



Kia America, Inc.
Corporate Headquarters
111 Peters Canyon Road, Irvine, CA 92606-1790 USA

IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL

(NHTSA Recall Number: 22V031)

This notice applies to your vehicle: **(Insert VIN)**


March 21, 2022

Dear Kia Forte and Forte Koup Owner:

Kia has identified a defect in your vehicle which relates to motor vehicle safety.

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Kia America, Inc. has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain 2017-2018 MY Forte and 2017 MY Forte Koup vehicles. The defect can impair the vehicle's airbag function and deactivate the airbags, thereby increasing the risk of injury in a crash where airbag deployment is necessary. Our records indicate that you own or lease one of the potentially affected vehicles.

What Is The Problem?

Due to variances in the manufacturing of the Airbag Control Unit (ACU), the ACU cover may contact a memory chip on the printed circuit board and damage the electrical circuit inside the ACU. If this condition occurs, the Airbag Warning Light  will illuminate, and the airbags in your vehicle will not deploy in crashes where deployment is necessary, thereby increasing the risk of injury.

Kia Will Replace the Airbag Control Unit Or Update the Software At No Cost To You.

If the Airbag Warning Light stays illuminated beyond approximately 6 seconds after your vehicle is turned ON or at any time during vehicle operation, your Kia dealer will diagnose the cause **at no cost to you**. If the warning light is due to the existence of Diagnostic Trouble Code (DTC) B1620, the dealer will replace the Airbag Control Unit with an improved one. If the warning light is not illuminated, a software update will be installed to the Airbag Control Unit to ensure deployment of the airbag(s) in the event of a crash that warrants such protection even if the recall condition related to DTC B1620 occurs in the future. This software update or ACU replacement will be performed **at no cost to you**. Depending on which repair is performed on your vehicle, the estimated time required to perform the diagnosis and repair will be approximately one (1) to two (2) hours.

What Should You Do?

- In the interest of the safety of your passengers, as well as your own safety, please immediately contact your authorized dealer to arrange for the recall to be performed on your vehicle.
- **WARNING:** If the Airbag Warning Light stays illuminated beyond approximately 6 seconds after your vehicle is turned ON or at any time during vehicle operation, pull over to a safe location, do not drive your vehicle, and contact Kia Roadside Assistance (online at kia.rsahelp.com or by phone 1-800-333-4542 available 24 hours/day, 365 days/year) to request to have your vehicle towed to the nearest authorized Kia dealership as soon as possible.
- To find your nearest dealer, visit www.kia.com and click the "Find Dealer" button in the upper right corner ("Dealers" on a mobile device). You can also use the QR code below with your mobile device to access this information (*see the bottom of this letter for more information about QR code use*).



What If You Have Already Paid To Have This Situation Corrected?

If you have incurred expense to remedy this issue prior to the date of this notice, you may have the opportunity to obtain reimbursement for that expense. You may submit your receipts online to Kia via the Owners section of www.kia.com or mail your receipts with a copy of the attached Request for Reimbursement form directly to Kia for review and consideration:

Consumer Assistance Center
Kia America, Inc.
P.O. Box 52410
Irvine, CA 92619-2410
1-800-333-4542

Pursuant to the General Reimbursement Plan issued by Kia pursuant to Federal Regulation 49 CFR 573.13, Kia will use its best efforts to respond to your claim within sixty (60) days of receipt and at that time Kia may either accept or reject that claim or it may request more information to evaluate the claim.

Have You Changed Your Address Or Sold Your Kia?

If you have changed your home address, sold your Kia vehicle, or no longer own your vehicle, please complete the attached prepaid "Change of Address/Ownership" card and mail it to us. You can also contact the Consumer Assistance Center phone number listed above.

What If You Are A Vehicle Lessor?

Federal regulation requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

What If You Have Other Questions?

If your dealer does not respond to your service request in a timely manner, we suggest that you call Kia's Consumer Assistance Center at 1-800-333-4542. This number has TTY capability. If you still are not satisfied that we have remedied this situation without charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

This action has been taken in the interest of your safety, and we regret any inconvenience this situation may cause you.

Sincerely,

Consumer Affairs Department

QR Code Use:

- A QR Code is a square, 2-dimensional barcode that can be read by mobile devices loaded with an appropriate barcode or **QR Code Reader App**. The app reads the barcode image and then launches/uploads the specific information the code contains, such as URLs, text, photos, videos.
- With a mobile device, **download a QR Code Reader App**. With many devices, you can do this through an app store or marketplace.
- **Open the QR Code Reader App on your mobile device. The app will utilize your device's camera.** Center the code in the camera viewing area. With some apps, the URL or other information will automatically load when the code is recognized. For others, you may have to snap or take a picture of the QR code. Refer to the **QR Reader Code App instructions**.

REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT FORM
SC226 - 2017-2018 MY FORTE AND 2017 MY FORTE KOUP VEHICLES
ACU COVER CONTACT SAFETY RECALL CAMPAIGN

If you have incurred expense to remedy this issue prior to the date of this notice, you may have the opportunity to obtain reimbursement for that expense. You may **submit your receipts online to Kia via the Owners section of www.kia.com** (MyKia>Contact Us or directly at this link: <https://ksupport.kiausa.com/ConsumerAffairs>).

If you do not have access to a computer or prefer to submit your request by mail, please complete this Request for Reimbursement and mail it to the following address for review and consideration, along with backup documentation:

Consumer Assistance Center
Kia America, Inc.
P. O. Box 52410
Irvine, CA 92619-2410
1-800-333-4542

Please allow at least sixty (60) days for review and response.

Customer First Name: Customer Last Name:

Customer Address:

Customer City: State: Zip:

Phone #: () - Email:

Vehicle Identification Number:

Mileage at Time of Repair: Date of Repair: / /

Amount of Reimbursement Requested \$

Attach the following:

- **Repair Order showing:**
 - Name & address of person paying for the repair
 - Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of vehicle repaired
 - **Description of the problem repaired**
 - Date of repair, mileage at the time of repair and total cost of claimed repair expense
- **Evidence of Payment of Repair showing:**
 - Date of Payment
 - Amount Paid (e.g., copies of cancelled check or credit card receipt)

I certify that the documents attached to this Request for Reimbursement are true and accurate and should be used as the basis for a reimbursement to me under this campaign.

CLAIMANT'S SIGNATURE:

Signature

Print Name