■MAJOR DIFFERENCE

The major difference between push button start system and conventional ignition key type are the following.

Item	New Prius	Previous Prius
	Push Button Start System	Conventional Ignition Key Type
Ignition Key	A key with a built-in transponder chip for the HV immobilizer system.	A mechanical key with a built-in transponder chip for the HV immobilizer system.
Key Cylinder	Key Slot	Ignition Key Cylinder
	An electric key interlock mechanism that operates in accordance with the mode of the power switch and the shift position.	An electric key interlock mechanism that operates in accordance with the shift position.
	Two position switches for detecting whether a key is inserted.	A key unlock warning switch that detects whether the ignition key is inserted.
	Transponder key amplifier and coil	←
Power Relay Control	The power source control ECU controls the IG1, IG2, and ACC relays in accordance with the mode of the power switch and the shift position.	A contact point type ignition switch that operates in unison with the movement of the key cylinder controls IG1, IG2, and ACC relay.
Security	Restricts the operation of the power switch (OFF to ACC, IG-ON, or READY) unless the transponder key ECU recognizes the ID code of the key.	Restricts the starting of the system (READY) unless the transponder key ECU recognizes the ID code of the key.
	Restricts the unlocking of the parking lock (for shifting to a position other than P) unless the transponder key ECU recognizes the ID code of the key.	A steering lock mechanism mechanically restricts the movement of the steering in unison with the movement of the key cylinder.
Power Mode Check	Checks the power mode in accordance with the illuminating state of the indicator light on the power switch and the illuminating state of the READY light in the combination meter.	Checks the power mode in accordance with the position of the ignition key and the illuminating state of the READY light in the combination meter.