
Dimmed/Slowed Accessories

Normally, when you turn on any accessory such as the dashboard lights, radio or blinkers, the accessory is powered indirectly by the alternator, which keeps the battery charged. When the alternator is bad, however, it cannot produce enough electricity to operate all electrical accessories at maximum capacity. The dash and headboard lights thus may dim, signal lights may operate slowly and music players may not function.

Jumps

The alternator is responsible for keeping the charge of the battery high. When it doesn't operate properly, the battery voltage may drop too low to start the car. If you find that your car has needed jumps lately or that it frequently goes completely dead, then the alternator may be the.