Downblip

USER MANUAL



Every downshift, perfect.

Setup, every screen, the button, safety and warranty. Keep this manual with the car.

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HOW TO READ THIS MANUAL

Words in `THIS STYLE` are exactly what you see on the screen. "Press" means a short press of the button. "Hold 2 s" means keep it pressed for two seconds; a thin line fills along the bottom of the screen while you hold.

01

Read this first: safety

Downblip helps you drive smoothly. It never replaces your attention, your judgement or the rules of the road.

> **WARNING**
> Your eyes belong on the road. Downblip is designed to be read with a quick glance and to be used through its light bar, which you can see from the corner of your eye. If something on the screen needs more than a glance, stop somewhere safe first.

While driving

- Only press the button when it is safe to do so. Never change settings while the car is moving.
- Rev matching and the score are a training aid. Never take risks to "hit the target". Braking and steering always come first.
- The over-rev warning and the minimum gear are advice based on your speed and the redline you set. Downblip cannot see the gear lever or stop you selecting the wrong gear.
- Speed camera and section warnings are a reminder, not a guarantee. Cameras move, new ones appear and the map can be out of date. Always drive at or below the limit.
- The values on the screen come from your car's own computer and may differ from your car's instruments. If your car's warning lights say something different, trust the car.

Where it goes

- Mount it so it does not block your view of the road, mirrors or instruments.
- **Never** mount it on or near an airbag cover or in the path of an airbag. Check your car's handbook for airbag locations.
- Route the cable so it cannot reach the pedals, steering wheel, gear lever or handbrake, and cannot get caught in a door.
- Do not let the cable hang across the footwell.

The device and the car

- Use it only in cars with a 12 V OBD-II socket. Do not use it in trucks or vehicles with 24 V systems.
- Do not open the case, cut or extend the cable, or plug anything else into it. There are no user-serviceable parts inside.

- Stop using it if the case or cable is damaged, or if it gets wet inside.
- Unplug it before work on the car's electrics, and before jump-starting.
- Keep the box, the foot and the adhesive pad away from small children. The pad and small parts are a choking hazard.
- Using camera warnings is not allowed in some countries. Downblip switches them off by itself where it knows they are banned, but you are responsible for following local law.

02

In the box

ITEM	WHAT IT'S FOR
Downblip	The device, with its 1.8 m cable and OBD plug permanently attached
Dash foot	Holds Downblip at an 8° angle so the screen faces you
3M VHB pad	Sticks the foot to the dashboard. Fitted to the foot
Cleaning wipe	Alcohol wipe to clean the dashboard before sticking
2 cable clips	Optional, to keep the cable tidy along the dash
Quick start card	The short version of chapters 05 and 06
User manual	This book

There is no battery and nothing to charge. Downblip takes its power from the car through the same cable that carries the data.

All packaging is paper and card, and can go in paper recycling.

03

Getting to know Downblip



1 Light bar	8 LEDs. Read it from the corner of your eye: amber = getting close, green = on target, red = too high.
2 Screen	2.42" white OLED. Shows one page at a time.
3 Button	The only control. See chapter 07.
4 Light sensor	Measures the light in the car so the screen and LEDs dim at night. Don't cover it.
5 USB-C	Underneath. Only for updates and the camera map, from a computer. Not needed in the car.
6 Dash foot	Sticks to the dash. Downblip clicks onto it.
7 Cable	1.8 m, ending in the OBD plug. Power and car data in one.

04

Will it work in my car?

Downblip needs an OBD-II socket that talks CAN. That's most cars built from 2008 on, and many from a few years before.

YOUR CAR	WHAT WORKS
Manual, petrol or diesel	Everything in this manual
Automatic or DSG	Everything except the manual-only features: rev matching, gear indicator, shift score, over-rev warning, stall and lug guard, clutch slip check
Hybrid	The gauges, timer, engine codes and camera features. Manual features only on manual hybrids
Electric	Not supported
Older car without CAN	Not supported yet. A future update may add older cars
Vans and trucks with 24 V	Not supported

Features that depend on your car

Some values are only shown if your car's computer reports them. If it doesn't, Downblip simply hides them.

- **Oil temperature:** many cars report it, many don't. Coolant temperature is always there.
- **Boost:** turbo cars that report boost pressure.
- **Trip fuel and cost:** cars that report fuel flow or air flow (most do).
- **Lug guard:** needs the engine load value, which almost every car reports.

Gearboxes

Manual gearboxes with 4, 5, 6 or 7 forward gears. You tell Downblip how many during setup.

TESTED CARS
A list of tested cars is kept at **downblip.store/cars**. If your car isn't on it yet, it will very likely still work. Email us and we'll add it.

05

Installing it

It takes about ten minutes. No tools, no wiring.

1. Find the OBD socket

It's a 16-pin socket, usually under the dashboard on the driver's side, near the steering column or above the pedals. Some cars hide it behind a small flap or in the centre console. Your car's handbook shows where it is.

2. Choose the spot on the dash

- Somewhere you can see with a short glance, without taking your head away from the road. Next to or just above the instrument cluster usually works best.
- Not blocking your view, not on an airbag cover, and not where the sun shines straight onto the screen.
- Flat or gently curved plastic. The pad doesn't stick well to leather, fabric, rubbery soft-touch coatings or textured grain.
- Plan the cable route first: from the spot, along the dash edge and down the side of the dash to the socket.

3. Stick the foot

1. Clean the spot with the alcohol wipe and let it dry for one minute.
2. Best above 15 °C. In winter, warm the car up first.
3. Peel the red liner off the pad. Don't touch the adhesive.
4. Press the foot down firmly for **30 seconds**, with the open end facing the screen's direction.
5. The pad reaches full strength after about 24 hours. You can use Downblip straight away, but don't pull on it for the first day.

4. Fit Downblip and route the cable

1. Slide Downblip onto the foot until it clicks.
2. Tuck the cable into the gap between the dash panels, or use the two clips.

3. Keep it away from the pedals, steering column and any airbag covers (often marked "SRS" or "AIRBAG").
4. Leave a little slack at the socket end so it isn't pulled tight.

5. Plug it in

Push the plug into the OBD socket until it sits fully home. Then start the car. Downblip wakes up by itself, and the light bar sweeps once.

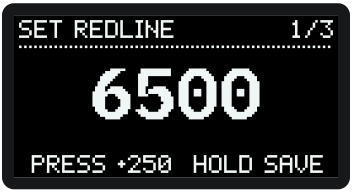
> **TIP**
> Leave the plug in. Downblip goes to sleep with the car and uses almost no power while parked. If the car will stand still for more than a month, unplug it to be safe.

06

First start: setup

Downblip asks two questions, then learns your gearbox while you drive. You only do this once.

Step 1: your redline



The redline is where the red area starts on your rev counter, for example 6,500 RPM.

Press to go up in steps of 250 (4,000 to 9,500, then back to 4,000).
Hold 2 s to save.

Downblip uses your redline for the light bar's red zone, the shift light (500 RPM below it by default) and the over-rev warning.

Step 2: how many gears



Count the forward gears on your gear knob.

Press to switch between 4, 5, 6 and 7.
Hold 2 s to save.

Step 3: drive



Drive normally and use every gear once. Each gear ticks off once Downblip has seen it. Holding each gear steadily for a few seconds helps.

When all gears are done you'll see `GEARS LEARNED`. That's it.

> **TIP**
> Stuck at, say, `LEARNING GEARS 4/5`? Spend a few seconds in the missing gear at a steady speed. Usually that's 1st or the top gear. If it never finishes, check you chose the right number of gears (chapter 13, Re-learn gears).

07

The button

One button does everything. What it does depends on what's on the screen.

DO THIS	WHAT HAPPENS
Press	Next page: DRIVE → GAUGES → TIMER → ENGINE → TRIP → DRIVE. The dots at the bottom show where you are.
Hold 2 s on DRIVE	Opens the settings menu (chapter 13)
Hold 2 s on other pages	That page's option, for example reset the trip or swap a gauge. Anything that deletes something asks you to confirm.
Press with the clutch in	Skip a gear: the target changes from one gear down to two gears down (chapter 08)
Double-click	Saves a speed camera at your current position (chapter 11)
Press during an alert	Hides the alert
Press after a shift score	Hides the score straight away
Press right after `SAVED`	Undo: deletes the camera you just saved (within 5 seconds)

Confirming

Anything that deletes something (clearing engine codes, resetting the trip, clearing best times) shows a question first. **Press to confirm**, or do nothing for 5 seconds to cancel. A bar along the bottom shows the time left.

Menus close by themselves

If you leave the settings menu alone for 15 seconds, it closes without changing anything.

08

Rev matching

When you shift down, the engine needs to spin faster in the lower gear. Rev matching means giving a short tap of throttle (a "blip") with the clutch in, so the engine is already at the right speed when the clutch comes up. The result: no lurch, less wear on the clutch and gearbox, and a calmer car into corners.

A downshift, step by step

1. **Driving.** The DRIVE page shows your gear, speed and RPM.



Gear 4, 64 km/h, 2,560 RPM.

2. **Brake and press the clutch.** Within a tenth of a second the screen switches to the target: the gear change (`4→3`) and the exact RPM you need, updated live as you slow down.



Target 3,240. You're 400 RPM short: `BLIP`.

3. **Blip.** Tap the throttle. The light bar fills from both ends toward the middle as you get closer.

4 **Green, clutch up.** Within 150 RPM of the target, the whole bar goes green and the screen says `MATCH`. Select the gear and let the clutch up.



20 RPM over the target: `MATCH`.

Reading the light bar

▫▫▫▫▫▫▫▫	More than 1,600 RPM short. Blip more.
🟠🟠▫▫▫▫🟠🟠	Getting closer. A pair lights for each 400 RPM.
🟢🟢🟢🟢🟢🟢🟢🟢	On target (±150 RPM). Clutch up.
🔴🔴🔴🔴🔴🔴🔴🔴	Too high. Let the revs drop a little.

Skipping a gear

Downblip assumes you're going down **one** gear. If you're going down two (for example 5th to 3rd), **press the button while the clutch is in**. The screen shows `SKIP` and the target for two gears down. Press again to go back to one gear.

GOOD TO KNOW
Downblip can't see the gear lever. It shows the target for the gear it expects. If you select a different gear without pressing SKIP, the target won't match that gear.

Over-rev warning



If the planned gear would push the engine past your redline at this speed, the screen flashes `TOO HIGH` with the RPM it would hit, and the bar flashes red, all while the clutch is still in.

`MIN GEAR 4` is the lowest gear that is safe at your current speed.

If you let the clutch up in a gear that over-revs anyway, the shift is logged as `MONEY SHIFT`. The name comes from the repair bill an over-revved engine can cause.

Shift score



After each downshift you get a score for 2–3 seconds:
`PERFECT`: within 150 RPM.
`+220 HIGH`: 220 RPM over.
`-400 LOW`: 400 RPM short.

Your average is a number out of 100 (100 = every downshift `PERFECT`). It shows on the TRIP page and as `WEEK AVG`.

Upshifts aren't scored. Below about 12 km/h Downblip doesn't show a target, because there's nothing to match.

09

Drive helpers

Three helpers for manual cars. They warn you when something is going wrong. They can't see your feet, so they don't predict what you'll do.

Stall guard



Pulling away or creeping slowly, and the revs sag well below idle? The screen flashes `MORE GAS` and the bar flashes amber. Give a little more throttle, or press the clutch.

Lug guard



When the revs are too low for the gear while you accelerate, the engine is labouring ("lugging"). That's hard on it. `GEAR DOWN` shows what the revs would be one gear lower.

Clutch slip check



A worn clutch can start to slip when you accelerate hard. Downblip notices and tells you.

Downblip shows a `CLUTCH SLIP` alert the first time, then a small tag on the DRIVE page. A slipping clutch is usually worn. Have it checked, and avoid full throttle until then.

> **BUYING A USED CAR?**
> Plug Downblip in for the test drive and accelerate firmly in 3rd or 4th. A slip warning is worth knowing about before you buy.

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The pages

Press the button to move through the five pages. Downblip remembers the last page you used.

DRIVE



Gear, speed and RPM, with a rev bar. The bottom row shows your last shift score, `WARMING UP`, `CHECK ENGINE` or `CLUTCH SLIP` when relevant.

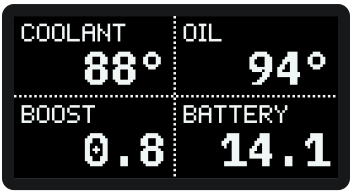
Shift light



When you approach the shift RPM the bar fills amber, and at the shift point it flashes red. Shift up.

While the engine is cold (coolant under about 70 °C) the shift point is lowered to 3,500 RPM, and the screen says `WARMING UP`. Cold oil protects less, so go easy until it's warm.

GAUGES



Coolant and oil temperature (if your car reports oil), boost on turbo cars, and battery voltage.

Hold 2 s to swap the fourth gauge between boost, intake air temperature and engine load.

TIMER



A 0–100 km/h timer that's always ready. Whenever you stop, it shows `READY`. It starts the moment you move and stops at 100. It also records 60–100 and 100–200 km/h.

- **Hold 2 s:** reset the last run.
- **Hold 4 s:** also clear your best times.

> **WARNING**
> Only use the timer on a closed track or where it is legal and safe. Never on public roads above the limit.

ENGINE



If the check-engine light is on, this page shows the fault code and what it means in plain words, for example `P0301 CYLINDER 1 MISFIRE`. More than one code? Press to step through them.

Clearing codes

Hold 2 s, then press to confirm. The code is cleared and the check-engine light goes off.

> **BEFORE YOU CLEAR A CODE**
> Clearing doesn't fix anything. If the fault is still there, the light comes back. Write the code down first, and have a serious fault (flashing check-engine light, overheating, oil pressure) checked by a mechanic. Clearing codes also resets the emissions self-tests (below).

Inspection check



Your car keeps running self-tests on its emissions parts (catalytic converter, oxygen sensors and others). This shows how many have finished, for example `6/9`. At the roadworthiness inspection these results can be read from the car.

- `READY FOR TEST`: all self-tests have finished and no fault is stored.
- `NOT READY YET`: some haven't finished. This is normal after clearing codes, disconnecting the battery or a repair. Drive about 50–100 km of mixed driving (town and open road) over a few days and check again.
- `CHECK ENGINE ON`: a fault is stored. Get it fixed before the inspection.

WHAT IT CAN'T DO
Downblip checks what the inspection reads from your car's computer. It can't measure your exhaust gas, so it can't tell you whether you'll pass the tailpipe test.

TRIP



Distance, average shift score, highest RPM, best 0–100, average fuel use and what the trip cost.

Hold 2 s and confirm to reset.

Trip cost uses the fuel price you set in the settings (chapter 13). When you switch the car off, Downblip shows a short summary of the drive, then goes to sleep.

Battery health



At every engine start Downblip measures how far the battery voltage dips while the starter turns.

A healthy battery stays well above 10 V. If it dips below that, you'll see `WEAK START`. It's a sign the battery is getting tired, especially before winter. Have it tested.

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Speed cameras and section control

A built-in GPS lets Downblip warn you before fixed speed cameras and show your average speed in section-control zones. It only receives satellite signals. It never transmits, jams or detects anything.

Camera warnings



About 600 m before a known fixed camera in your direction of travel, Downblip beeps, shows the distance and the limit (when the map knows it), and the light bar fills amber as you get closer.

Saving a new camera



Passed a camera that isn't on the map? **Double-click** the button as you pass it. Downblip saves the spot and your direction.

Pressed by mistake? For 5 seconds the screen shows `PRESS = UNDO`. One press deletes it.

A few times afterwards, when you pass it again, a small `STILL HERE?` appears. Press if it is; ignore it if it's gone. Your saved cameras are shared with other drivers the next time you sync (chapter 14). A camera goes on the shared map once several drivers have reported it, and comes off once several have said it's gone.

Section control



When you pass the start of a known average-speed section, the SECTION screen appears. It shows your average since the start, the limit and the distance left. If your average is over the limit, the bar turns amber. The screen closes at the end of the section.

The official sections in Slovenia come already on the map.

Adding a new section

1. **Double-click** as you pass the camera at the **start**. It's saved like any camera.
2. **Double-click** again at the camera at the **end**.
3. Downblip sees two cameras a few km apart on the same road and asks `LINK AS SECTION?`. **Press** to make them a section. Do nothing for 5 seconds and they stay two separate cameras.

SPEED LIMITS
You never type in a limit while driving. New cameras and sections get their limit from the shared map once someone has added it, or you can set it on the update page (chapter 14). Until then the screen shows the distance or your average without a limit.

Good to know

- The first GPS fix after installing can take a few minutes. It needs a view of the sky through the windscreen. Some heated or metal-coated windscreens weaken the signal.
- Only **fixed** cameras and known sections. Mobile police checks are not included.
- The starting map covers Slovenia. Other countries fill in as drivers add cameras.
- In countries where camera warnings are not allowed, Downblip switches camera and section warnings off by itself. Everything else keeps working.
- You can switch camera warnings off at any time in the settings.

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Alerts



Important warnings take over the screen. It turns white and blinks, and the light bar pulses red. **Press** to hide an alert; it goes away by itself after 8 seconds.

ALERT	MEANING	WHAT TO DO
`OVERHEAT`	Coolant is far too hot	Stop safely and switch the engine off. Don't open the coolant cap while hot.

`BATTERY`	Voltage too low while the engine runs	The alternator may not be charging. Have it checked soon.
`NEW CODE`	The car stored a new fault	Look on the ENGINE page. Drive gently and get it checked.
`CLUTCH SLIP`	The clutch slipped under load	See chapter 09. Avoid full throttle and have it checked.

13

Settings



Hold 2 s on the DRIVE page to open. **Press** to move down, **hold 2 s** to choose. Only change settings when the car is parked.

SETTING	WHAT IT DOES
Re-learn gears	Forgets the gearbox and runs setup again (redline, gears, learning). Do this after fitting different-sized tyres, or if the gear shown is ever wrong.
Redline	Your engine's redline, 4,000–9,500 RPM
Shift light	The upshift RPM, or `OFF`. Default: 500 below the redline
Brightness	`AUTO` (follows the light sensor), `HIGH` or `LOW`
Units	km/h and °C, or mph and °F
Fuel price	Price per litre, for the trip cost
Cameras	Camera warnings and the beep `ON` or `OFF`
Exit	Leaves the menu

14

Updates and the camera map

New features, new cars and the latest camera map come through a web page. There's no app and no account.

1. Take Downblip off its foot. You can unplug it from the car, or leave its cable plugged into the car and bring a laptop.
2. Connect the USB-C socket underneath to a computer with a USB-C cable (not included; any data cable works).
3. Open **downblip.store/update** in Chrome or Edge on a computer. Other browsers can't talk to USB devices.
4. Click **Connect** and choose Downblip. The page shows the firmware version and offers any update.
5. Your saved cameras are uploaded and the newest shared camera map is downloaded at the same time.
6. Wait until the page says **Done** before unplugging. Don't unplug during an update.

YOUR SETTINGS STAY
Updates keep your redline, gears, best times and scores.

We recommend syncing every month or two to keep the camera map fresh.

15

Care, removal and storage

- Clean the screen with a dry microfibre cloth. No glass cleaner, alcohol or solvents on the screen.
- Don't leave it where drinks can spill on it. It is not waterproof.
- It is made for life on a dashboard, sun and cold included. If the car gets extremely hot in summer sun, a windscreen shade helps the screen last longer.
- **Removing the foot:** warm it with a hair dryer for a minute, then slide dental floss or fishing line under it with a sawing motion. Roll leftover adhesive off with your thumb. Don't use a screwdriver; it marks the dash.

- **Moving to another car:** new 3M VHB pads are available from downblip.store. Use **Re-learn gears** in the new car.

16

Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	TRY THIS
Screen stays dark	Push the plug fully into the socket. Turn the ignition on or start the engine. Some cars only power the socket with the ignition on.
`NO CAR DATA`	Start the engine. If it stays, your car may not use CAN (chapter 04). Check the list at downblip.store/cars.
Learning never finishes	Hold the missing gear steadily for a few seconds above 15 km/h. If it's stuck one short, the gear count is wrong: use Re-learn gears.
Wrong gear shown	Re-learn gears, especially after a tyre change.
No target when I press the clutch	The target only shows above about 12 km/h and once the gears are learned. It doesn't show in 1st (there's no lower gear).
Target feels off	Re-learn gears. Check the redline is set correctly.
No oil temperature or boost	Your car doesn't report it. This is normal (chapter 04).
No camera warnings	Wait a few minutes for the GPS fix, with a clear view of the sky. Check cameras are `ON` in the settings. Sync the map (chapter 14). Warnings are off in countries that ban them.
Screen too bright or dark at night	Make sure nothing covers the light sensor. Or set Brightness to `LOW` or `HIGH`.
Update page can't find it	Use Chrome or Edge on a computer, and a USB-C *data* cable (some cables only charge).
The foot came loose	Clean the dash, use a new pad and press for 30 s above 15 °C. Avoid soft-touch or textured surfaces.

Still stuck? Email **hello@downblip.store** with your car (make, model, year, engine) and what you see on the screen.

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Technical data

Size	78 × 46 × 16 mm (without foot)
Case	ABS plastic, matte black
Screen	2.42" monochrome OLED, 128 × 64 pixels, white
Light bar	8 RGB LEDs
Control	1 button
Sensors	Ambient light sensor; GPS receiver (receive only)
Car connection	OBD-II (SAE J1962) plug, CAN (ISO 15765-4), read-only except clearing fault codes on your command
Cable	1.8 m, permanently attached
Power	12 V from the OBD socket; sleeps when the car is off
Update port	USB-C (data only)
Gearboxes	Manual, 4 to 7 forward gears
Mounting	Dash foot (8°) with 3M VHB adhesive pad

18

Warranty, disposal and compliance

Warranty

In the EU you have a **legal guarantee of two years** from delivery. If Downblip develops a fault in that time, we repair or replace it. This doesn't affect your other rights under

consumer law.

The guarantee doesn't cover damage from accidents, water, opening the case, cutting or modifying the cable, use in unsupported vehicles, or normal wear of the adhesive pad.

To make a claim, email **hello@downblip.store** with your order number and a short description of the problem.

Disposal



This symbol means Downblip must not go in household waste. Take it to a collection point for electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). Many electronics shops take back old devices for free. The packaging is paper and card.

Declaration of conformity

Downblip declares that this device complies with Directive 2014/53/EU (radio equipment) and Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS). The full text of the EU declaration of conformity is available at **downblip.store/doc**.

GPS receiver: 1559–1610 MHz, receive only. The device does not transmit radio signals.

Trademarks and data

Downblip is not affiliated with any car manufacturer. Car and brand names are used only to describe compatibility.

Downblip stores your settings, scores and saved cameras on the device. Nothing leaves the device unless you sync it on the update page, and then only your saved cameras and camera confirmations, without any personal details.

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Quick reference

BUTTON	DOES
Press	Next page
Hold 2 s on DRIVE	Settings
Hold 2 s elsewhere	Page option (deleting asks to confirm)
Press, clutch in	Skip a gear
Double-click	Save a speed camera
Press after SAVED	Undo the save
Press on an alert	Hide it

LIGHT BAR	MEANS
	Getting close: blip more
	On target: clutch up
	Too high, shift light, or alert

Eyes on the road. Downblip is a training aid,
not a reason to take risks.

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