2009 Hyundai Accent at 118,000 mi

KMHCN46C89U123456

MODEL / CHASSIS	ENGINE	MILEAGE	DRIVETRAIN
Accent · MC Accent GLS 1.6 sedan	Hyundai/Kia Alpha 1.5L and 1.6L four-cylinders (timing belt)	118,000 mi	FWD
BUILD MONTH	**REPORT DATE**	**MODE**	**PREPARED FOR**
Not entered (door jamb)	October 28, 2026	Owner	Sample Owner

VIN check: check digit valid; model-year code '9' = 2009, matches the year entered. The VIN doesn't record the build month. Sample report: synthetic VIN.

1 · SUMMARY

What this car needs, in order

Each item compares this car's mileage with when owners and shops report the part failing. It is not an inspection: a qualified technician decides what the car actually needs.

1	0	1
job recommended now	to plan in the next 30,000 miles	to watch or check at each service

Safety recalls NHTSA lists for this model year (2)

- **15V-566** · Exterior lighting · brake lights · switch: Accents built from March 2009: the brake-light switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and cruise control may not switch off, which raises the risk of a crash. The shifter may also stick in Park.
- **13V-113** · Exterior lighting · brake lights · switch: The brake-light switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and cruise control may not switch off, which raises the risk of a crash.

A model-year list, not a VIN check. Repairs are free at a Hyundai dealer if open. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Check this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

Step 0 · Free: run the VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls and ask a Hyundai dealer for a campaign printout. Read the build month (MM/YY) on the driver's door-jamb label.

Recommended now at the next service — **$1,230–$1,890**

Timing belt (interference engine) — **$1,230–$1,890**
Past the range (Guides give 60,000–90,000 miles; check the owner's manual)
independent shop, installed

Next 12 months up to about 130,000 mi

Nothing scheduled here.

Within the next 30,000 miles up to 148,000 mi

Nothing else enters its reported range in this window.

Watch inspect at each service, fix on condition, or optional

Rough cold start, misfire and ignition coils **No published price**

Past the range (30,000–59,000 mi, the middle half of 14 owner reports) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Recommended now

$1,230–$1,890

Independent shop, installed. Dealers often charge more.

Planned through 148,000 mi

$1,230–$1,890

Nothing else on the list before 148,000 mi. Now + next 12 months + next 30,000 miles. Excludes “watch” and optional items.

Costs are published independent-shop ranges (low end + low end, high end + high end). Bundled jobs are priced together because the labor overlaps. Routine service (oil, brakes, tires) isn't included; factory fluid and spark plug intervals are listed below.

FACTORY MAINTENANCE

The maker's maintenance schedule isn't on this report

This report doesn't include the maker's scheduled maintenance for this car yet, so brake fluid, spark plugs, coolant and transmission fluid aren't listed even when they're due. Check the service records and the maker's schedule for this car.

WHERE 118K SITS FOR EACH WEAK POINT

#	WEAK POINT	REPORTED RANGE	THIS CAR
1	Timing belt (interference engine)	Guides give 60,000–90,000 miles; check the owner's manual SHOP/RETAILER	Past the range
2	Rough cold start, misfire and ignition coils	30,000–59,000 mi (middle half of 14 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range

Colors compare mileage with reported failures, not the car's condition. Red: past the range. Amber: inside or approaching. Green: below, or not listed for a recall.

2 · RECALLS AND BULLETINS

Recalls to check for this 2009 Hyundai Accent

Safety recall repairs are free at Hyundai dealers. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Nothing here can tell whether a recall is open or already done on this VIN; only the official VIN lookup or a dealer can.

Official VIN check (2 minutes)

1. Go to nhtsa.gov/recalls and enter KMHCN46C89U123456.
2. Note every recall shown as “Recall incomplete” and keep a screenshot.
3. Ask a Hyundai dealer for a campaign printout; it also lists completed campaigns.

1.5 / 1.6L ALPHA / ALPHA II (G4EC / G4ED) RECALLS WE TRACK

NHTSA lists no engine-specific recall campaign for the 1.5 / 1.6L Alpha / Alpha II (G4EC / G4ED) as of 2026-10-28. Recalls on the rest of the car are in the model-year list below.

EVERY RECALL NHTSA LISTS FOR THE 2009 HYUNDAI ACCENT (2)

RECALL	COMPONENT	WHAT CAN HAPPEN (NHTSA, SHORTENED)
15V-566	Exterior lighting · brake lights · switch	Accents built from March 2009: the brake-light switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and cruise control may not switch off, which raises the risk of a crash. The shifter may also stick in Park. Details
13V-113	Exterior lighting · brake lights · switch	The brake-light switch can fail, so the brake lights may not come on and cruise control may not switch off, which raises the risk of a crash. Details

Source: NHTSA recalls API, fetched 2026-10-28 and combined across NHTSA model names: ACCENT. Safety categories (air bags, fire, brakes, stalling, roll-away and loss of control) are listed first; listings whose NHTSA text names another engine, or an aftermarket part, go last. OFFICIAL

SERVICE ACTIONS, BULLETINS AND WARRANTY PROGRAMS

CAMPAIGN	WHAT IT SAYS	THIS CAR
Engine-computer updates for rough cold starts	Hyundai (07-36-004, Aug 2007; 08-01-030, Dec 2008) and Kia (TSB-033, TSB-063, TSB-066, 2007–2010) reprogram the engine computer for rough idle on a cold start and misfire code P0300, with P0128, P0140 and evaporative codes on some Rios. OFFICIAL [4]	Dealer update
Knock sensor replacement (Kia service action SA017)	Kia TSB-056 (Jan 2010) replaces the knock sensor on some Alpha 1.6L Rios that set P0326 or P0327 and light the check-engine lamp. OFFICIAL [5]	Service action; ask a Kia dealer to check the VIN

4 · THE 2 WEAK POINTS

Each weak point, one card each

Every figure carries its source. Retailer part numbers are shown only when the retailer lists them for this chassis (MC). Left out because they apply to other models, years, engine sizes or body codes: Crankcase vent hose freezing (recall 01V-346).

1 Timing belt (interference engine)

Past the range

Severity: Critical: rare, but can badly damage the engine · 3 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 118,000 mi this car is past the reported range (Guides give 60,000–90,000 miles; check the owner's manual). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: Guides give 60,000–90,000 miles; check the owner's manual SHOP/RETAILER [3]



WHAT FAILS FORUM/BLOG [2][3]

The Alpha engines use a rubber timing belt with a tensioner. A site that lists belt-or-chain and interference data for every Accent says all 1995–2011 Accent engines are interference engines: if the belt breaks or jumps, the valves hit the pistons.

SYMPTOMS

- No warning before it breaks
- Ticking or whine from the belt cover
- Engine stops and will not restart

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

A broken belt bends valves and usually means a head job or a replacement engine, which can be worth more than the car.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Yes. Replace the belt, tensioner and idler on time unless there is a receipt.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Timing belt replacement, 2009 Accent 1.6L (YourMechanic estimate $1,226; shop/dealer $1,400–$1,891)	**$1,230–$1,890** SHOP/RETAILER [3] independent shop, installed
No published bill for valve damage	**No published price** reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

PARTS FOR MC

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- When was the timing belt last replaced (receipt)?

2 Rough cold start, misfire and ignition coils

Past the range

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 49 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 118,000 mi this car is past the reported range (30,000–59,000 mi (middle half of 14 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 30,000–59,000 mi (middle half of 14 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [4][1]

Hyundai and Kia found that some engines idle roughly for the first minutes after a cold start and set misfire code P0300, and issued engine-computer updates for 2000–2002 and 2007–2008 Accents and 2006–2009 Rios. Owners also report repeat ignition coil and spark plug failures with a flashing check-engine light.

SYMPTOMS

- Rough idle for the first minutes after a cold start
- Flashing check-engine light (P0300–P0304)
- Hesitation or loss of power

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

A persistent misfire overheats and ruins the catalytic converter.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Ask a dealer to check the VIN for ECM updates first; then replace failed coils and plugs.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

ECM update at a dealer (no published price)	**No published price** independent shop, installed
Ignition coil replacement, 2007 Accent 1.6L (YourMechanic estimate $872; shop/dealer $1,057–$1,604)	**$870–$1,600** SHOP/RETAILER [7] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

PARTS FOR MC

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any rough idle on cold mornings or flashing check-engine light?
- ECM updates done?

5 · ALSO REPORTED, NOT RANKED

Other themes in 1.5 / 1.6L Alpha / Alpha II (G4EC / G4ED) owner complaints

Every NHTSA complaint theme with 10 or more counted reports is either a weak point above or explained here.

THEME	COMPLAINTS	WHY IT ISN'T A WEAK POINT
Air bags	366	Air bag warning lights and sensor faults; not an engine fault. Check the VIN for air bag recalls.
Brakes	223	Brake complaints on these cars; not an engine fault.
Automatic transmission	129	Counts every transmission and shifter complaint; Hyundai and Kia issued differential oil-seal and shift-logic bulletins, not engine faults.
Steering / suspension	125	Steering and suspension complaints, including salt-belt corrosion; not an engine fault.
Unintended acceleration / high idle	81	Mixed reports; on 2000–2001 Accents in cold states a frozen crankcase vent hose could hold the idle high (recall 01V-346).
Stalling	63	Mixed causes in the complaint text (sensors, fuel delivery, wiring, ignition); no stalling recall covers these engines.
Check-engine light	49	Mixed causes; most overlap the misfire / rough-idle item and the ECM updates in the bulletins.
Rust / corrosion	42	Body and underbody corrosion; Hyundai ran an underbody corrosion campaign for 2008–2009 Accent in salt-belt states.
Fire	28	Mixed causes (electrical, crashes, fuel leaks); no engine fire recall covers these cars.

6 · BUYING OR SELLING

Used-car checklist and resale helper

For owners this is a resale checklist: it's what a careful buyer will ask.

Ask the inspecting shop to check

- Timing belt receipt or sticker
- Cold-start idle quality and misfire codes
- Coil and plug condition

Ask the seller

- When was the timing belt done?
- Any ECM updates or coil replacements?

Documents to request

- Dealer service-history printout for the VIN
- nhtsa.gov/recalls screenshot

WHAT A BUYER MAY DEDUCT

	FINDING	ESTIMATED ADJUSTMENT
●	Timing belt (interference engine): original, no replacement invoice	$1,230–$1,890
	Rough cold start, misfire and ignition coils: symptoms or fault codes present	No published price
	Pre-ticked rows (●), if no records clear them	**$1,230–$1,890**

● = expected at this mileage. Estimated repair costs, not an appraisal. Recalls cost the seller nothing: ask for open recalls to be completed rather than discounted. OUR ESTIMATE

7 · METHOD AND SOURCES

How this report is built

Inputs. VIN, model year, model, mileage and build month (if entered). Model and engine are checked with NHTSA's vPIC decoder.

Mileage positions. Below: more than 10,000 miles before the reported range. Approaching: within 10,000. Inside: in the range, or past the start of an open-ended range. Past: beyond the top of the range. These bands are our rules, not an industry standard.

The plan. Critical items inside or past their range go first; high-severity items follow, and jobs that share labor are bundled. At most three jobs land in “Recommended now”. Leaks that are cheap to watch are fixed on condition; inspections are asked for at each service.

Costs. Published independent-shop ranges from shop quotes, retailer prices and owner reports. The worst-case cost of every item failing is not shown: it isn't an expected cost.

Labels. OFFICIAL NHTSA/Hyundai documents · SHOP/RETAILER parts prices and shop articles · FORUM/BLOG owner forums and blogs · COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA our analysis of NHTSA data · OUR ESTIMATE ours.

NHTSA complaint data. Pulled Oct 28, 2026 from NHTSA's complaints API for All 2000–2011 Accent and 2006–2011 Rio / Rio5 complaints: 1,175 complaints. We pooled every complaint NHTSA files under these model names and years; where a nameplate also came with another engine or powertrain, a few complaints may be about it. Themes are keyword matches on the complaint text.
COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

THEME	COMPLAINTS	IN THIS REPORT
Air bags	366	Also reported
Brakes	223	Also reported
Automatic transmission	129	Also reported
Steering / suspension	125	Also reported
Unintended acceleration / high idle	81	Also reported
Stalling	63	Also reported
Misfire / rough idle / coils	49	Item 2
Check-engine light	49	Also reported
Rust / corrosion	42	Also reported
Fire	28	Also reported
Timing belt	3	Item 1

Limits: complaints are self-reported and not adjusted for cars sold; keyword matching over- and under-counts; owners rarely file safety complaints about oil seeps, so leaks look rarer than they are.

SOURCES

1. NHTSA owner complaints for 2000–2011 Accent and 2006–2011 Rio / Rio5, pulled Oct 28, 2026 (ODI numbers in the cost notes) OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem#complaints

2. AutoPadre: Hyundai Accent belt or chain (1995–2011 Accent engines use a timing belt and are interference engines), via search extract Oct 28, 2026 FORUM/BLOG
https://www.autopadre.com/belt-or-chain/hyundai-accent

3. YourMechanic: Hyundai Accent timing belt replacement estimates (2009 L4-1.6L: $1,226, shop/dealer $1,400–$1,891; interval 60,000–90,000 miles), page checked Oct 28, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://www.yourmechanic.com/estimates/hyundai/accent/timing-belt-replacement

4. Hyundai TSB 07-36-004 and 08-01-030, Kia TSB-033 / TSB-063 / TSB-066: ECM updates for rough idle on cold start with P0300 (2007–2010), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10028226

5. Kia TSB-056: Knock sensor replacement, service action SA017, Alpha 1.6L (P0326 / P0327) (2010-01-01), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10033670

6. NHTSA recall record 01V-346: 2000–2001 Accent 1.5 / 1.6, crankcase vent hose freezing in cold states, checked Oct 28, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=01V346000

7. YourMechanic: Hyundai Accent ignition coil replacement estimates (2007 L4-1.6L: $872, shop/dealer $1,057–$1,604), page checked Oct 28, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://www.yourmechanic.com/estimates/hyundai/accent/ignition-coil-replacement

This report contains no affiliate links; retailer prices are quoted as price sources only. Found an error? Email hello@repairahead.com.

PLEASE READ

Important

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.

Informational only. This report is not a mechanical inspection, a diagnosis, or professional, legal or financial advice. Nobody from RepairAhead has seen, driven or inspected this vehicle.

Reported ranges and estimates, not predictions

Failure mileages are reported ranges compiled from public owner complaints, manufacturer bulletins, recalls and repair-shop reports. Costs are estimates. Parts can fail earlier, later or not at all, and other problems can occur. Statistics from owner complaints describe past reports to NHTSA; NHTSA has not reviewed or endorsed this analysis.

Safety issues go to a dealer

If you notice overheating, a burning or fuel smell, smoke, a brake-assist problem, stalling or loss of power, pull over when it's safe and contact a Hyundai dealer or qualified shop. Safety recall repairs are free at Hyundai dealers. Confirm recalls for this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

No warranty

Provided “as is”, without warranties of any kind, under the Terms of Use at repairahead.com/terms.

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Wrong input (VIN, mileage, build date)? Email hello@repairahead.com with report ID RA-ALPHA-123456-20261028 and we'll correct and reissue it.

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.