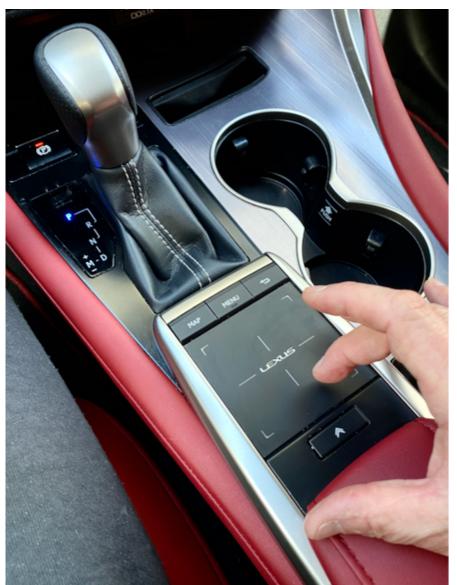
It's just a little thing, but . . .



This is unique to Lexus. It's a feature that drives some people mad, but I've gotten to like it: the touchpad that controls the onboard computer. Skating your fingertip around on this pad—situated just aft of the gear lever—moves a cursor on the screen (up on the dashboard), just like on a notebook computer. When you've maneuvered the cursor to whatever app or function you want, tap the pad with your finger to select it. The pad is sensitive, but this is easier than it sounds, even when the vehicle is moving, because there's a padded rest to brace our wrist on. And we don't have to look down at it. (For controls we use all the time—radio, temperature, that sort of thing—Lexus provides nicely tactile, old-fashioned knobs

and buttons.) It may be a little thing in size, but since the touchpad controls the digital heart of this lovely RX350 SUV, it's not really a "little" thing at all. -Silvio Calabi

