SSC 7LB - ALL WEATHER FLOOR MAT ACCESSORY SAFETY RECALL NOTICE
FOR 2007AND EARLY 2008 LEXUS ES 350

DRAFT
CONFIDENTIAL

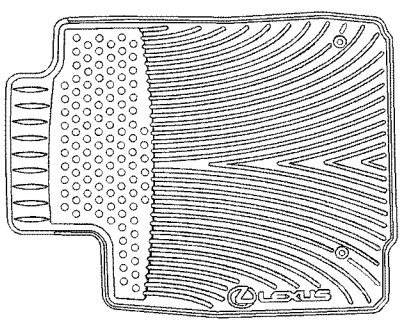
Dear Lexus Owner:

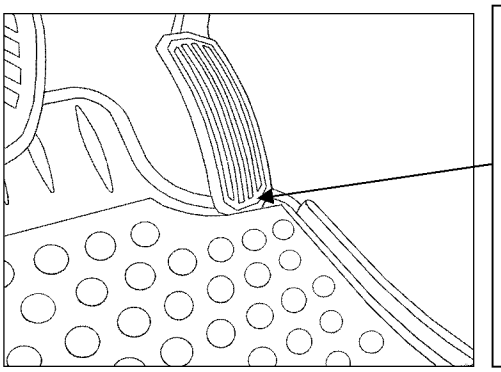
This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Lexus has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the *optional* Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat (floor mat constructed from heavy duty rubber) designed specifically for certain 2007 and early 2008 model year ES 350 vehicles. ***We are sending you this notice in the event you purchased this accessory.***

What is the condition?

The *optional* Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat is specifically engineered and manufactured for ES 350 vehicles. This includes two grommet holes in the All Weather Floor Mat and retaining hooks (clips) to secure the mat to the vehicle's carpet. In recent months, Lexus has received reports regarding the optional Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat slipping forward and interfering with the movement of the accelerator pedal. (Please see the diagram for the specific mat involved). Lexus has investigated these reports and determined that if the optional Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat (either by itself or if it is placed on top of the existing carpeted floor mat) is **not secured by the retaining hooks (clips)** and the mat moves forward, it may interfere with the accelerator pedal from returning to the idle position. If this condition occurs, in the worst case, it may increase the possibility of a crash.

Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat Involved in this recall





If the Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat is not **secured by the retaining hooks (clips)** and the mat moves forward, it may interfere with the accelerator pedal

What will Lexus do?

Lexus is currently developing a design modification to the driver's seating position All Weather Floor Mat. We will send another notification when the new driver's seating position All Weather Floor Mat is available. The original driver's seating position All Weather Floor Mat will be exchanged for a new one at that time.

What should you do?

Until the new driver's seating position Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat is ready, we request your assistance in regularly verifying the floor mat is properly secured using the retaining hooks (clips) provided. If the mat is properly secured, it will not interfere with the accelerator pedal. Good times to check are after filling your vehicle's tank with gasoline, after a carwash and/or vehicle interior cleaning, when another driver is about to drive the vehicle, etc. More than one floor mat should ***never*** be used in the driver's seating position, as the retaining hooks (clips) are designed to accommodate only one floor mat at a time. Please refer to the floor mat section of your Owner's Manual for further information regarding the retaining hooks (clips).

If you would like to immediately return the All Weather Floor Mat set for a refund, please bring your Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat set to your local Lexus dealership and they will make the necessary arrangements. The dealership will require your Vehicle Identification Number during the return process.

If your vehicle does not have the Lexus All Weather Floor Mat (please see the diagram for the specific mat involved), it is ***NOT*** involved in this recall. Please return the enclosed postcard to notify us that you do not have the Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat accessory, so we may remove your name and address information from future

mailings regarding this issue. However, during our investigation, it was noted that floor mat interference is possible in any vehicle with any combination of floor mats. Therefore, if you utilize non-Lexus floor mats, ***please make sure they are also properly secured using the appropriate retention device and do not place them on top of another floor mat.***

If you no longer own the vehicle, please indicate so on the enclosed postage-paid form, providing us with the name and address of the new owner if possible.

What if you experience accelerator pedal interference prior to your appointment?

Each circumstance may vary, and drivers must use their best judgment, but Lexus is providing the following instructions and warnings if the All Weather Floor Mat should interfere with the accelerator pedal:

- If it is possible and safe to do so, pull back the floor mat as it may dislodge the accelerator pedal from the All Weather Floor Mat.
- If you need to stop the vehicle immediately, firmly step on the brake pedal with both feet. Do not pump the brake pedal as it will deplete the vacuum utilized for the power brake assist.
- If you can safely stop the vehicle, firmly hold down the Engine Start/Stop button for at least three seconds to turn off the engine. Do not tap the Engine Start Stop button. However, by turning off the engine, you will lose both power brake assist and power steering assist.

What if you have previously paid for the replacement of the Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mat Accessory for this specific condition?

If you have previously paid for the replacement of the Lexus ES 350 All Weather Floor Mats ***for this specific condition*** prior to receiving this letter, please mail a copy of your repair order, proof-of-payment, and proof-of-ownership to the following address for reimbursement consideration.

Lexus Customer Assistance, L201
19001 South Western Avenue
Torrance, CA 90509

Include your name, address, and telephone number(s) in your request. If you purchased your Lexus All Weather Floor Mat (see diagram provided in this letter) over-the-counter, please also include your receipt for the purchase of the mat. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks to review your request.

What if you have other questions?

Your local Lexus dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions. If you require further assistance, you may contact the Lexus Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-255-3987 Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 am through 4:00 pm Pacific Standard Time.

If you believe that the dealer or Lexus has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll free Auto Safety Hot Line at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to http://www.safercar.gov.

If you are a vehicle lessor, Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our products, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this condition may have caused you.

Thank you for driving a Lexus.

Sincerely,

Lexus Division,
TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.