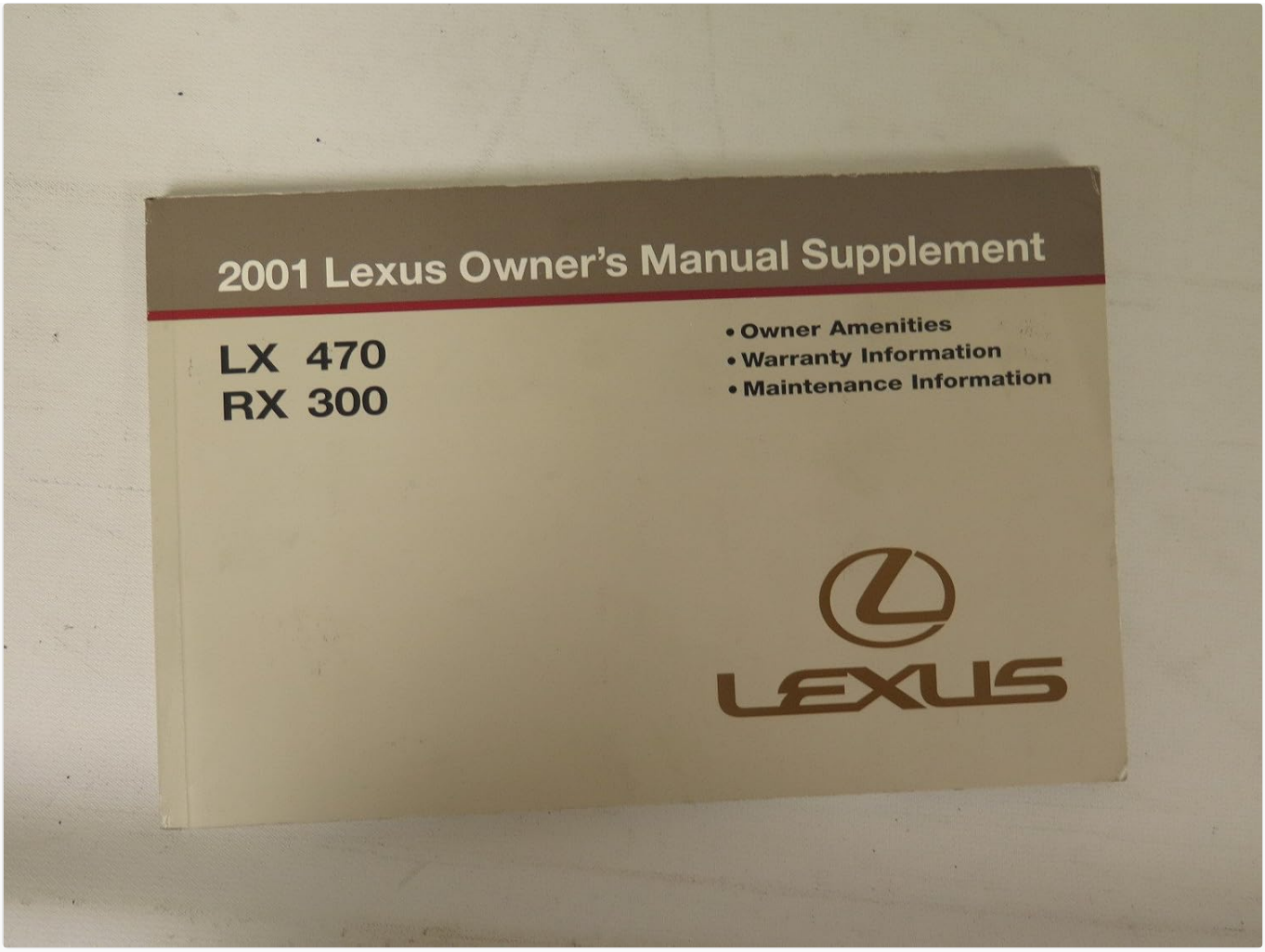

Image: A black leather-bound case with the Lexus logo, designed to hold the owner's manuals and supplementary documents.

Getting Started: Initial Setup and Familiarization

Before driving your RX 300, familiarize yourself with its basic controls and features.

Driver's Seat and Steering Wheel Adjustment

- **Seat Position:** Adjust the seat forward or backward, and the seatback angle, to achieve a comfortable driving position with clear visibility and easy access to pedals and controls.
- **Steering Wheel:** Adjust the steering wheel tilt and telescopic position for optimal comfort and control. Ensure you have a clear view of the instrument panel.

Mirror Adjustment

- **Rearview Mirror:** Adjust the interior rearview mirror to center on the rear window.
- **Side Mirrors:** Adjust exterior side mirrors to provide a clear view of the areas to the sides and slightly behind your vehicle.

Instrument Panel Overview

The instrument panel provides critical information about your vehicle's status. Familiarize yourself with the speedometer, tachometer, fuel gauge, temperature gauge, and various warning lights.

Operating Your Vehicle

Starting and Stopping the Engine

1. **Starting:** Ensure the shift lever is in 'P' (Park) or 'N' (Neutral). Depress the brake pedal and turn the ignition key to 'START'. Release the key once the engine starts.
2. **Stopping:** Shift the lever to 'P' (Park) and turn the ignition key to 'LOCK'.

Automatic Transmission Operation

The RX 300 features an automatic transmission with the following positions:

- **P (Park):** Locks the transmission and prevents the wheels from turning. Use when parking.
- **R (Reverse):** For backing up the vehicle.
- **N (Neutral):** The wheels are not locked, and the engine is not connected to the drive wheels.
- **D (Drive):** For normal forward driving. The transmission automatically shifts through gears.
- **L (Low):** Provides maximum engine braking for driving down steep grades or for increased power when climbing.

Lighting Controls

The light control stalk on the left side of the steering column operates the headlights, parking lights, and fog lights. Turn the stalk to the desired position for operation.

Climate Control System

Your RX 300 is equipped with an automatic climate control system. Use the controls on the center console to set the desired temperature, fan speed, and air distribution. The 'AUTO' mode will automatically regulate these settings to maintain the set temperature.

Audio System

Refer to the dedicated section in your owner's manual for detailed instructions on operating the radio, CD player, and other audio features. Basic controls include power, volume, tuning, and mode selection.

Maintenance and Care

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and performance of your Lexus RX 300. Follow the recommended service schedule outlined in this manual.

Scheduled Maintenance

Adhere to the maintenance schedule provided by Lexus, which includes regular inspections, fluid changes, and component replacements. This schedule is typically based on mileage or time intervals, whichever comes first.

Fluid Checks

- **Engine Oil:** Check the oil level regularly using the dipstick. Add oil if necessary, ensuring it meets Lexus specifications.
- **Coolant:** Verify the coolant level in the reservoir. Do not open the radiator cap when the engine is hot.
- **Brake Fluid:** Ensure the brake fluid level is between the MIN and MAX marks on the reservoir.
- **Power Steering Fluid:** Check the power steering fluid level when the engine is cold.

- **Windshield Washer Fluid:** Keep the reservoir filled for clear visibility.

Tire Care

- **Tire Pressure:** Check tire pressure monthly, including the spare. Refer to the tire placard on the driver's side door jamb for recommended pressures.
- **Tire Rotation:** Rotate tires at recommended intervals to promote even wear and extend tire life.
- **Tread Depth:** Inspect tire tread for wear indicators. Replace tires when tread depth is insufficient.

Battery Maintenance

Ensure battery terminals are clean and free of corrosion. If the battery requires replacement, use a battery that meets Lexus specifications.

Troubleshooting Common Issues

This section addresses common problems you might encounter with your RX 300 and provides basic solutions.

Engine Will Not Start

- **Check Battery:** Ensure battery terminals are clean and tight. If the battery is dead, jump-start the vehicle according to the instructions in the full owner's manual.
- **Fuel Level:** Verify there is sufficient fuel in the tank.
- **Ignition System:** If the engine cranks but does not start, there might be an issue with the ignition system or fuel delivery. Consult a qualified technician.

Warning Lights Illuminated

If a warning light illuminates on your instrument panel, consult the full owner's manual for its specific meaning and recommended action. Some common warning lights include:

- **Check Engine Light:** Indicates a potential issue with the engine or emissions system.
- **Oil Pressure Warning:** Indicates low engine oil pressure. Stop the vehicle safely and check the oil level.
- **Battery Charge Warning:** Indicates a problem with the charging system.

Flat Tire

If you experience a flat tire, safely pull over to the side of the road. Refer to the full owner's manual for instructions on how to use the spare tire and jack to replace the flat tire.

Specifications

Key specifications for the 2001 Lexus RX 300 (may vary slightly based on trim and region):

Category	Specification
Engine Type	3.0L V6, DOHC 24-valve
Horsepower	Approximately 220 hp
Transmission	4-speed automatic

Category	Specification
Fuel Tank Capacity	Approximately 72 liters (19 US gallons)
Overall Length	Approximately 4,580 mm (180.3 in)
Overall Width	Approximately 1,815 mm (71.5 in)
Overall Height	Approximately 1,665 mm (65.6 in)
Curb Weight	Approximately 1,700 kg (3,750 lbs)
Tire Size (Standard)	225/70R16

Warranty Information

Your 2001 Lexus RX 300 is covered by a limited warranty. Details regarding the terms, conditions, and duration of your vehicle's warranty coverage are provided in a separate Warranty and Service Guide. Please refer to that document for comprehensive information on what is covered and for how long. Keep your service records as proof of maintenance, which may be required for warranty claims.

Customer Support

For further assistance, service, or parts inquiries, please contact your authorized Lexus dealer. They are equipped with trained technicians and genuine Lexus parts to provide the best service for your vehicle.
You can also visit the official Lexus website for additional resources, service schedules, and dealer locators. Always provide your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) when contacting support for accurate assistance.

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