1995 NSX Online Reference Owner's Manual

Use these links (and links throughout this manual) to navigate through this reference.
For a printed owner's manual, click on authorized manuals or go to www.helminc.com.

Contents

Owner's Identification

OWNER _____

_____

ADDRESS _____
STREET

_____ _____ _____
CITY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE / POSTAL CODE

V. I. N. _____

DELIVERY DATE _____
(Date sold to original retail purchaser)

DEALER NAME _____ **DEALER NO.** _____

ADDRESS _____
STREET

_____ _____ _____
CITY STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE/ POSTAL CODE

OWNERS SIGNATURE _____

DEALER'S SIGNATURE _____

This Owner's Manual should be considered a permanent part of the car, and should remain with the car when it is sold.

The information and specifications included in this publication were in affect at the time of approval for printing. Honda Motor Co., Ltd. reserves the right, however, to discontinue or change specifications or design at any time without notice and with out incurring any obligation whatsoever.

Introduction

Congratulations on your selection of the 1995 Acura NSX. We are certain you will be pleased with your purchase of one of the most sophisticated and technologically-advanced sports cars in the world.

The NSX contains the highest level of automotive technology currently available. Your aluminum-bodied NSX was hand-crafted at a new facility dedicated exclusively to its manufacture. The staff at this factory has made every effort to produce the most thoroughly-tested and trouble-free exotic on the market. Acura's goal is to provide you, the discriminating sports car enthusiast, with the most comfortable, versatile exotic mid-engine car ever produced. As you spend time in your NSX, we're sure you'll agree.

You can enhance the enjoyment of your new car by taking the time to study this manual. In it, you will learn about your car's many convenience and performance systems. We recommend that you follow this manual's service and maintenance recommendations in order to preserve your investment.

Keep this owner's manual in your car so you can refer to it at any time. If you sell your car, make sure this manual stays with it. The next owner will find it just as indispensable.

Several warranties protect your NSX. We suggest you read the warranty booklets in your owner's packet carefully to fully understand the coverages and the responsibilities of ownership.

When your car needs scheduled maintenance, keep in mind that your Acura dealer and his service staff are specially-trained in the service, repair and maintenance of the many unique systems of the NSX. Your Acura dealer is dedicated to your satisfaction and will be pleased to answer your questions and concerns.

Safety Messages

Your safety and the safety of others is very important. We have provided many important safety messages in this manual and on the vehicle. Please read these messages carefully.

A safety message alerts you to potential hazards that could hurt you or others. Each safety message is preceded by a safety alert symbol ⚠ and one of three words, **DANGER, WARNING,** or **CAUTION.**
These mean:

⚠ DANGER	**You WILL be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.**
⚠ WARNING	**You CAN be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.**
⚠ CAUTION	**You CAN be HURT if you don't follow instructions.**

Each safety message tells you what the hazard is, what can happen and what you can do to avoid or reduce injury.

You will also see another important symbol:

NOTICE

Your NSX or other property can be damaged if you don't follow instructions.

The purpose of these messages is to help prevent damage to your car, other property, or the environment.

This section gives you important information about occupant protection. It shows how to use seat belts properly. It explains the Supplemental Restraint System. And it gives useful information about how to protect infants and children in your car.

Your Occupant Protection System

Your NSX is equipped with seat belts, and other features that work together to protect you and your passenger during a crash.

Seat belts are the most important part of your occupant protection system. When worn properly, seat belts can reduce the chance of serious injury or death in a crash.

For added protection during a severe frontal collision, your NSX has a Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) with a driver's airbag, passenger's airbag, and automatic seat belt tensioners on the seat belts.

Two indicator lights are also part of your safety system. One reminds you to make sure you and your passenger wear your seat belts. The other alerts you to a possible problem with your supplemental restraint system (see page 13).

The seats, head restraints and door locks also play a role in occupant safety. For example, reclining the seat-back can decrease the effectiveness of your seat belt. Head restraints can help protect your neck and head, especially during rear-end impacts. Door locks help keep your doors from being accidentally opened during a crash.

To get the maximum protection from your occupant protection system, check the following before you drive away:

- Everyone in the car is wearing a seat belt properly (see page 6).
- A child who is too small for a seat belt is properly secured in a child safety seat (see page 16).
- Both doors are closed and locked (see page 15).
- Seat-backs are upright (see page 15).
- There are no loose items that could be thrown around and hurt someone during a crash or sudden stop (see page 15).

By following these guidelines, you can reduce injuries to yourself and your passenger in many crash situations. Remember, however, that no safety system can prevent all injuries or deaths that can occur in severe crashes.

Why Wear Seat Belts
Wearing seat belts, and wearing them properly, is fundamental to your safety and the safety of your passenger.

During a crash or emergency stop, seat belts can help keep you from being thrown against the inside of the car, against your passenger, or out of the car.

Of course, seat belts cannot completely protect you in every crash. But, in most cases, seat belts reduce your chance of serious injury. They can even save your life. That is why many states and all Canadian provinces require you to wear seat belts.

⚠ WARNING

Not wearing a seat belt increases the chance of being killed or seriously hurt in a crash.

Be sure you and your passenger always wear seat belts and wear them properly.

Important Safety Reminders
Seat belts are designed for adults and larger children. A child who is too small for a seat belt must be properly restrained in a child safety seat (see page 16).

A pregnant woman needs to wear a seat belt to protect herself and her unborn child (see page 8).

Two people should never use the same seat belt. If they do, they could be very seriously injured in a crash.

Do not place the shoulder portion of a lap/shoulder belt under your arm or behind your back. This could increase the chance of serious injuries in a crash.

Do not put shoulder belt pads or other accessories on seat belts. They can reduce the effectiveness of the belts and increase the chance of injury.

Seat Belt System Components
Your NSX has lap/shoulder seat belts for the driver and the passenger.

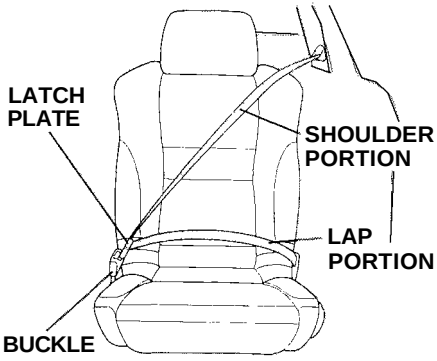
Your seat belt system also includes a light on the instrument panel to remind you to fasten your seat belt, and to make sure your passenger fastens his. This light comes on when you turn on the ignition if you have not fastened your seat belt. A beeper also sounds for several seconds (see page 31).

CONTINUED

The Seat Belt System and How It Works

The following pages cover more about the seat belt components and how they work.

Lap/Shoulder Belt



This style of seat belt has a single belt that goes over your shoulder, across your chest, and across your hips.

Each lap/shoulder belt has an emergency locking retractor. In normal driving, the retractor lets you move freely in your seat while it keeps some tension on the belt. During a collision or sudden stop, the retractor automatically locks the belt to help restrain your body.

Wearing Seat Belts Properly

You can increase the effectiveness of your seat belts if you take a little time to read the following pages and make sure you know how to wear seat belts properly.

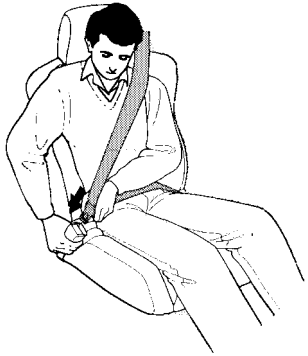
⚠ WARNING

Not wearing a seat belt properly increases the chance of serious injury or death in a crash.

Be sure you and your passenger always wear seat belts and wear them properly.

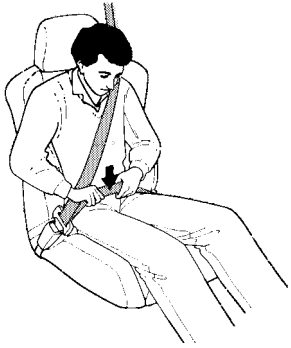
The lap/shoulder belt retractor in the passenger seating position has an additional locking mechanism that is intended to secure a child seat (see page 20). If the shoulder part of the belt is pulled all the way out, this mechanism will engage. The belt will retract, but it will not allow the passenger to move freely. If the belt feels too tight, unlatch it, let it retract fully, then pull it out as far as needed.

Wearing a Lap/Shoulder Belt



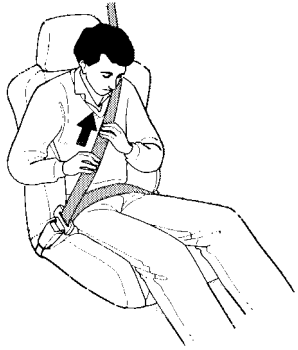
Before putting on the seat belt, move the driver's seat as far back as is practical while still allowing you to maintain full control of the vehicle. Make sure the seat-back is upright (see page 15). The passenger should move the seat as far back as possible.

1. Pull the latch plate across your body and insert it into the buckle. Tug on the belt to make sure the latch is securely locked.



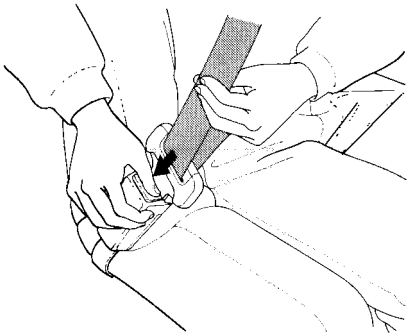
2. Check that the belt is not twisted.

3. Position the lap portion of the belt as low as possible across your hips, not across your stomach. This lets your strong pelvic bones take the force of a crash.



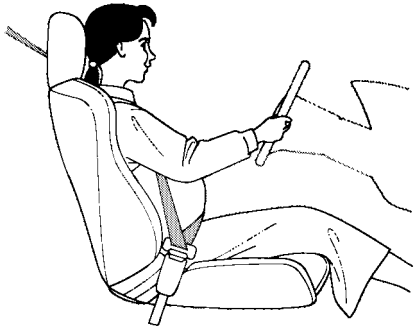
4. Pull up on the shoulder part of the belt to remove any slack. Make sure the belt goes over your collarbone and across your chest.

CONTINUED



To unlatch the seat belt, push the red PRESS button on the buckle. Guide the belt across your body to the door pillar. If the belt doesn't retract easily, pull it out and check for twists or kinks.

Advice for Pregnant Women



Protecting the mother is the best way to protect her unborn child. Therefore, a pregnant woman should wear a properly-positioned seat belt whenever she drives or rides in a car. When using the seat belt, remember to keep the lap portion as low as possible (see page 7). Each time you have a check-up, ask your doctor if it's okay for you to drive and how you should position a lap/shoulder seat belt.

Seat Belt Maintenance

For safety, you should check the condition of your seat belts regularly.

Pull out each belt fully and look for frays, cuts, burns and wear. Check that the latches work smoothly and the lap/shoulder belts retract easily. Any belt not in good condition or not working properly should be replaced.

If a seat belt is worn during a crash, have your dealer replace the belt and inspect the anchors for damage.

For information on how to clean your seat belts, see page 189.

Your NSX is equipped with a Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) to help protect the head and chest of the driver and passenger during a severe frontal collision. *This system does not replace your seat belt.* It supplements, or adds to, the protection offered by your seat belt.

⚠ WARNING

Not wearing a seat belt increases the chance of serious injury or death in a crash, even if you have airbags.

Be sure you and your passenger always wear seat belts and wear them properly.

SRS Components

Your supplemental restraint system includes:

- One airbag in the steering wheel for the driver and another in the dashboard for the passenger.
- Automatic seat belt tensioners that tighten the seat belts during a severe frontal collision.
- Sensors that can detect a severe frontal collision.
- A sophisticated electronic system that continually monitors the sensors, control unit, airbag activators, and all related wiring when the ignition is ON (II)
- An indicator light on the instrument panel to alert you to a possible problem with the system.
- Emergency backup power in case your car's electrical system is disconnected in a crash.

What Happens In a Crash

If you ever have a severe frontal collision, the sensors will detect rapid deceleration and signal the control unit to instantly inflate the airbags and activate the automatic seat belt tensioners.

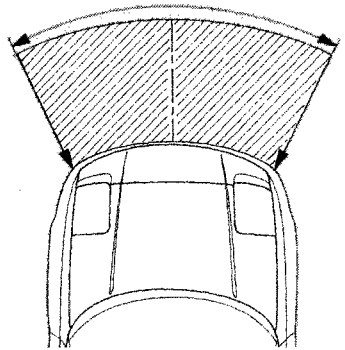
During a crash, your seat belts will help to restrain you lower body and torso while the tensioners tighten and lock the seat belts to help keep you in place. The airbags will provide a cushion to absorb crash energy and help keep the driver's and passenger's head and chest from striking the interior of the car.

After inflating, the airbags will immediately deflate. The entire process, from detection to deflation, takes a fraction of a second. This process occurs so quickly that you may not hear the loud noise created by the airbag inflators, or realize what has happened.

After the crash you may see what looks like smoke. This is actually powder from the airbag's surface. People with respiratory problems may experience some temporary discomfort from the chemicals used by the airbag's activators.

Important Facts About Airbags
Airbags inflate only when needed, in a severe frontal collision. A severe collision would be similar to a crash into a parked car at 25 mph (40 km/h). Airbags will not inflate in a moderate frontal collision, or during a rear impact, side impact, or rollover - even if the impact is severe.

Frontal collision range



Airbags inflate and deflate only once. They cannot protect you during any additional impacts that can occur during a crash sequence.

Injuries, including fatal injuries, can occur in a severe collision, even if seat belts are worn properly and the airbags inflate. No safety system can provide complete protection in a severe crash.

Just from viewing the vehicle damage after a crash, it is very difficult to accurately determine if the airbags should or should not have inflated. In some cases where the airbag did not inflate, extensive visible damage indicated that the car absorbed much of the crash energy, and the airbags were not needed. In other cases, a severe jolt, such as an impact to the undercarriage, may not cause extensive body damage but cause the airbags to inflate.

How the Driver's Airbag Works

If you ever have a severe frontal collision, your airbag will instantly inflate to help protect your head and chest.

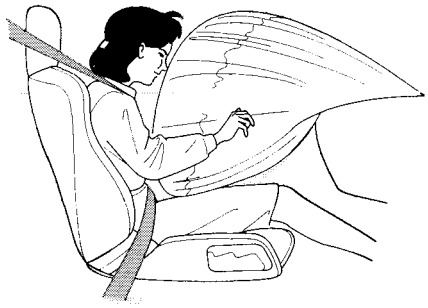
To do its job, the airbag inflates with considerable force. So, while it can reduce serious injuries and even save your life, the airbag might cause some facial abrasions or other injuries. To reduce the possibility of injury, you should always sit back as far from the steering wheel as is practical while still maintaining full vehicle control.

CONTINUED

After the bag completely inflates, it immediately starts deflating so it won't interfere with, your visibility, ability to steer, or ability to operate other controls. The total time for inflation and deflation takes a fraction of a second. You may not even be aware that the airbag has been fully inflated.

The driver's airbag is stored in the center of the steering wheel. For your safety, do not attach any items to the steering wheel. They could interfere with the proper operation of the airbag. Or, if the airbag inflates, they could be propelled inside the car and hurt someone.

How the Passenger's Airbag Works



If you ever have a severe frontal collision, the passenger's airbag will inflate at the same time as the driver's airbag. This airbag is quite large and inflates with considerable force. It can seriously hurt a passenger who is not in the proper position and wearing the seat belt properly. The passenger should move the seat as far back as practical and sit well back in the seat.

We strongly recommend that you do not put an infant seat in the passenger's seat. If the airbag inflates, it can hit the infant seat with great force. The infant seat can be dislodged or struck with enough force to cause very serious injury to the infant.

When a toddler seat is used in the passenger's seat, the vehicle seat should be moved as far back as possible. If the passenger's bag inflates, it could seriously hurt a toddler who is not in the proper position or properly restrained.

The passenger's airbag is stored near the top of the dashboard, under a lid marked SRS (see page 9). Do not place any objects on top of this lid. If the airbag inflates, those objects can be propelled inside the car and possibly hurt someone.

How the Automatic Seat Belt Tensioners Work

Your NSX has automatic seat belt tensioners for added protection during a severe frontal collision.

If your airbags inflate, the tensioners immediately tighten the seat belts to help hold the occupants in place. The belts will remain tight until you unbuckle them in the normal way.

How the SRS Indicator Light Works

The purpose of the SRS light on your instrument panel is to alert you of a potential problem with your supplemental restraint system.

Have the system checked if:

- The light does not come on when you turn the ignition ON (II).
- The light stays on after the engine starts.
- The light comes on or flashes while you are driving.

Supplemental Restraint System

System Service
Your supplemental restraint system is virtually maintenance-free. There are no parts you can safely service. You must have the system serviced by an authorized Acura dealer:

- If your airbags ever inflate, the airbags and seat belt tensioners must be replaced. Do not try to remove or discard the airbags by yourself. This must be done by an Acura dealer.

- If the SRS indicator light alerts you of a problem.
  Have the supplemental restraint system checked as soon as possible. Otherwise, your airbags might not inflate when you need them.

- When the car is ten years old.
  Have the dealer inspect the system. The production date is on the driver's doorjamb for your convenience.

System Service Precautions
Do not modify your steering wheel or any other part of the supplemental restraint system. Modifications could make the system ineffective.

Do not tamper with the system's components or wiring. This could cause the airbags to inflate inadvertently, possibly injuring someone very seriously.

Tell anyone who works on your car that you have a supplemental restraint system. Failure to follow the procedures and precautions in the official Acura service manual could result in personal injury or damage to the system.

Scrapping an entire car that has uninflated airbags can be dangerous. Get assistance from an Acura dealer if your car must be scrapped.

If you sell your car, please be sure to tell the new owner that the car has a supplemental restraint system. Alert them to the information and precautions in this part of the owner's manual.

The seat belts and airbags are obviously important parts of your occupant protection system.

In addition, you should know that sitting upright, locking the doors, and stowing things properly can also increase your safety and possibly even save your life.

Seat-Back Position
The seat-backs should be in an upright position for you and your passenger to get the most protection from the seat belts.

If you recline a seat-back, you reduce the protective capability of your seat belt. The farther a seat-back is reclined, the greater the risk that you will slide under the belt in a severe crash and be very seriously injured.

For information on how to adjust the seat-back, see page 52.

Door Locks
It is not safe to leave your car doors unlocked. A passenger, especially a child, could open a door and accidentally fall out. Also, there is a greater chance of being thrown out of the car during a crash when the doors are not locked.

Storing Cargo Safely
Before you drive, make sure you first securely store or tie clown any items that could be thrown around the car and hurt someone, or interfere with your ability to operate the controls.

Be sure to keep compartment doors closed when the car is moving. If a passenger hits the door of an open glove box, for example, he could injure his knees.

For information on loading cargo, see page 115.

Driving with Pets

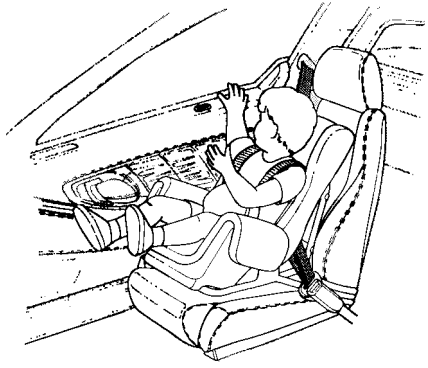
Loose pets can be a hazard while you are driving. An unrestrained pet can interfere with your ability to drive the car. In a crash or sudden stop, loose pets or cages can be thrown around inside the car and hurt you. It is also for their safety that pets should be properly restrained in your car.

The recommended way to restrain a medium-sized or larger dog is with a special traveling harness. This harness can be secured to the seat with a seat belt. Travel harnesses are available at pet stores.

A small dog, cat or other small animal will be safest in a pet carrier with rigid sides. Choose a style that allows you to secure it to the car's seat by routing a seat belt through the carrier's handle

For further information, contact your veterinarian or local animal protection society.

Child Safety



Children depend on adults to protect them. To help make sure we do, every state and Canadian province has laws requiring infants and young children to be properly restrained whenever they ride in a car.

⚠ WARNING

An infant or child who is not properly restrained can be killed or seriously injured in a crash.

Be sure any child too small for seat belts is properly secured in a child restraint.

Where Should Children Sit?

We strongly recommend that you do not put an infant seat in the passenger's seat. If the airbag inflates, it can hit the infant seat with great force. The infant seat can be dislodged or struck with enough force to cause very serious injury to the infant

We recommend that you secure your child's toddler seat in the passenger's seat with the car's lap/shoulder belt (see page 20). The vehicle seat should be moved as far back as possible. If the passenger's bag inflates, it could seriously hurt a toddler who is not in the proper position or properly restrained.

We also recommend that a child who has outgrown a toddler seat be protected by properly wearing the lap/shoulder belt (see page 7). You should move the seat as far back as practical and have the child sit well back in the seat.

Child Safety

Important Safety Reminders

Never hold a baby or child on your lap when riding in a car. If you are wearing your seat belt, the violent forces created during a crash will tear the child from your arms. The child could be seriously hurt or killed.

If you are holding a child and not wearing a seat belt in a crash, you could crush the child against the car's interior.

Never put your seat belt over yourself and a child. During a crash, the belt could press deep into the child, causing serious internal injuries.

Two children should never use the same seat belt. If they do, they could be very seriously injured in a crash.

For their safety, do not leave children alone in your car without adult supervision.

General Guidelines for Restraining Children Under 18 kg (40 lbs)

Use an approved child seat. The seat must meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 213 (FMVSS-213) or Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. Look for the manufacturer's statement of compliance on the box and seat.

Use a seat of the right size. Make sure the seat fits your child. Check the seat manufacturer's instructions and labels for height and weight limits.

Secure the child seat to the car. All approved child seats are designed to be secured to the car seat by the lap belt portion of a lap/shoulder belt. A child whose seat is not properly secured to the car can be endangered in a crash.

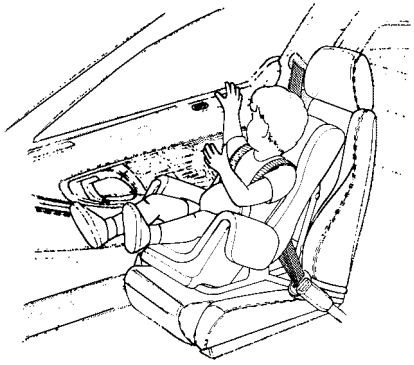
To properly route a seat belt through a child seat, follow the seat maker's instructions. To secure the seat with the lap/shoulder belt, follow the instructions on page 20.

Secure the child in the child seat. Make sure the child is firmly secured to the child seat. Use the straps provided, and carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Restraining an Infant Who Weighs Less Than 9 kg (20 lbs)
We strongly recommend that you do not put an infant seat in the passenger's seat. If the airbag inflates, it can hit the infant seat with great force. The infant seat can be dislodged or struck with enough force to cause very serious injury to the infant.

Until a child is large enough to be safely secured in a toddler seat, we urge you to use a different car whenever you need to drive with an infant.

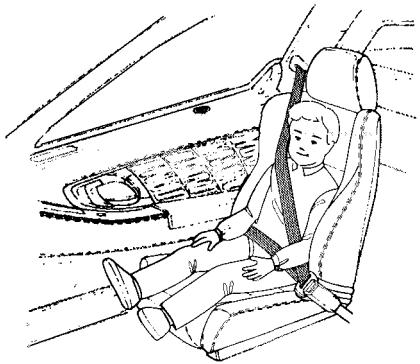
Restraining a Child Who Weighs Between 9 and 18 kg (20 and 40 lbs)



Toddler seats are designed for children who weigh between 9 and 18 kg (20 and 40 lbs).

We recommend that you secure your child's toddler seat in the passenger's seat with the car's lap/shoulder belt (see page 20). Move the passenger's seat as far back as possible before installing the child seat. If the passenger's bag inflates, it could seriously hurt a toddler who is not in the proper position or properly restrained.

Restraining a Child Who Weighs Over 18 kg (40 lbs)



We recommend that a child who has outgrown a toddler seat be protected by properly wearing the lap/shoulder belt.

You should move the vehicle seat as far back as practical and have the child sit well back in the seat.

Put the seat belt on your child and check its fit. The shoulder belt should fit over the collarbone and across the chest. The lap belt should sit low on your child's hips, not across the stomach.

If the shoulder belt crosses the neck, you should use a booster seat.

Several styles of booster seats are available. We recommend a design that allows the child to use the car's lap/shoulder belt.

Whichever style you select, follow the booster seat manufacturer's instructions.

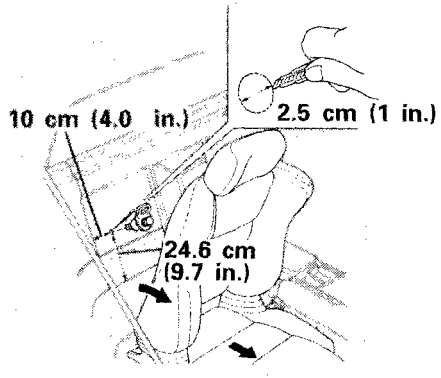
Securing a Child Seat with a Lap/ Shoulder Belt

The lap/shoulder belt retractor in the passenger seating position has a built-in locking mechanism intended to secure a child seat. If you are placing a child seat in the passenger's seat, do the following:

1. Place the child restraint in the passenger's seating position. Route the lap/shoulder belt through the seat according to the seat manufacturer's instructions.
2. Insert the latch plate into the buckle. Make sure it is fully latched.
3. Slowly pull the shoulder portion of the belt out of the retractor until it stops.
4. Allow the belt to slowly feed back into the retractor. You should hear a clicking noise that indicates the locking mechanism has engaged.
5. After the belt has retracted fully, pull up on the shoulder portion to remove any slack.
6. Push and pull on the child seat to verify that it is held firmly in place. If not, unlatch the seat belt, allow it to retract fully, and repeat these steps.

To unlatch the seat belt, push the red PRESS button on the buckle. Guide the belt across to the door pillar. If the belt doesn't retract easily, pull it out and check for twists or kinks.

Using Child Restraints with Tethers



Your NSX is equipped with an attachment point for a child restraint system that uses a top tether. The tether attachment point is located on the panel behind the passenger's seat-back.

1. Adjust the passenger's seat fully forward to make room behind the seat-back.

CONTINUED

2. Using the dimensions shown, measure and mark the location of the attachment point on the interior panel.

3. Use a razor blade or sharp knife to carefully cut a 2.5 cm (1 in) diameter circle at the point you marked. Cut through one layer at a time. You will need to remove two layers to reach the tether attachment.

4. Install the tether hardware that came with the child seat.
   Tighten to:
   22 N.m (2.2 kg-m, 16 1b-ft)

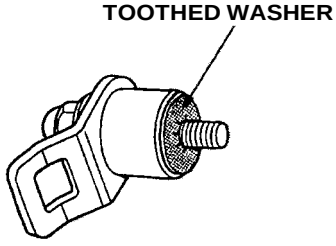
Make sure to route the tether through the space between the head restraint and seat.

If you are not sure how to install the bracket, have it installed by your Acura dealer.

If you need an anchor plate and mounting hardware, you can obtain them by writing to:

Acura Automobile Division
Customer Relations Office
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

Canadian Cars



The anchor plate and mounting hardware for a top tether are supplied with the car. When installing, make sure the toothed washer is on the bottom of the bolt.

The supplied anchor plate is designed only for mounting a child restraint. Do not use it for any other purpose.

Storing a Child Seat
When you are not using a child restraint, either remove it or make sure it is properly secured so it cannot be thrown around the car during a crash.

Driving a car requires your full attention and alertness. Traffic conditions change rapidly. You must be able to react just as rapidly. Alcohol or drugs directly affect your alertness and ability to react. Even prescription and non-prescription medicines can have this effect.

There are laws that deal with drunken driving. These laws define how much alcohol it takes in your system to be legally "drunk." However, your judgment and reaction time get worse with every drink — even the first one.

The safest thing you can do is never drink and drive. This can be done if you plan ahead. If you know you are going to be drinking, make plans to ride with a friend who will not be drinking.

What if you find that you've been drinking and cannot get a ride from a friend? Find alternative transportation. Call a taxi. Take a bus. Many communities have transportation services devoted to shuttling people who have been drinking.

If you have no choice but to drive, stop drinking and give yourself lots of time to sober up. Time is the only thing that can make you sober. Things like coffee or a cold shower don't speed up the process.

If you see a friend trying to get behind the wheel after drinking, stop them. Drive them yourself or arrange other transportation. If you think you are interfering, remember that your interference will keep them from sharing the road with you.

Carbon Monoxide Hazard

Your car's exhaust contains carbon monoxide gas. You should have no problem with carbon monoxide entering the car in normal driving if you maintain your car properly. Have the exhaust system inspected for leaks whenever:

- The car is raised for an oil change.
- You notice a change in the sound of the exhaust.
- The car was in an accident that may have damaged the underside.

⚠ WARNING

Carbon monoxide gas is toxic. Breathing it can cause unconsciousness and can even kill you.

Avoid any enclosed areas or activities that expose you to carbon monoxide.

High levels of carbon monoxide can collect rapidly in enclosed areas, such as a garage. Do not run the engine with the garage door closed. Even with the door open, run the engine only long enough to move the car out of the garage.

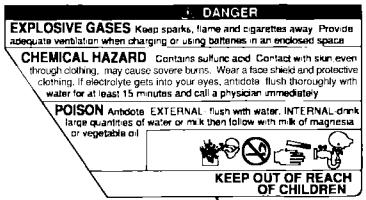
If you must sit in your parked car, even in an unconfined area, with the engine running, adjust the climate control system as follows:

1. Push the  button
2. Select the  mode.
3. Turn the fan on high speed.
4. Set the temperature control to a comfortable setting.

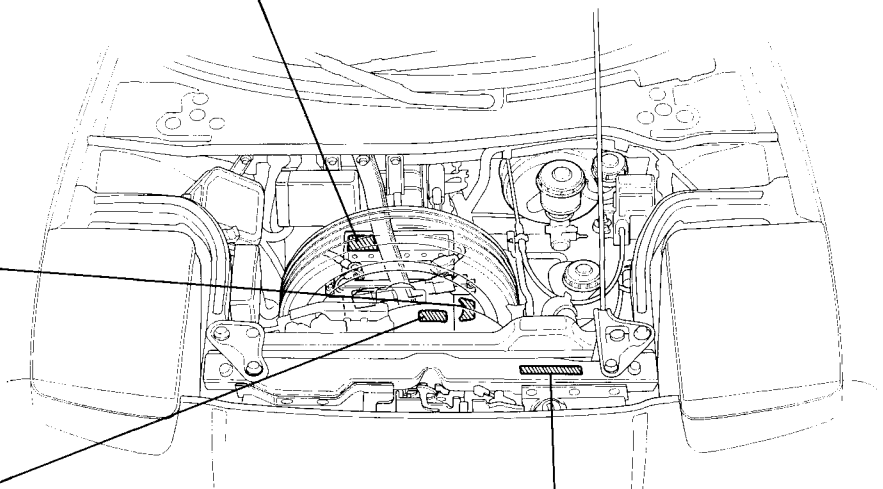
These labels are in the locations shown. They warn you of potential hazards that could cause serious injury. Read these labels carefully and don't remove them.

If a label comes off or becomes hard to read, contact your Acura dealer for a replacement.

BATTERY

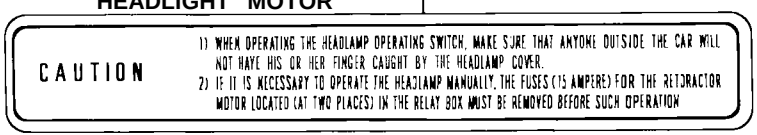


FOLDING SPARE TIRE



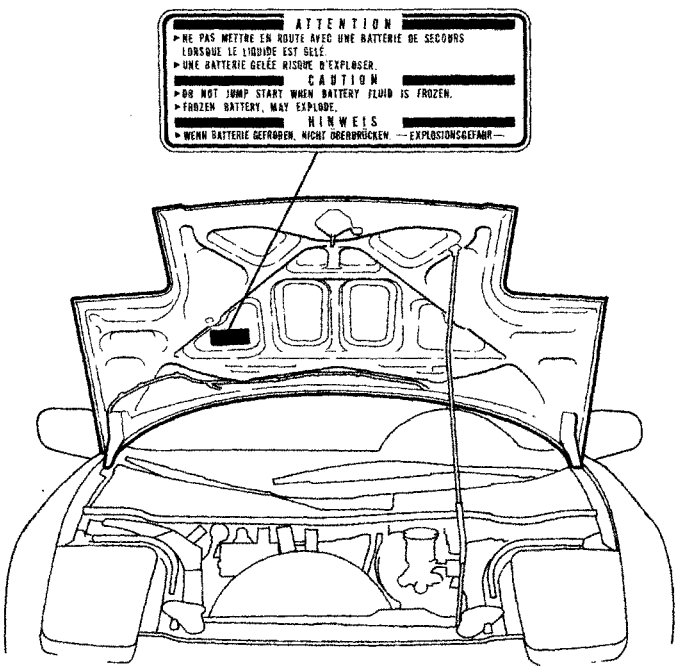
RADIATOR

HEADLIGHT MOTOR

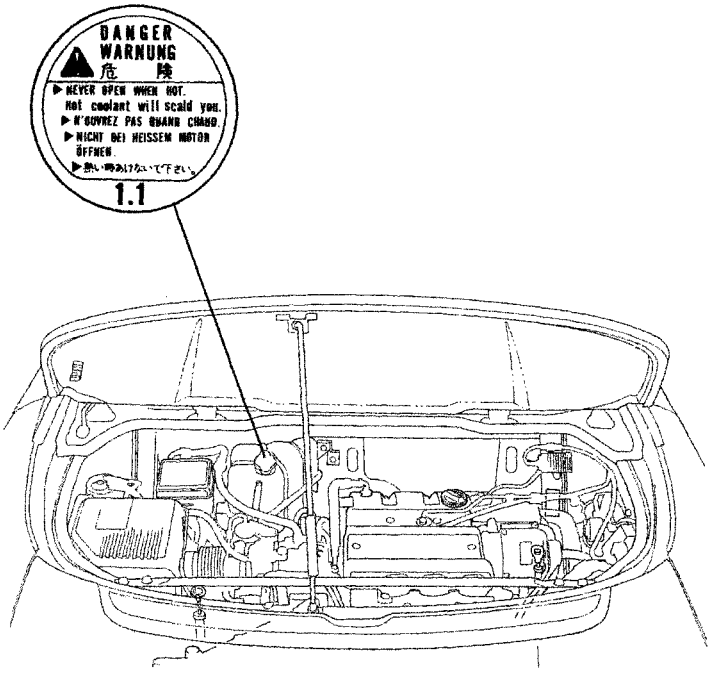


Safety Labels

JUMP START

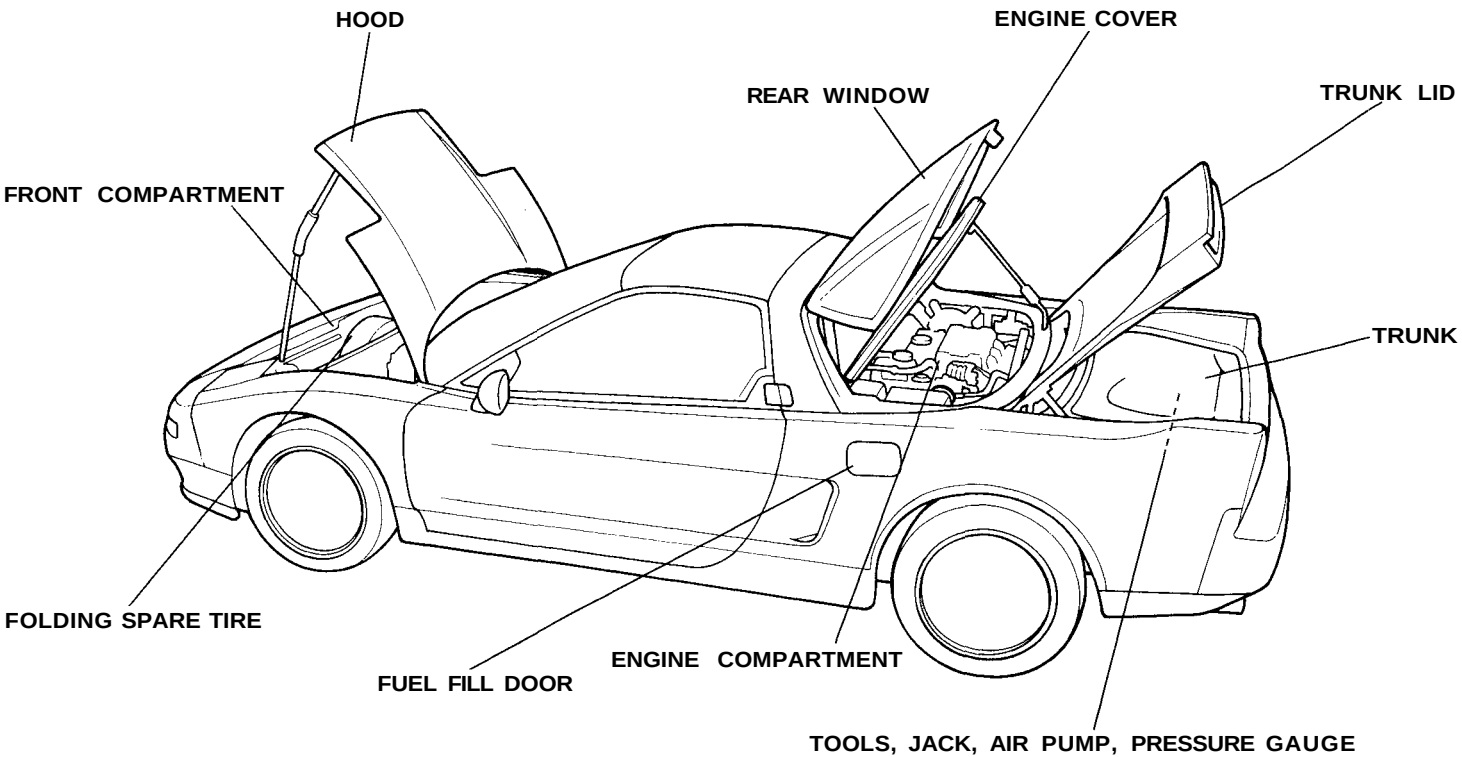


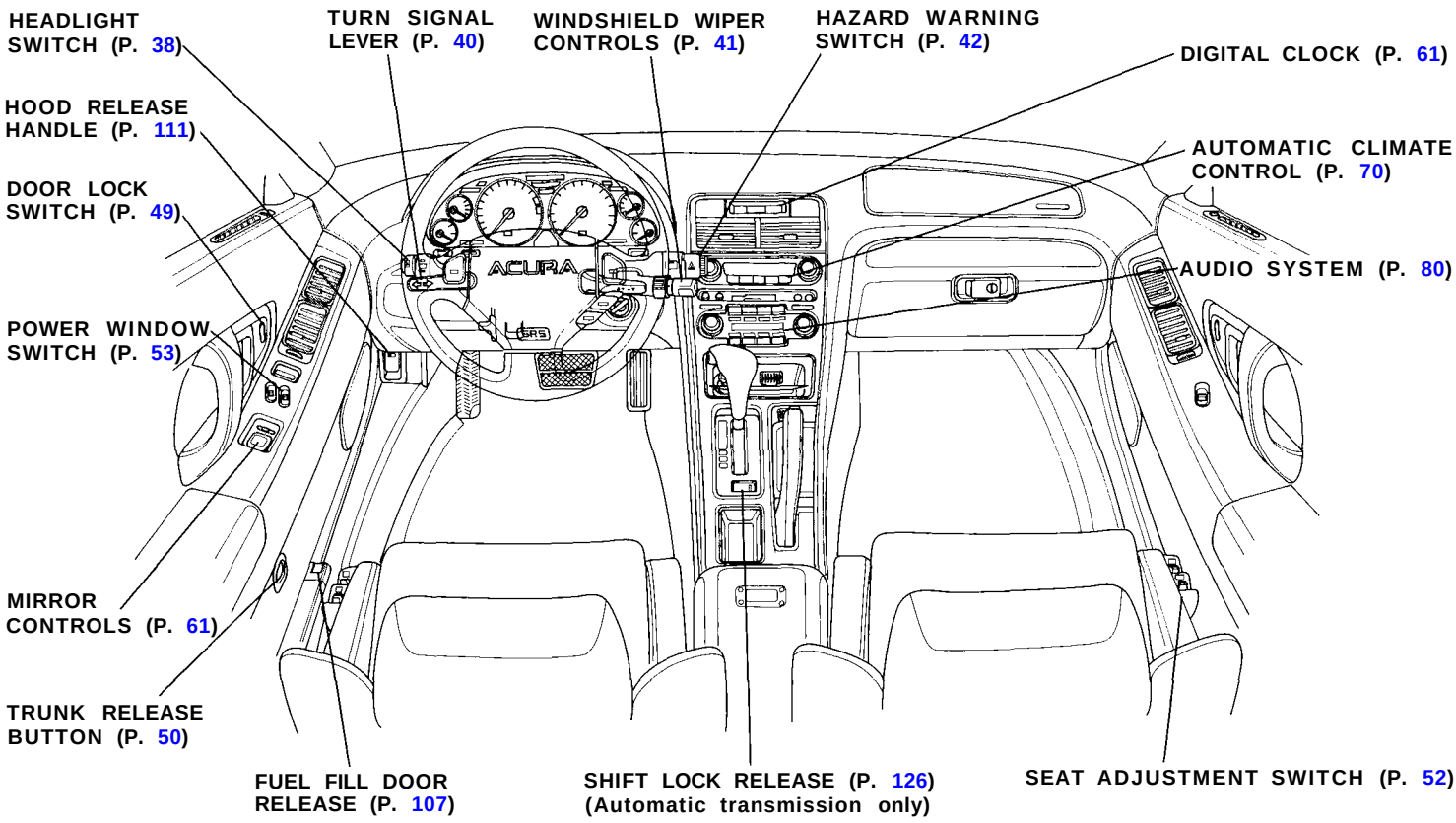
EXPANSION TANK CAP



This section gives information about the controls and displays that contribute to the daily operation of your NSX. All the essential controls are within easy reach.

Component Locations



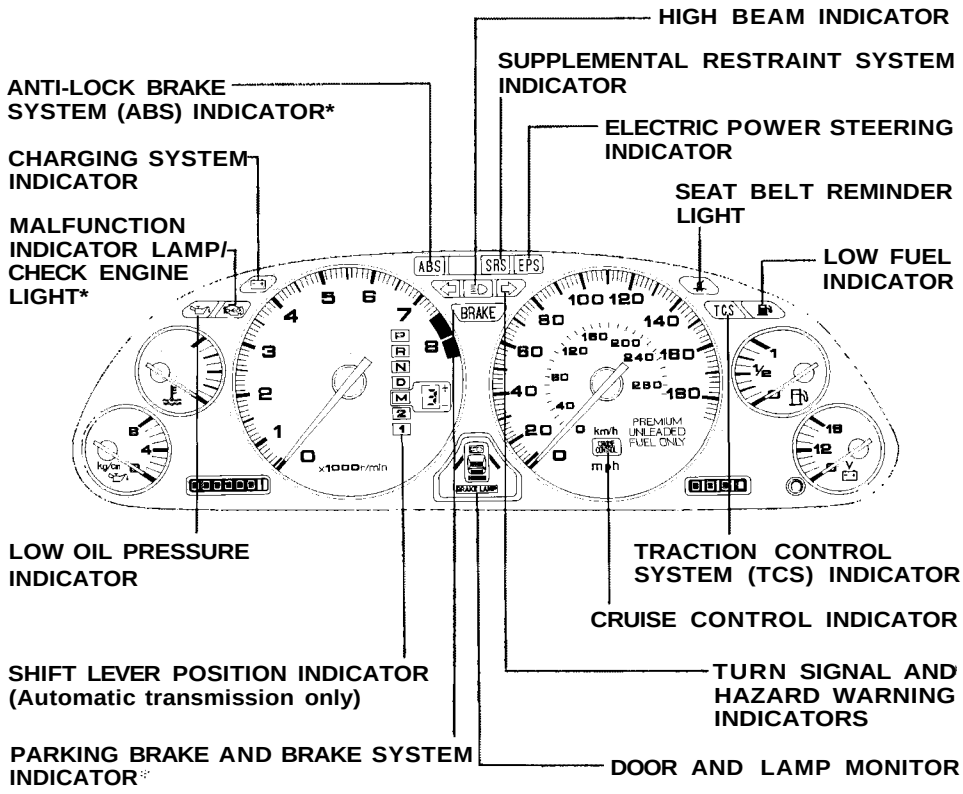

HEADLIGHT SWITCH (P. 38)
TURN SIGNAL LEVER (P. 40)
WINDSHIELD WIPER CONTROLS (P. 41)
HAZARD WARNING SWITCH (P. 42)
DIGITAL CLOCK (P. 61)
HOOD RELEASE HANDLE (P. 111)
AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL (P. 70)
DOOR LOCK SWITCH (P. 49)
AUDIO SYSTEM (P. 80)
POWER WINDOW SWITCH (P. 53)
MIRROR CONTROLS (P. 61)
TRUNK RELEASE BUTTON (P. 50)
FUEL FILL DOOR RELEASE (P. 107)
SHIFT LOCK RELEASE (P. 126) (Automatic transmission only)
SEAT ADJUSTMENT SWITCH (P. 52)

Indicator Lights

The instrument panel has many indicators to give you important information about your car.

Lamp Check
Many of the indicator lights come on when you turn the ignition switch ON (II), allowing you to see that they are working. If an indicator does not light during this test, it cannot alert you if that system develops a problem. Have the dealer check your car for burned-out bulbs or other problems.

* The U.S. instrument panel is shown. Differences for the Canadian model are noted in the text.



Seat Belt Reminder Light

This indicator flashes for several seconds when you turn the ignition ON (II). It flashes as a reminder to you and your passenger to fasten the seat belts. A beeper also sounds while this light is on if you have not fastened your seat belt. The beeper does not sound if your seat belt is fastened, but the reminder light comes on to remind you to check that your passenger is wearing the seat belt.

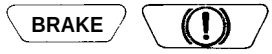
Low Oil Pressure Indicator

This indicator lights when the oil pressure in the engine drops low enough to cause damage. It should light when the ignition is ON (II) and go out after the engine starts. If this light flashes or stays on when the engine is running, there is a possibility of serious engine damage. Safely pull to the side of the road and shut off the engine as soon as you can. Turn to page 212 for instructions and precautions on checking the engine.

Charging System Indicator

This light indicates the battery is not being charged. It should come on when the ignition is ON (II), and go out after the engine starts. If this light conies on while driving, the battery is not being charged. Turn to page 213 for information about what to do.

US **Canada**



Parking Brake and Brake System Indicator

This light has two functions:

1. It lights as a reminder that you have set the parking brake. Driving with the parking brake set can damage the brakes and tires, and cause the Anti-lock brake system to turn off (see page 128).

2. It can indicate the brake fluid level is low if it remains lit after you release the parking brake or comes on while driving. This is normally due to worn brake pads. Have your dealer check the braking system for worn pads or fluid leaks.

CONTINUED

Supplemental Restraint System Indicator

The SRS light normally comes on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition ON (II). If it doesn't, or it stays on after the engine starts, something is wrong with the Supplemental Restraint System. It may also flash on and off to indicate a problem.

If you see any of these indications, the airbags and seat belt tensioners may not work when needed in an accident. Take the car to your dealer promptly for diagnosis and service.

US

Canada

Anti-lock Brake System (ABS) Indicator

This light normally comes on when you turn the ignition ON (II) and goes off after the engine starts. If it comes on at any other time, there is a problem in the ABS. If this happens, stop the car in a safe place and turn off the engine. Reset the system by restarting the engine.

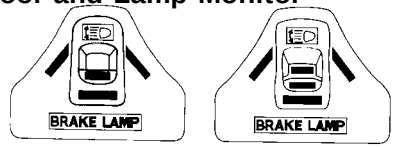
Watch the ABS light. If it does not go off, or comes back on again while driving, take the car to your dealer to have it checked. With the light on, your car still has normal braking ability but no anti-lock.

Malfunction Indicator Lamp (US)

Check Engine Light (Canada)

This light comes on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition switch ON (II). If it comes on at any other time, it indicates one of the engine's emission control systems may have a problem. Turn to page 214 for information about what to do.

Door and Lamp Monitor



Cars with removable roof

The appropriate light conies on in this display if the rear window, trunk, roof panel (on some models) or either door is not closed tightly. light comes on if either headlight door fails to completely open or close. If a brake light does not work, the **BRAKE LAMP** indicator comes on when you push the brake pedal with the ignition switch ON (II).

A burned out brake light is a hazard when drivers behind you cannot tell you are braking. Have your brake lights repaired right away.

All the lights in the monitor display come on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition switch ON (II).

EPS Electric Power Steering (EPS) Indicator

This light normally comes on when you turn the ignition ON (II) and goes off after the engine starts. If it comes on at any other time, there is a problem in the Electric Power Steering system. If this happens, stop the car in a safe place and turn off the engine. Reset the system by restarting the engine, and watch the EPS light. If it does not go off, or comes back on again while driving, take the car to your dealer to have it checked. With the light on, the EPS is turned off, making the car harder to steer.

TCS Traction Control System (TCS) Indicator

This indicator has three functions:

1. It comes on as a reminder that you have turned off the Traction Control System.

2. It flashes when the TCS is regulating the engine power.

3. If it comes on and stays on when the Traction Control System is on, it indicates that there is a problem in the TCS.

This light also comes on when you turn the ignition ON (II).
See page 129 for more information on the TCS.

CONTINUED

Indicator Lights

Turn Signal and Hazard Warning Indicators

The left or right turn signal light blinks when you signal a lane change or turn (see page 40). If the light does not blink or blinks rapidly, it usually means one of the turn signal bulbs is burned out (see page 177). Replace the bulb as soon as possible, since other drivers cannot see that you are signaling.

When you turn on the Hazard Warning switch, both turn signal lights blink. All turn signals on the outside of the car should flash.

High Beam Indicator

This light comes on with the high beam headlights. See page 38 for information on the headlight controls.

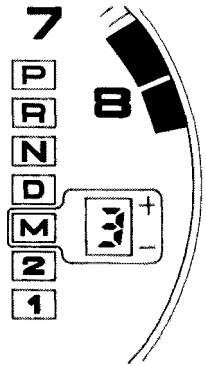
Cruise Control Indicator

This lights when you set the cruise control. See page 44 for information on operating the cruise control.

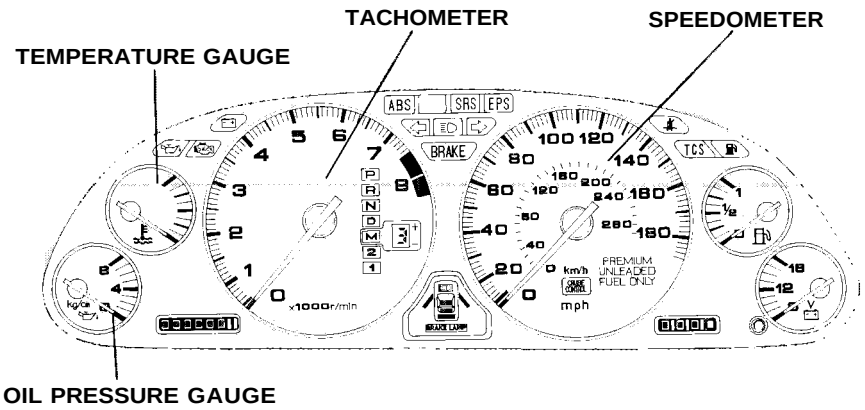
Low fuel Indicator

This light comes on as a reminder that you must refuel soon.

Shift Lever Position Indicator
(Automatic Transmission only)



An indicator in the tachometer shows which position the shift lever is in. The "D" indicator comes on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition ON (II). If it flashes while driving (in any shift position), it indicates a possible problem in the transmission. Avoid rapid acceleration and have the transmission checked by an authorized Acura dealer as soon as possible.



Speedometer

U.S. Models

This shows your speed in miles per hour (mph). The smaller inner numbers are the speed in kilometers per hour (km/h).

Canadian Models

This shows your speed in kilometers per hour (km/h). The smaller inner numbers are the speed in miles per hour (mph).

Tachometer

The tachometer shows the engine speed in revolutions per minute (rpm). To protect the engine from damage, never drive with the tachometer needle in the red zone.

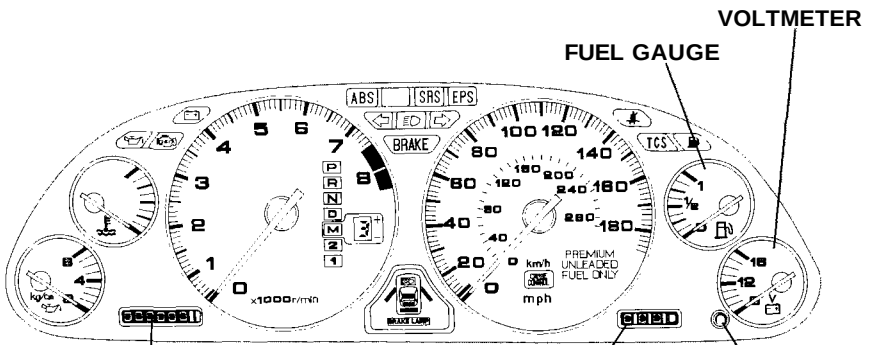
Oil Pressure Gauge

This shows the engine's oil pressure in kilograms per square centimeter (kg/cm^2). This pressure varies with engine speed and temperature. If the oil pressure falls low enough to cause engine damage, the Low Oil Pressure Indicator comes on (see page 212).

Temperature Gauge

This shows the temperature of the engine's coolant. During normal operation, the pointer should rise from the bottom white mark to about the middle white mark. In severe driving conditions, such as very hot weather or a long period of uphill driving, the pointer may rise to the upper white mark. If it reaches the red (Hot) mark, pull safely to the side of the road. Turn to page 210 for instructions and precautions on checking the engine's cooling system.

Gauges



Voltmeter
This meter shows you the battery voltage when the ignition is ON (II). A prolonged reading of lower than 11 volts can indicate a problem with the battery or charging system. Have your car inspected by your Acura dealer.

Fuel Gauge
This shows how much fuel you have. It is most accurate when the car is on level ground. It may show slightly more or less than the actual amount when you are driving on curvy or hilly roads.

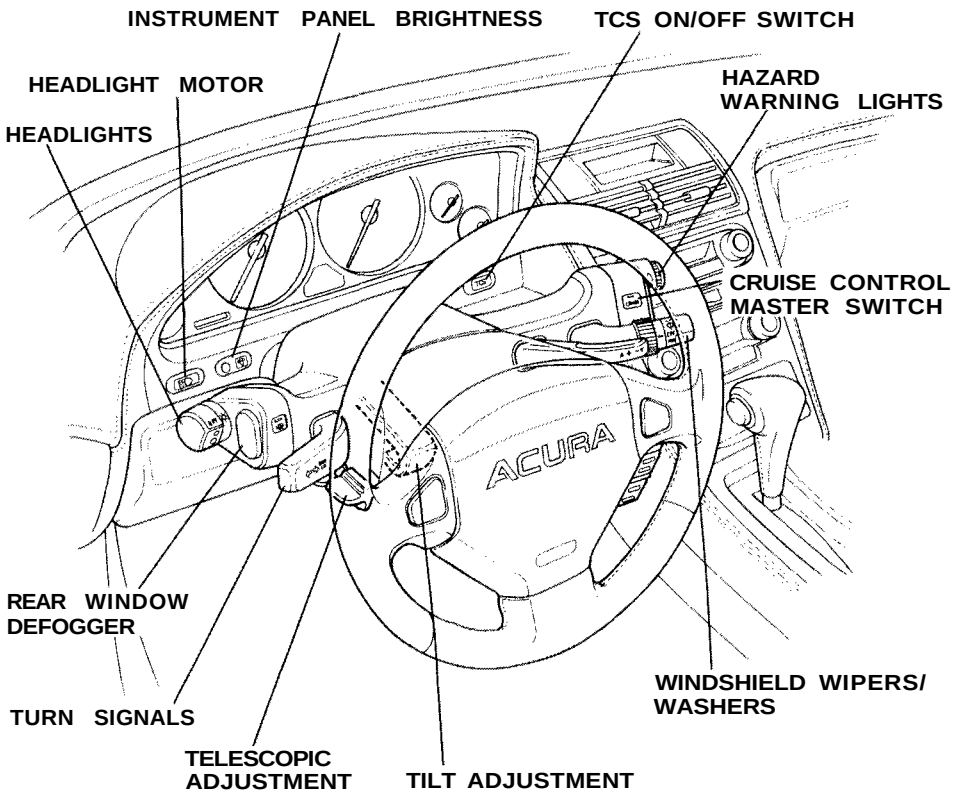
The gauge stays at the same fuel level reading after you turn off the ignition. When you add fuel, the gauge slowly changes to the new reading after you turn the ignition back ON (II).

Odometer
The odometer shows the total distance your car has been driven. It measures miles in U.S. models and kilometers in Canadian models.
It is illegal under federal law (in the U.S.) and provincial regulations (in Canada) to disconnect, reset, or alter the odometer with the intent to change the number of miles or kilometers indicated.

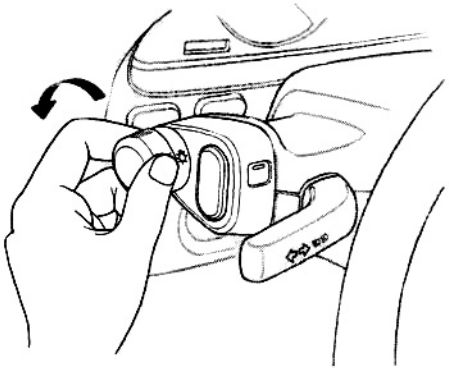
Trip Meter
This meter shows the number of miles (U.S.) or kilometers (Canada) driven since you last reset it. To reset it, push the trip meter reset button.

The two pods on the steering column contain controls for driving features you use most often. The left pod has controls for the turn signals, headlights, high beams, and the rear window defogger. The right pod has controls for the windshield wipers, cruise control and hazard warning lights. Underneath the instrument panel are the headlight motor switch, instrument panel brightness control and the TCS On/Off switch.

The two levers on the underside of the steering column allow you to tilt and telescope the steering wheel.

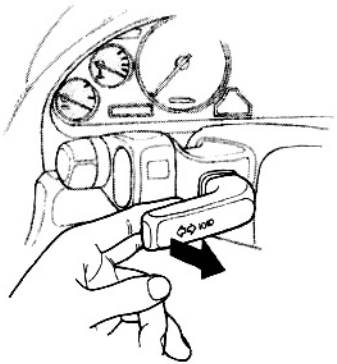


Headlights



The rotating switch on the left pod controls the lights. Turning this switch to the first position "•" turns on the parking lights, taillights, instrument panel lights, side-marker lights, and rear license plate lights. Turning the switch to the second position "●" raises the headlights and turns them on.

If you leave the lights on with the ignition switch in ACCESSORY (I) or LOCK (0), you will hear a reminder chime when you open the driver's door.



To change between low beams and high beams, pull back on the turn signal lever as far as it will move towards you, then let go. The blue high beam indicator will light (see page 34).

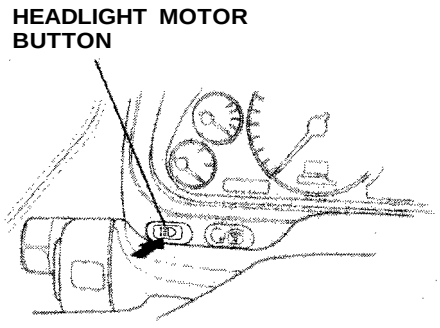
To flash the high beams when the headlight doors are closed, pull back and hold the turn signal lever. This simultaneously raises the headlight doors and turns on the high beams. Release the lever and the high beams go off. Within a few seconds, the headlight doors will close automatically.

The high beams will stay on for as long as you hold the lever, no matter what position the headlight switch is in.

Daytime Running Lights (Canadian Models)

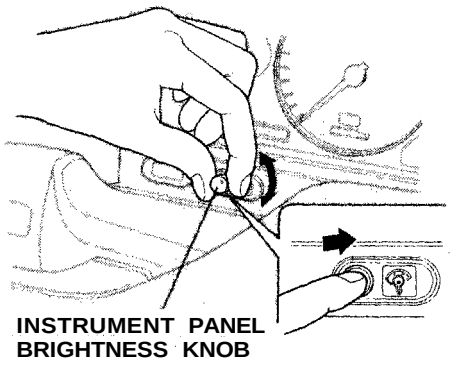
Your car has Daytime Running Lights (DRL) in addition to the headlights. With the ignition ON (II) and the light switch OFF or at "•", DRL turns on when you release the parking brake. DRL turns off when you turn the ignition off or the headlights on.

Headlight Motors



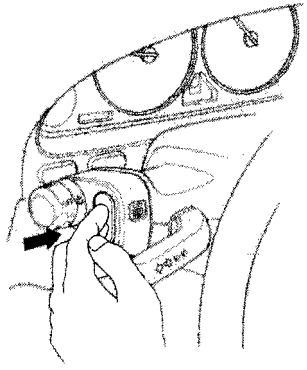
To raise and lower the headlight doors without turning on the headlights, push the dashboard button behind the left pod.

Instrument Panel Brightness



The knob on the dashboard behind the left pod controls the brightness of the instrument panel lights. Push the knob to get it to pop out. Turn the knob to adjust the brightness, then push it back in so you cannot accidentally bump it.

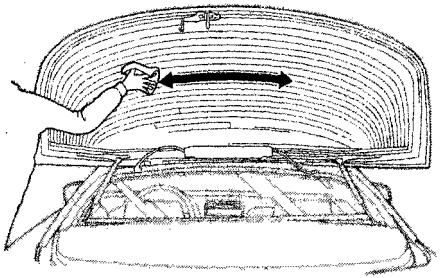
Rear Window Defogger



The rear window defogger will clear fog, frost, and thin ice from the window. Push the defogger button to turn it on and off. The light on the front of the pod lights to show the defogger is on. If you do not turn it off, the defogger will shut itself off after about 25 minutes. It also shuts off when you turn off the ignition. You have to turn it on again when you restart the car.

CONTINUED

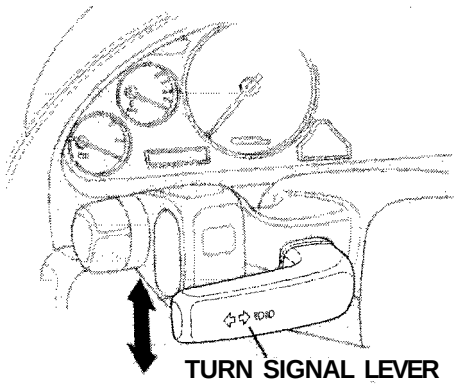
Steering Column Controls



Make sure the rear window is clear and you have good visibility before starting to drive.

The defogger and antenna wires on the inside of the rear window can be accidentally damaged. When cleaning the glass, always wipe side to side.

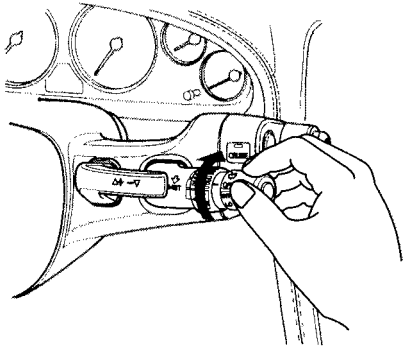
Turn Signals



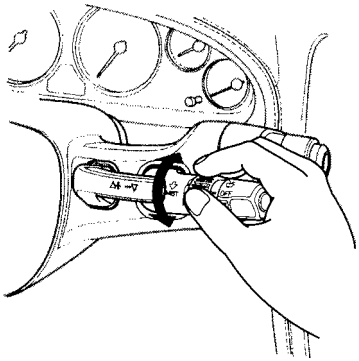
Signal a turn or lane change with this lever. Push down on the lever to signal a left turn, and up to signal a right turn. If you push it up or down all the way, the turn signal continues to blink even when you release the lever. It shuts off automatically as you complete the turn.

To signal a lane change, push lightly on the turn signal lever in the proper direction and hold it. The lever will return to the center position as soon as you release it.

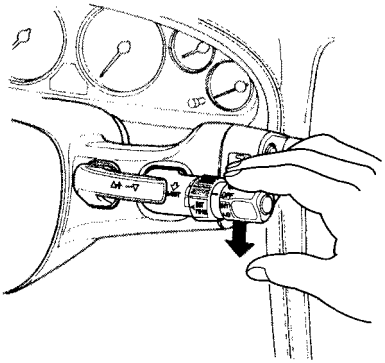
Windshield Wipers



The lever on the right pod controls the windshield wipers and washers. The rotary switch at the end of the lever has three positions:
INT — intermittent
LO — low speed
HI — high speed



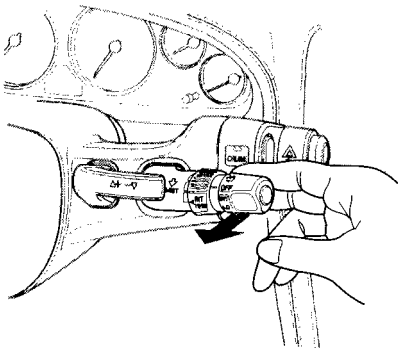
In intermittent, the wipers operate every few seconds. You can adjust this delay by turning the INT TIME ring on the lever. This allows you to vary how often the windshield wipers sweep when driving in light rain or snow. In low speed and high speed, the wipers run continuously.



To operate the wipers in mist mode, push the control lever down. The wipers run at high speed until you release the lever. This gives you a quick way to clear the windshield.

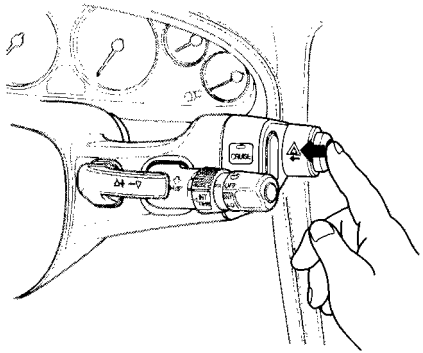
Steering Column Controls

Windshield Washers



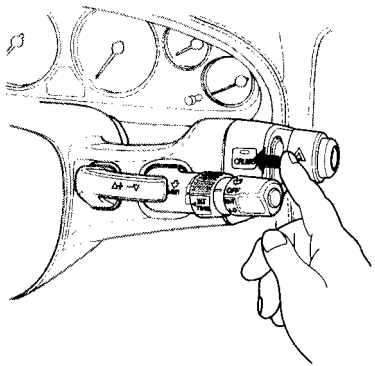
To clean the windshield, pull back on the wiper control lever. The washers spray until you release the lever. The wipers run at low speed while you're pulling the lever, then complete one more sweep of the windshield after you release it.

Hazard Warning



Push the large red button on the right pod to turn on the hazard warning lights (four-way flashers). This causes all four outside turn signals and both indicators in the instrument panel to flash. Use the hazard warning lights if you need to park in a dangerous area near heavy traffic, or if your car is disabled.

Cruise Control Master Switch



The cruise control master switch is on the right pod. For information on using the cruise control, see page 44.

Steering Wheel Adjustments
You can adjust the steering wheel angle and distance to suit your preference. Do this before you begin driving.

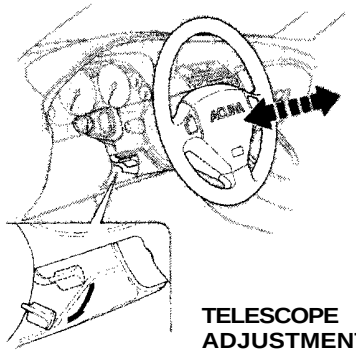
After you have adjusted the steering wheel, make sure you have securely locked it in place by trying to move it in and out and up and down.

⚠ WARNING

Adjusting the steering wheel position while driving may cause you to lose control of the car and be seriously injured in a crash.

Adjust the steering wheel only when the car is stopped.

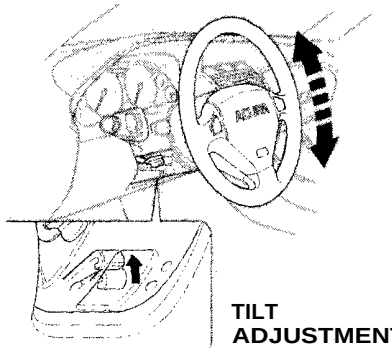
1. Adjust the seat so you are a comfortable distance from the pedals.



TELESCOPE ADJUSTMENT

2. The lever to telescope the steering wheel is under the steering column to the left. Push this lever all the way down.

3. Move the steering wheel in or out to the distance you want. Push the lever up firmly to lock the steering wheel in that position.



TILT ADJUSTMENT

4. The lever to tilt the steering wheel is under the steering column in the middle. Pull this lever toward you and hold it.

5. Move the steering wheel up or clown to the desired position. Position the wheel so you can see the instrument panel gauges and warning lights. Release the lever.

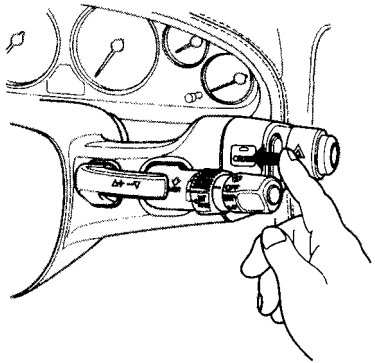
Cruise Control
Cruise control allows you to maintain a set speed above 25 mph (40 km/h) without keeping your foot on the accelerator pedal. It is for cruising on straight, open highways. It is not recommended for conditions such as city driving, winding roads, slippery roads, heavy rain, or bad weather. You should have full control of the car under those conditions.

⚠ WARNING

Improper use of the cruise control can lead to a crash.

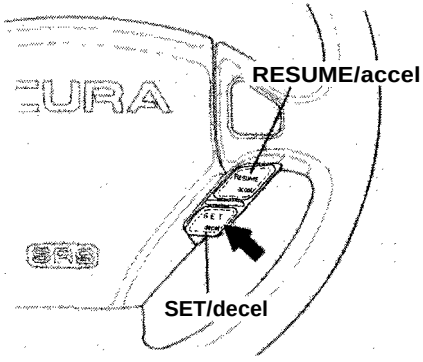
Use the cruise control only when traveling on open highways in good weather.

Using the Cruise Control



1. Push in the Cruise Control Master Switch on the right pod. The indicator on the front of the pod will light.

2. Accelerate to the desired cruising speed above 25 mph (40 km/h).



3. Press and hold the SET/decel button on the steering wheel until the CRUISE CONTROL light on the instrument panel comes on. This shows the system is now activated.

   The set speed may vary slightly, particularly on hills.

Changing the Set Speed

You can increase the set cruising speed in either of two ways:

- Press and hold the RESUME/accel button. The car will accelerate slowly. When you reach the desired cruising speed, release the button.
- Push on the accelerator pedal. Accelerate to the desired cruising speed and press the SET/decel burton.

You can decrease the set cruising speed in either of two ways:

- Press and hold the SET/decel button. The car will decelerate. Release the button when you reach the desired speed.
- Tap the brake or clutch pedal lightly with your foot. The CRUISE CONTROL light on the instrument panel will go out. When the car slows to the desired speed, press the SET/decel button. The car will then maintain the desired speed.

CONTINUED

Even with the cruise control turned on, you can still use the accelerator pedal to speed up for passing. After completing the pass, take your foot off the accelerator pedal. The car will return to the set cruising speed. Resting your foot on the brake or clutch pedal will cause the cruise control to cancel.

Cancelling the Cruise Control

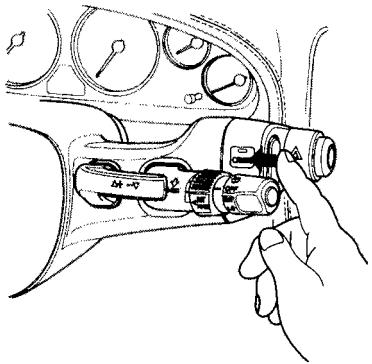
Any of these actions take the car out of cruise control:

- Tap the brake or clutch pedal.
- Press the SET/decel and RESUME/accel buttons at the same time.
- Press the Cruise Control Master Switch.

When you tap the brake or clutch pedal, or press the SET and RESUME buttons at the same time, the CRUISE CONTROL light on the instrument panel will go out and the car will begin to slow down. You can use the accelerator pedal in the normal way.

If you use the brake or clutch pedal to cancel cruise control, the system retains the previously-set cruising speed. To return to that speed, accelerate to above 25 mph (40 km/h) and press the RESUME/accel button until the CRUISE CONTROL light comes on. The car will accelerate to the same cruising speed as before.

If you cancel cruise control by pressing the SET and RESUME buttons at the same time, the previously-set cruising speed is erased. To use the cruise control, accelerate to the desired cruising speed and press the SET/decel button.

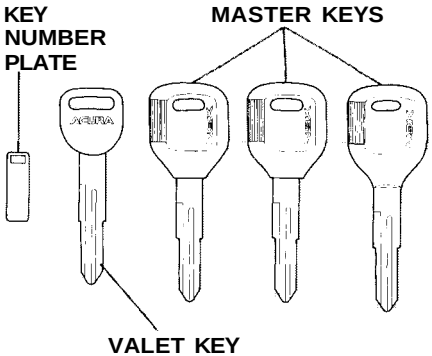


Pressing the Cruise Control Master Switch turns the system completely off and erases the previous cruising speed from memory. To use the system again, refer to ***Using the Cruise Control.***

Horn

Press either of the burtons on the steering wheel spokes to sound the horn.

Keys



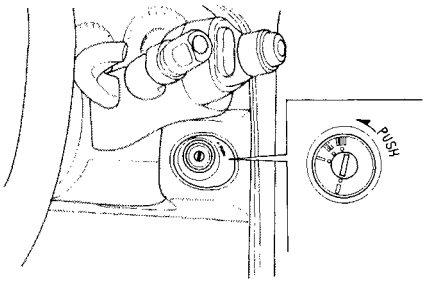
Your car comes with two kinds of keys: a master key and a valet key. The master key fits all locks on your car:

- Ignition
- Doors
- Trunk
- Glove box

The valet key only works the ignition and the door locks. You can keep the trunk and glove box locked when you leave your car and valet key at a parking facility (see Trunk, page 50).

You should have received a key number plate with your set of keys. You will need this key number if you ever have to replace a lost key. Store this plate in a safe place. When replacing keys, use only Acura — approved key blanks.

Ignition Switch



The ignition switch is on the right side of the steering column. It has four positions: LOCK (0), ACCESSORY (I), ON (II), and START (III).

LOCK (0) — You can insert or remove the key only in this position. When you turn the key from LOCK to ACCESSORY, you may have to turn the steering wheel to release the anti-theft lock. To switch from ACCESSORY to LOCK, you must push the key in slightly as you turn it. If your car has an automatic transmission, it must also be in Park. The anti-theft lock will lock the steering column when you remove the key.

⚠ WARNING

Removing the key from the ignition switch while driving locks the steering. This can cause you to lose control.

Remove the key from the ignition switch only when parked.

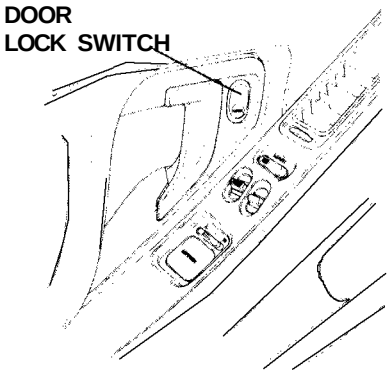
ACCESSORY (I) — In this position, you can operate the audio system and cigarette lighter.

ON (II) — This is the normal key position when driving. All features and accessories on the car are usable. Several of the lights on the instrument panel come on as a test when you turn the ignition switch from ACCESSORY to ON (see page 30).

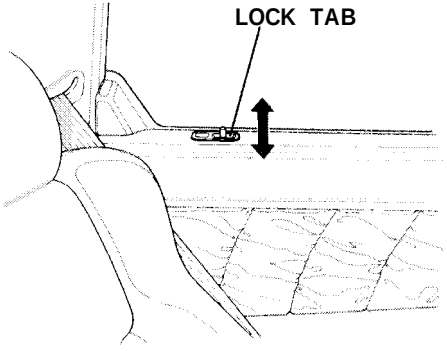
START (III) — Use this position only to start the engine. The switch returns to ON when you let go of the key.

You will hear a reminder beeper if you open the driver's door with the key in the LOCK or ACCESSORY position. Remove the key to turn it off.

Power Door Locks



Each door has a door lock switch. Either switch locks and unlocks both doors. Push LOCK to lock both doors, and the top portion of the switch to unlock them.



Each door also has a lock tab on the top. When you push down the lock tab on the driver's door, both doors lock. Pulling up the lock tab on the driver's door only unlocks that door. The lock tab on the passenger's door only locks and unlocks that door. To get out of the car, pull each lock tab up or use the door lock switch before you open either door.

The doors can be locked and unlocked from the outside with the key. Both doors lock when you use the key to lock the driver's door. Both doors lock or unlock when the passenger's door is locked or unlocked from the outside with the key.

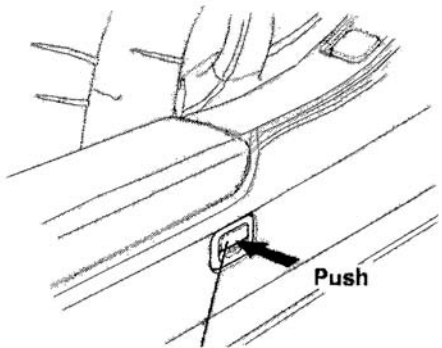
To lock the door without the key, push the lock tab down and close the door.

CONTINUED

Lockout Prevention

If you forget and leave the key in the ignition switch, Lockout Prevention will not allow you to lock the driver's door. With the driver's door open and the key in the ignition, the door lock switches are disabled. If you try to lock the driver's door by pushing down the lock tab, the tabs on both doors immediately pop up.

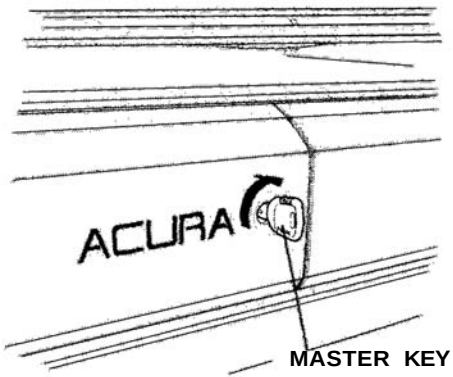
Trunk



TRUNK RELEASE BUTTON

You can open the trunk in two ways:

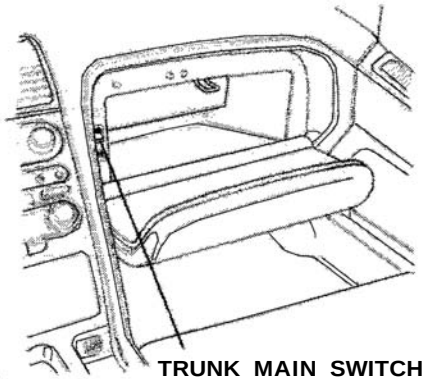
- Press the trunk release button on the driver's door.
- Use the master key to open the trunk lock. The valet key does not work in this lock.



MASTER KEY

To close the trunk, press down on the trunk lid. Do not press down on the rear spoiler as you may damage it.

See page 115 for loading cargo and weight limit information. Keep the trunk lid closed at all times while driving to avoid damaging it.

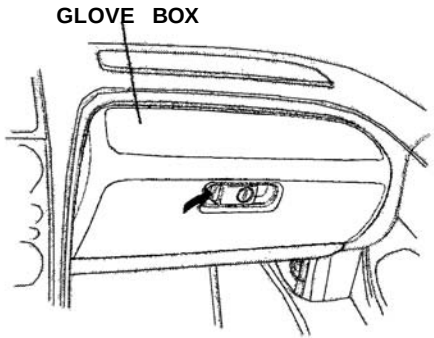


TRUNK MAIN SWITCH

To protect items in the trunk when you need to give the key to someone else:

1. Disable the trunk release button by turning off the trunk main switch in the glove box.
2. Lock the glove box with the master key.
3. Give the person the valet key.

Glove Box



Open the glove box by squeezing the handle. Close it with a firm push. Lock or unlock the glove box with the master key.

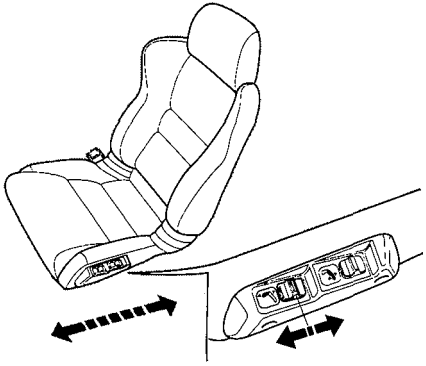
⚠ WARNING

An open glove box can cause serious injury to your passenger in a crash, even if the passenger is wearing the seat belt.

Always keep the glove box closed while driving.

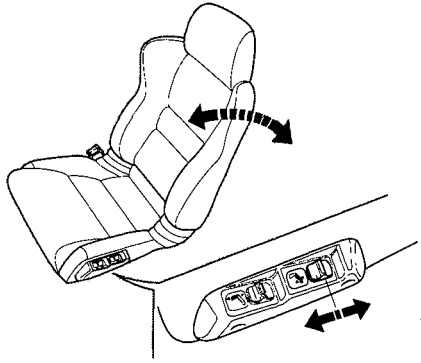
The glove box light comes on only when the instrument panel lights are on.

Seat Adjustments



The power seals in your car are adjusted with the two switches on the outside of the seat bottom.

Push the front switch forward or backward to adjust the distance to the steering wheel and pedals.



Adjust the seat-back angle by pushing the rear switch in the direction you want to move.

You can adjust the seats with the ignition switch in any position. Adjust the seat position before you start driving.

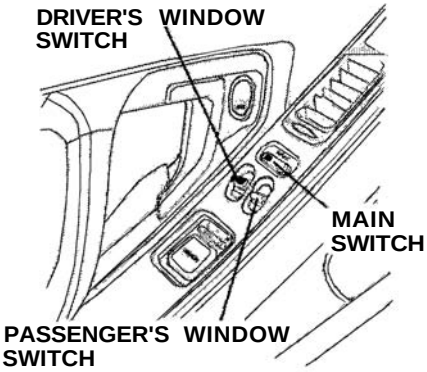
⚠ WARNING

Reclining the seat-back can decrease the protection you get from your seat belt in a crash.

You can slide under the seat belt and be seriously injured.

Adjust the seat-back to an upright position and sit well back in the seat.

Your car's windows are electrically-powered. Turn the ignition switch to ON (II) to raise or lower either window.



Each window has its own control switch. To open the window, push the switch down and hold it. Release the switch when you want the window to stop. Close the window by pushing the switch up and holding it.

The driver's armrest has a master power window control panel. To open the passenger's window, push down on the switch and hold it down until the window reaches the desired position. To close the window, push up on the window switch. Release the switch when the window gets to the position you want.

CONTINUED

The master control panel also contains these extra features:

AUTO — To open the driver's window fully, push the window switch firmly down and release it. The window automatically goes all the way down. To stop the window from going all the way down, push the window switch up briefly.

To open the driver's window only partially, push the window switch down lightly and hold it. The window will stop as soon as you release the switch.

The AUTO function only works to lower the driver's window. To raise the window, you must push the window switch up and hold it until the window reaches the desired position.

MAIN — This switch controls power to the passenger's window. With this switch off, the passenger's window cannot be raised or lowered. The MAIN switch does not affect the driver's window. Keep the MAIN switch off when you have a child in the car so he does not injure himself by operating the window unintentionally.

The power window system has a key-off delay function. The windows will still operate for up to ten minutes after you turn off the ignition. Opening either door cancels the delay function. You must turn the ignition ON (II) again before you can raise or lower the windows.

⚠ WARNING

Closing a power window on a child's hands or fingers can cause serious injury.

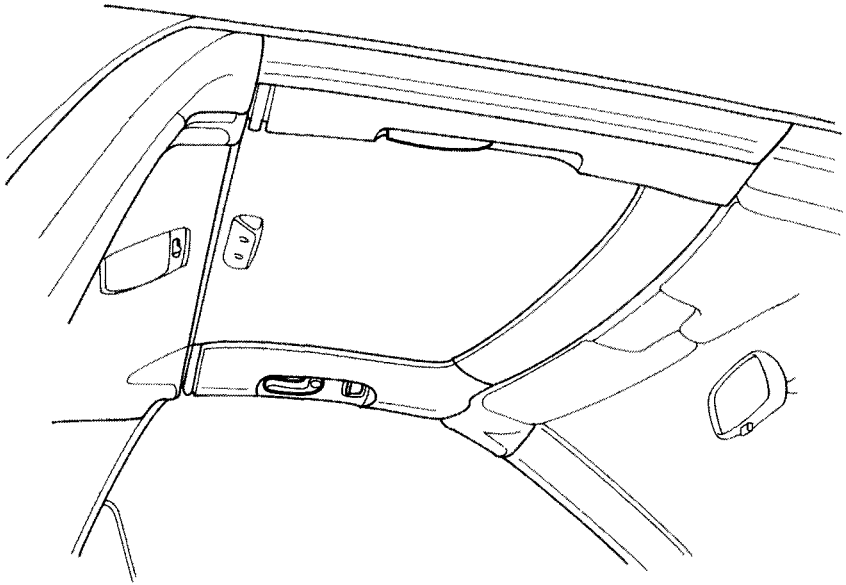
Make sure your child is away from the window before closing it.

On some models
Your Acura's roof panel has a single release handle on each side, making it easy to remove and install. When not in use, the roof panel can be stored in a special holder under the rear window.

Always clean and dry the roof panel before you remove it so dirt and water do not fall in the interior and engine compartment.

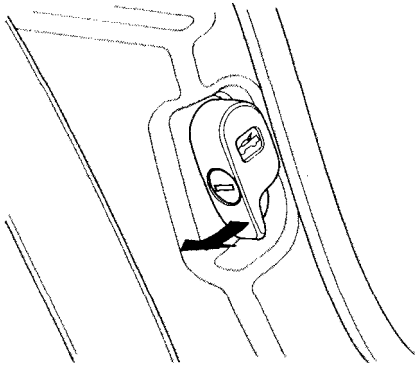
Do not put any items other than roof panel in the roof holder or you can damage the roof holder.

One person should be able to remove and install the roof panel. Although the panel is not heavy, you may find it awkward to handle because of its size. If so, get someone to assist you so you do not damage the panel.



Removable Roof Panel

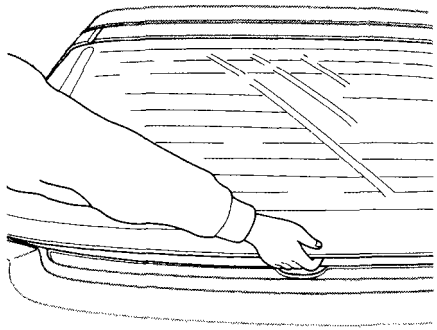
Removing and Storing



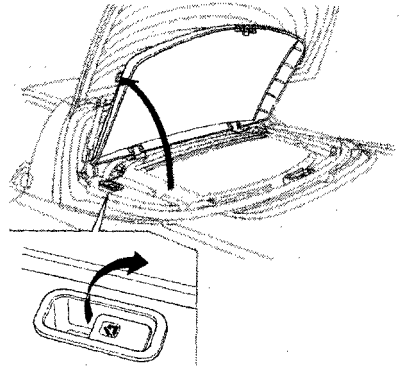
1. Open both windows.

2. Turn off the engine and set the parking brake.

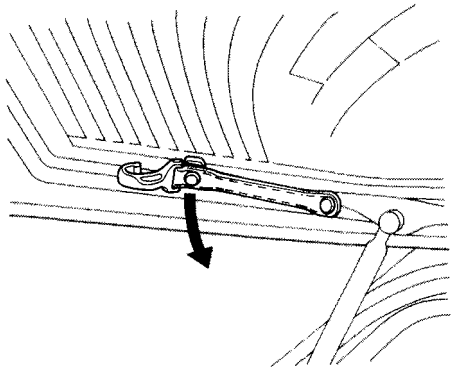
3. Locate the rear window release handle on the rear of the driver's door opening, next to the seat. Pivot this handle towards the driver's seat. The rear window will pop up slightly.



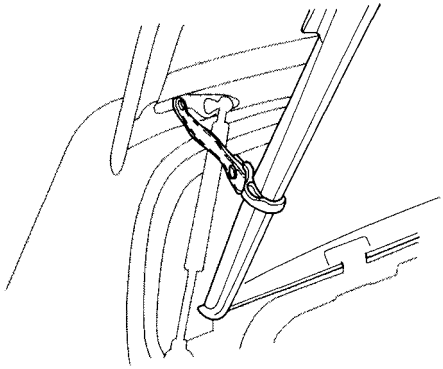
4. Stand just behind the driver's door. Reach under the rear edge of the window and raise it. It will stay up by itself.



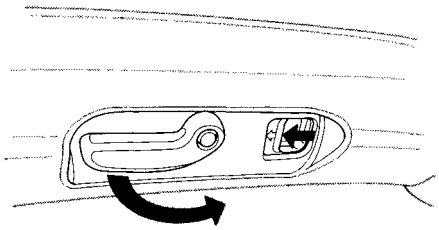
5. Pull up the roof cover release lever and raise the roof cover.



6. Unsnap one end of the strap from the rear window frame.



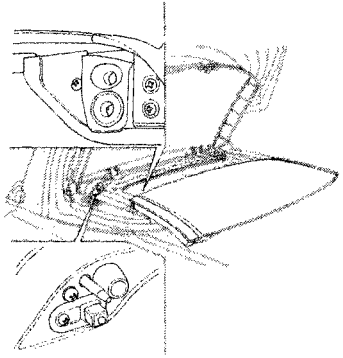
7. Put the hook around the edge of the roof cover to hold it up.



8. Release each side of the roof by pushing the lock tab sideways and pulling down the release lever.

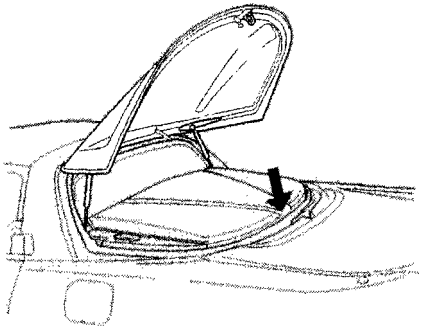
CONTINUED

Removable Roof Panel

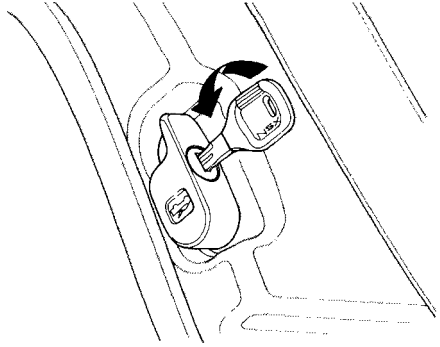


9. Place the roof in the holder with the rear facing forward. Make sure the pins at both front corners of the holder are in the holes in the roof panel.

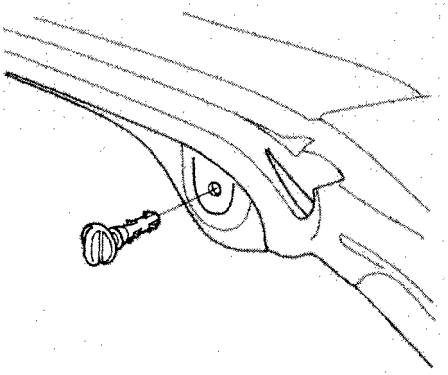
10. Lower the roof cover and push it down until it latches. Snap the hook on the window frame.



11. Pull the rear window down until it is resting on the body, then push on the center of the back edge until it latches. Make sure it is securely closed before driving away.



To prevent anyone from getting to the roof panel and the engine when you park the car with the roof removed, lock the rear window release lever with the master key.



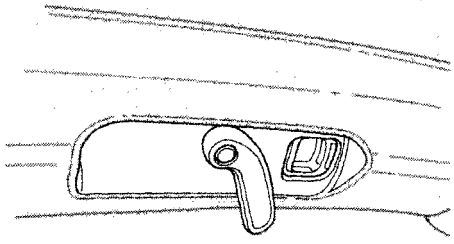
If the wind noise feels unpleasant while you are driving with the roof panel removed, you can reduce the noise by inserting a plug in the hole located at each side of the rear roof pillar. These plugs are stored in the glove box.

Do not use any plugs other than the ones that came with your car. Other objects may damage the mechanism in the roof pillar, causing the roof panel mechanism to jam or to not atch the roof properly.

Installing

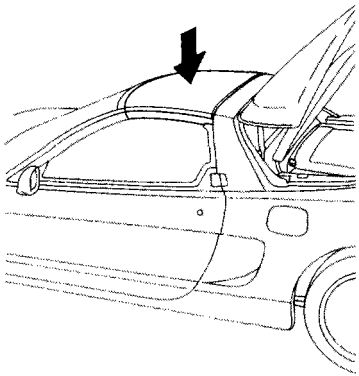
Because it is stored above the engine compartment, the roof panel can get hot while driving. Allow it to cool down for several minutes before attempting to remove it from the roof holder.

1. Open both windows.
2. Turn off the engine and set the parking brake.
3. Open the rear window (see page 56).
4. Open the roof cover by pulling up the release lever. Unsnap the hook from the window frame and use it to hold up the roof cover.
5. Remove the roof from the holder by pulling it back slightly, then up.

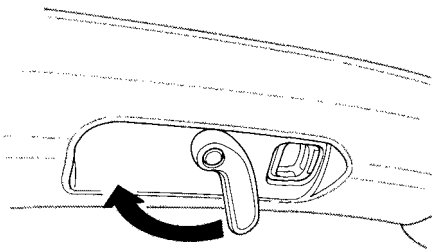


6. Make sure the roof panel release levers are in the unlocked (down) position.

CONTINUED



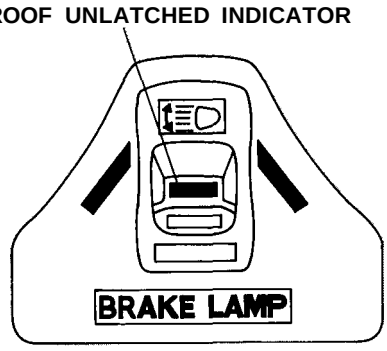
7. Set the roof in place on the car. Make sure all four corners are sitting flush with the car body.



8. Secure the roof by turning each release lever until the lock tab clicks forward. Pull on the levers to make sure they are locked. If the release levers are locked correctly, the roof unlatched indicator will not light when you turn the ignition on.

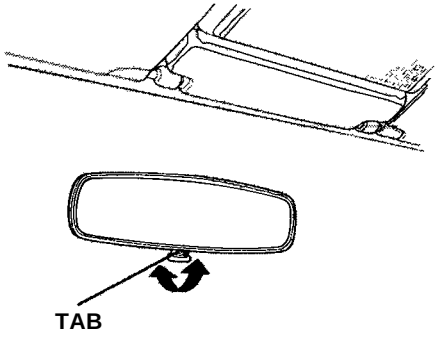
9. Close the roof cover and snap the hook onto the window frame. Close the rear window.

Roof Unlatched Indicator



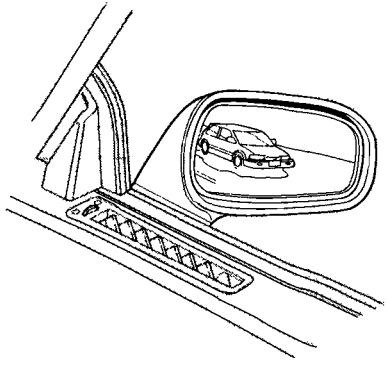
This indicator lights when the roof is installed if either release lever is not fully locked. Check both release levers to make sure they are locked. This indicator also lights when the roof is removed but is not properly stored in the holder.

Mirrors



Keep the inside and outside mirrors clean and adjusted for best visibility. Be sure to adjust the mirrors before you start driving.

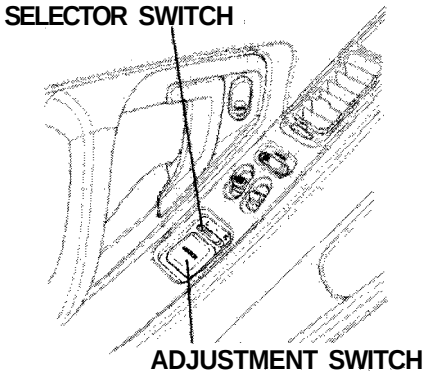
The inside mirror has day and night positions. The night position reduces glare from headlights behind you. Flip the tab on the bottom edge of the mirror to select the day or night position.



The outside mirror on the passenger's side has curved glass. Objects look farther away than they are. Use this mirror to get a "wide view." Don't use it to judge the distance of things behind you.

Mirrors, Digital Clock

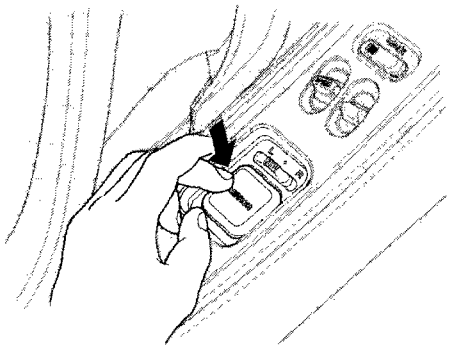
Adjusting the Power Mirrors



Adjust the outside mirrors with the adjustment switch on the driver's door armrest:

1. Turn the ignition switch ON (II).

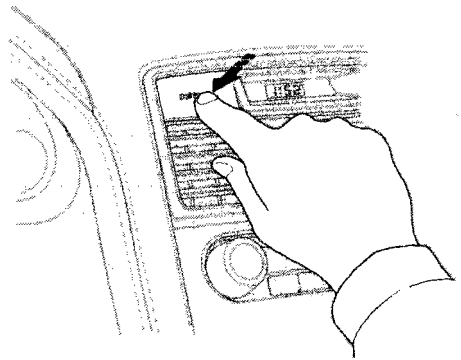
2. Move the selector switch to L (driver's side) or R (passenger's side).



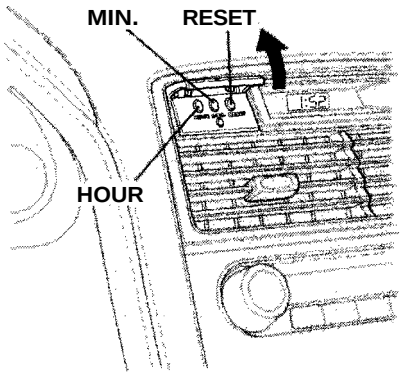
3. Push the appropriate edge of the adjustment switch to move the mirror right, left, up or down.

4. When you finish, move the selector switch to the center (off) position. This turns off the adjustment switch so you can't move a mirror out of position by accidentally bumping the switch.

Digital Clock



The digital clock displays the time with the ignition switch ON (II). To see the time with the ignition off, press and hold the DISPLAY button.



To set the clock:

1. Turn the ignition switch ON (II) to display the time.

2. Raise the lid to the left of the clock display. You will see HOUR, MIN., and RESET buttons.

3. Press and hold the HOUR button until the hour advances to the desired time.

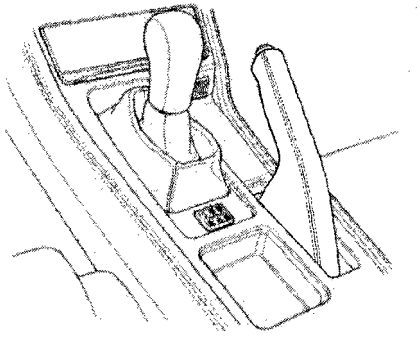
4. Press and hold the MIN. button until the numbers advance to the desired time.

You can use the RESET button to quickly set the time to the nearest hour. If the displayed time is before the half hour, pressing RESET sets the clock back to the previous hour. If the displayed time is after the half hour, pressing RESET sets the clock forward to the beginning of the next hour.
For example:

- 1:06 would RESET backward to 1:00.

- 1:52 would RESET forward to 2:00.

Parking Brake



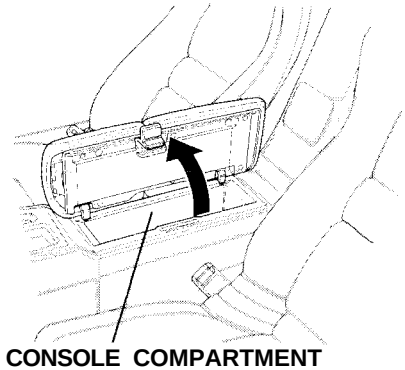
To apply the parking brake, pull the lever up fully. To release it, pull up slightly, push the button, and lower the lever. The parking brake light on the instrument panel should go out when the parking brake is fully released (see page 31). If you try to drive the car without releasing the parking brake, the ABS cannot work properly.

Parking Brake, Console Compartment, Coin Holder

NOTICE

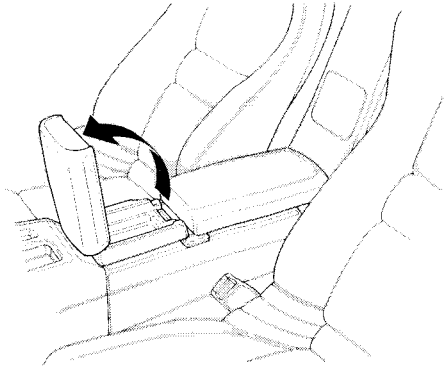
Driving the car with the parking brake applied can damage the rear brakes and axles.

Console Compartment



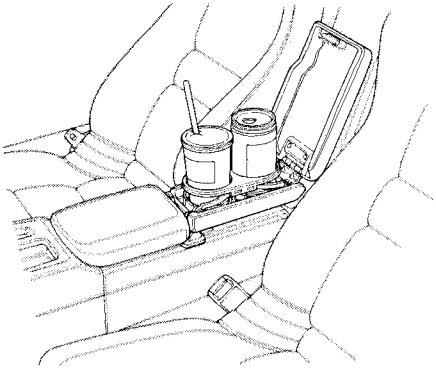
To open the console compartment, lift the tab on the left edge.

Coin Holder



The coin holder is located in the front half of the console compartment lid. Open the coin holder by lifting up on the middle of the armrest pad.

Beverage Holder



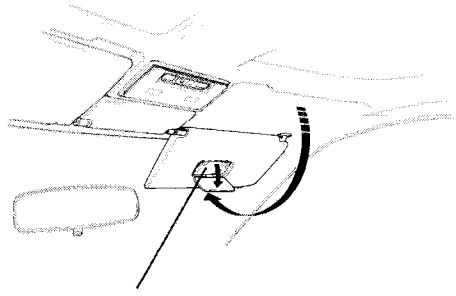
The beverage holder is located in the year half of the console compartment id. To use the beverage holder, lift up on the middle of the armrest pad.

To remove the beverage holder for cleaning, lift up on the front edge of he holder's front ring. To reinstall it, ailign the rear tab in the slot and push down on the front of the holder.

Use the beverage holder only when the car is parked. If you place a cup in the holder while driving, the liquid may spill when you go over bumps or around corners.

Be careful when you are using the beverage holder. Spilled liquids can damage the upholstery, carpeting, and electrical components in the interior. If the liquid is very hot, it can scald you or your passenger.

Vanity Mirror

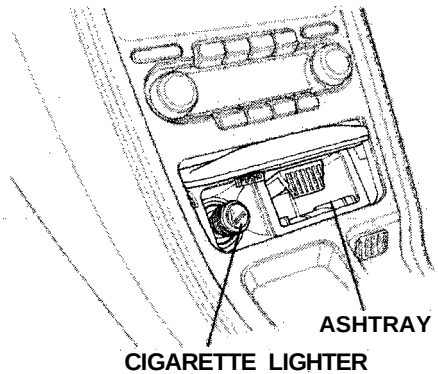


VANITY MIRROR

On some models
To use the vanity mirror, pull down the passenger's sun visor and pull down the cover.

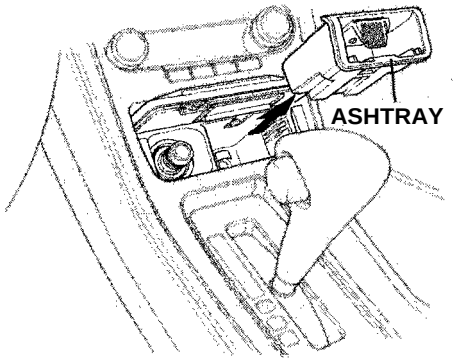
Cigarette Lighter, Ashtray

Cigarette Lighter



The ignition switch must be in ACCESSORY (I) or ON (II) for the cigarette lighter to work. To heat up the lighter, push it in. It will pop out when it is ready for use. Do not hold the lighter in while it is heating up, you could cause it to overheat.

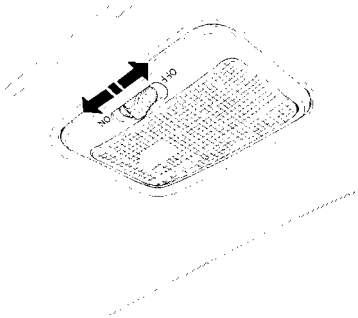
Ashtray



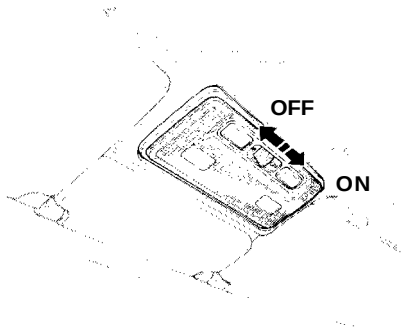
Open the ashtray by lifting the lid up. To close the ashtray, push the lid down. To remove it for emptying, lift the lid up to the open position, and push it up further. The ashtray will pop out slightly so you can grasp it and pull it all the way out. After emptying, push it all the way back in.

NOTICE

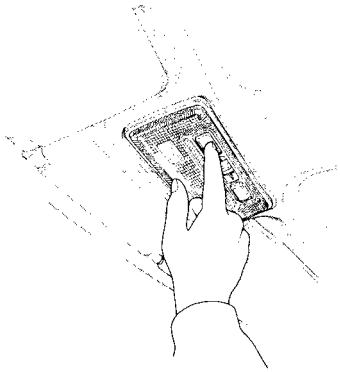
Use the ashtray only for cigarettes, cigars, and other smoking materials. To prevent a possible fire and damage to your car, don't put paper or other things that can burn in the ashtray.



The interior light on the removable roof model is located in the center of the headliner. The interior light has a three position switch. In the OFF position, the light will not come on. In the center position, it comes on when you open either door. In the ON position, it stays on continuously.



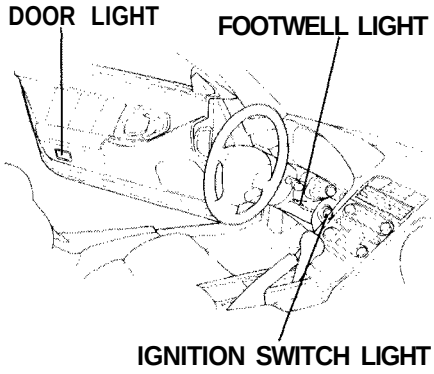
On the standard model, the interior light is on the ceiling between the sun visors. It also has a three position light which operates as described



In addition, when the three-position switch is at the center position with both doors closed, the two bulbs in the interior light can be turned on separately by the pushbutton switches next to them. Push the switch to turn the light on or off.

Courtesy Lights

Courtesy Lights



When you open the driver's door, lights for the driver's footwell and the ignition switch turn on to assist you. These lights stay on for a few seconds after you close the door.

Each door has a light near the back edge. This light comes on whenever the door is open.

Your car has several features to make driving more comfortable.

The Automatic Climate Control system in your NSX provides a comfortable driving environment in all weather conditions.

The audio sound system is very versatile. To get the most from this system, take the time to learn what the controls do.

The security system helps to discourage vandalism and theft of your NSX.

Automatic Climate Control

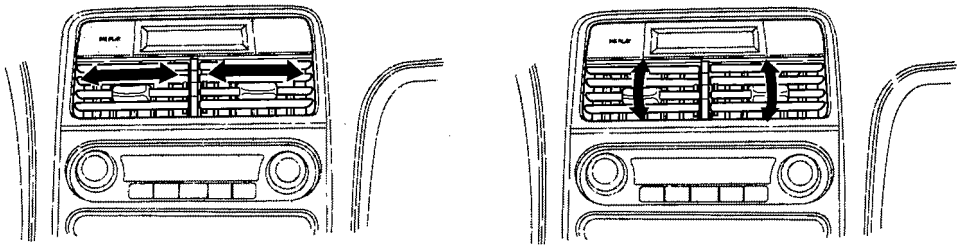
The automatic climate control system in your NSX picks the proper combination of air conditioning, heating, and ventilation to maintain the interior temperature you select. The system also adjusts the fan speed and air flow direction.

The direction of air flow from the vents in the center of the dashboard and in each armrest is adjustable. Move the tab in the center of each vent up-and-down and side-to-side. The vents on top of each door and in each armrest can be opened and closed with the dial next to each vent.

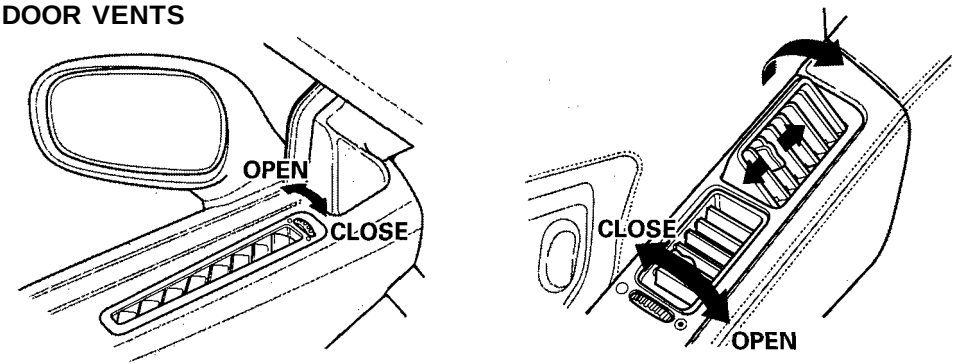
The climate control system draws air through the exterior vents at the bottom of the windshield. Keep these vents clear of leaves and other debris.

For the climate control system to provide heating and cooling, the engine must be running.

CENTER VENTS



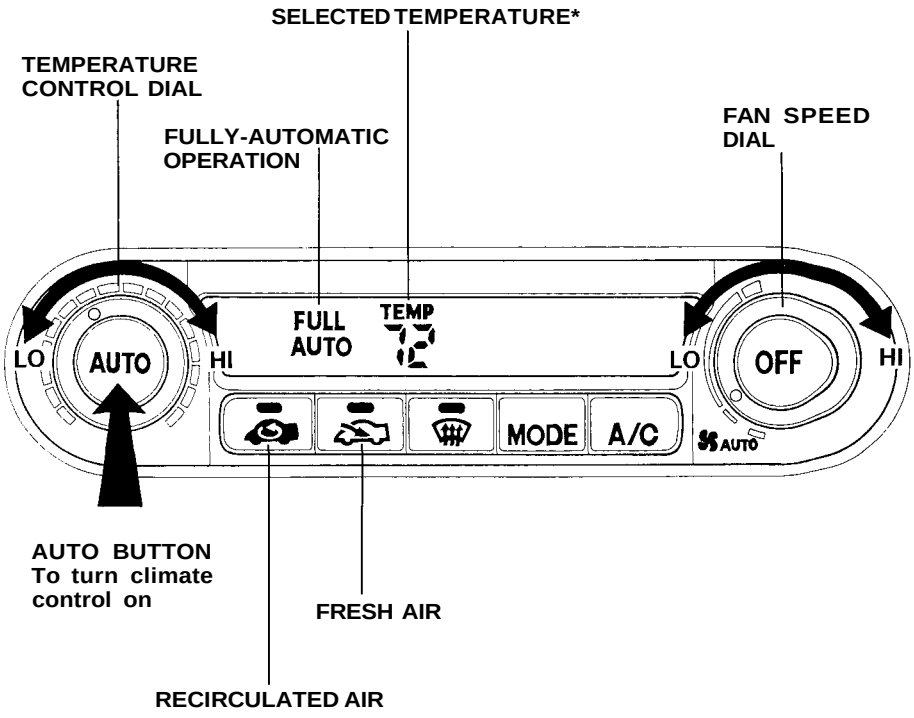
DOOR VENTS



Fully-automatic Operation

To put the Automatic Climate Control in fully-automatic mode, press the AUTO button, set the desired temperature by turning the temperature control dial and turn the fan speed dial to AUTO. You will see FULL AUTO in the system's display. The light in either the or button also goes on to show you which is selected.

* The U.S. display is shown. Canadian models display the selected temperature in degrees Centigrade.



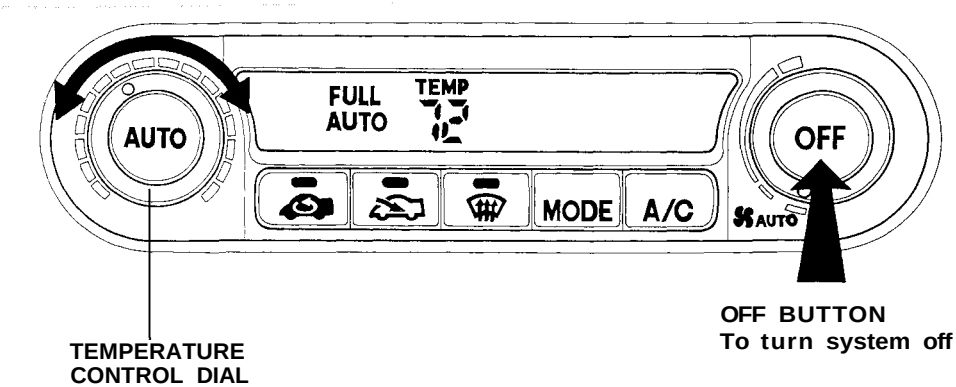
CONTINUED

Automatic Climate Control

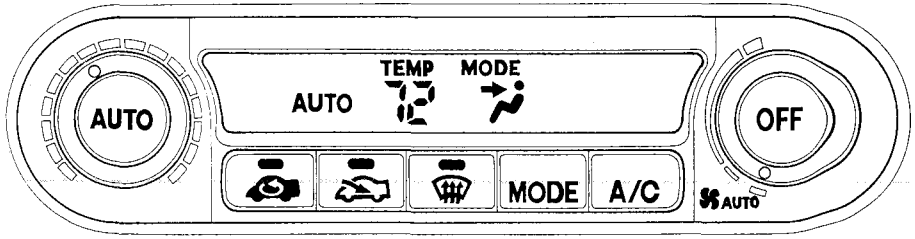
To heat or cool the interior faster, rotate the temperature control dial to its lower limit (64°F/18°C) or upper limit (90°F/32°C). The system then runs continuously at maximum cooling or heating. When the dial is set anywhere else within its range (66°F to 88°F/19°C to 31° C), the system regulates the interior temperature to that value.

In cold weather, the fan will not come on automatically until the engine has run for a short time and the heater starts to develop warm air.

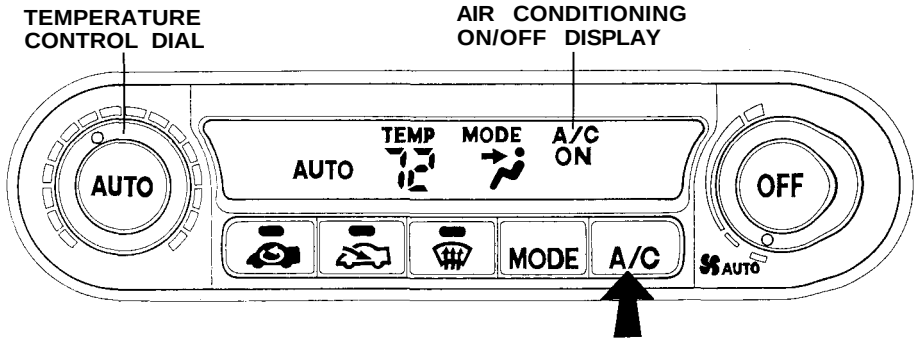
Pressing the OFF burton shuts the climate control system completely off. Keep the system completely off only for short periods. To keep stale air and mustiness from collecting, you should have the fan running at all times.



Semi-automatic Operation
You can manually select various functions of the Climate Control system when it is in FULL AUTO. All other features remain automatically controlled. Making any manual selection causes the word FULL to go out.



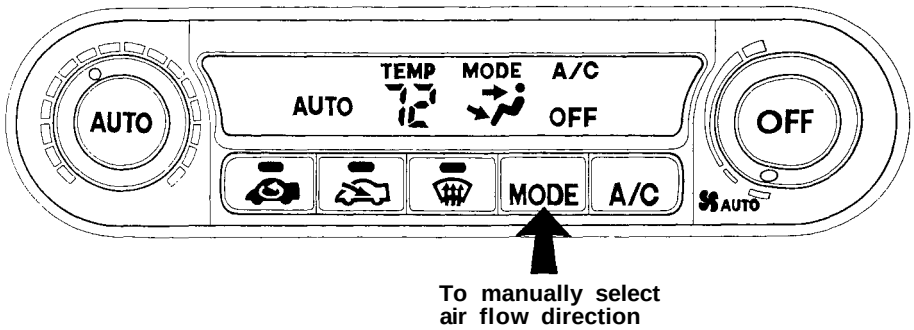
Air Conditioning Switch
Pressing the A/C switch turns the air conditioning on and off. You will see ON or OFF in the display. When you turn the A/C off, the system cannot regulate the inside temperature if you set the dial below the outside air temperature. With the A/C on, use the temperature control dial to adjust the temperature of the air flow to a comfortable setting.



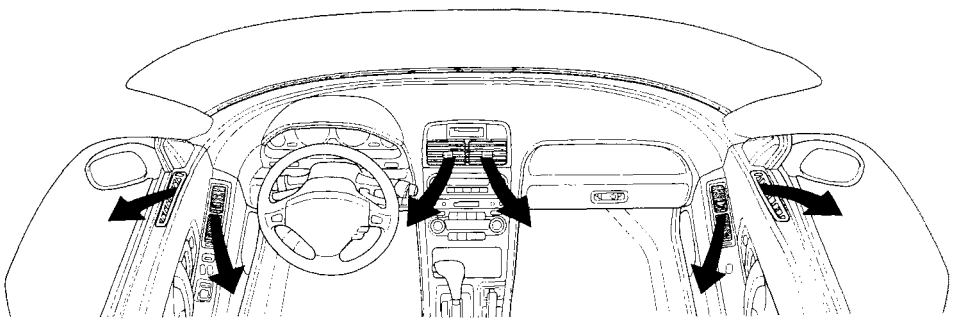
CONTINUED

Mode Button

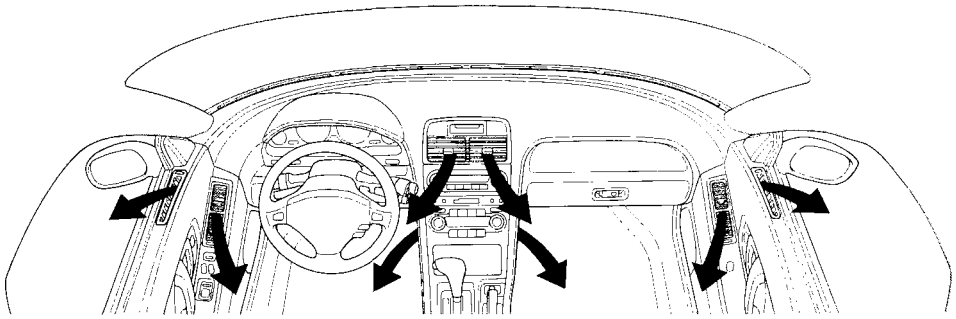
Use the MODE button to select the direction of air flow coming out of the system: Each time you press the MODE button the display shows the mode selected. Press the button four times to see all the modes.



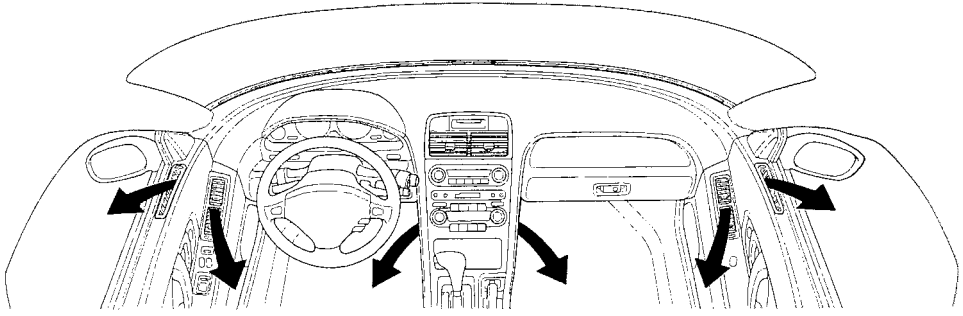
— The main air flow comes out of the dashboard and door vents. Close the door vents when using the air conditioning or the windows may fog up.



— The main air flow is divided between the dashboard/door vents and the floor vents.

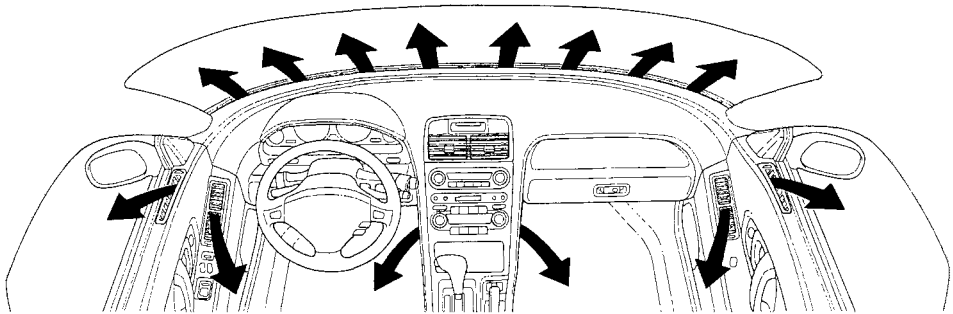


— The main air flow is directed to the floor vents.



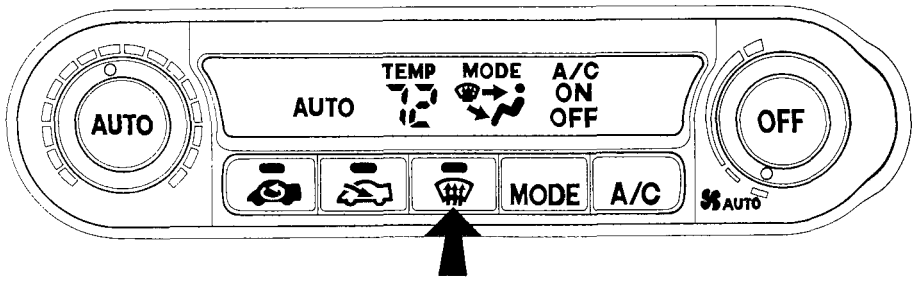
CONTINUED

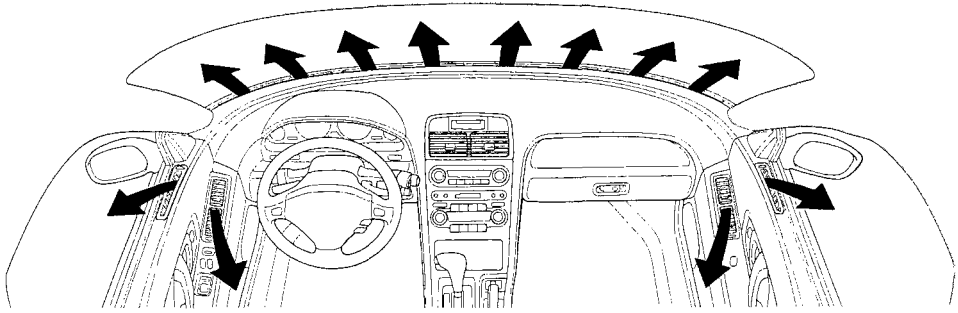
 -The main air flow is divided between the floor vents and wind-shield defroster vents.



he button directs the main air ow to the windshield for faster efrosting. It also overrides any 10DE selection you may have lade. To defrost more quickly, turn e temperature control to 2° F~86°F(28° C~30°C). ress and turn the fan speed ial to high. Warmed air will then ow from the windshield and side efroster vents. To turn off defrost, ress the AUTO or DEFROST utton.

there is frost on the windows, first select the position. If the windows are fogged, select the position.

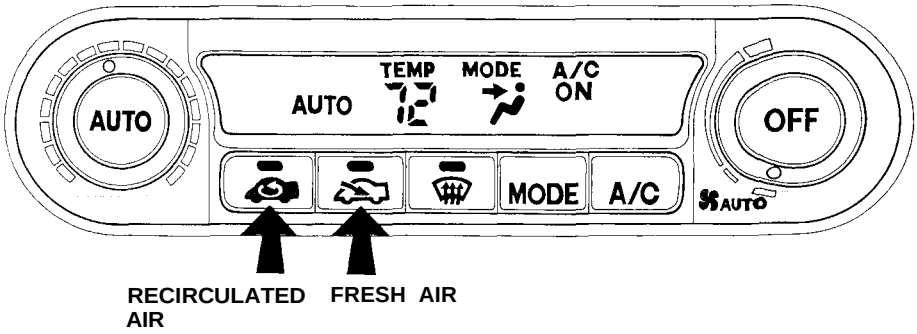




CONTINUED

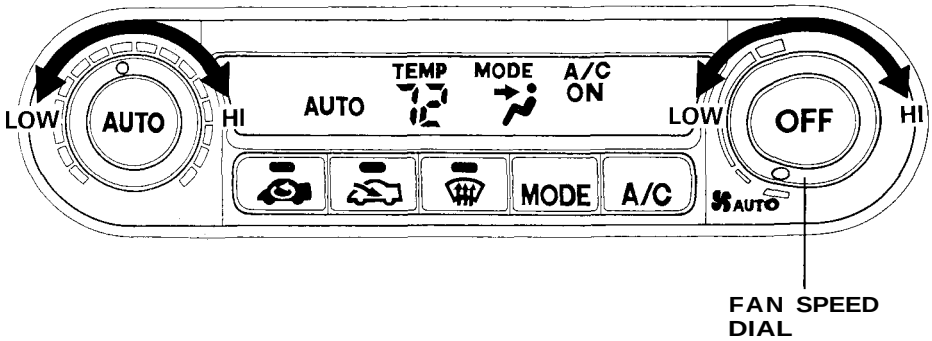
Recirculated and Fresh Air

The and buttons select the source of air going into the climate control system. draws fresh air from outside. draws air into the system from the car's interior and recirculates it. You can, for example, manually put the system in recirculation mode when driving through an area of smoke or fumes. When you press the or burton, the light in that button comes on.

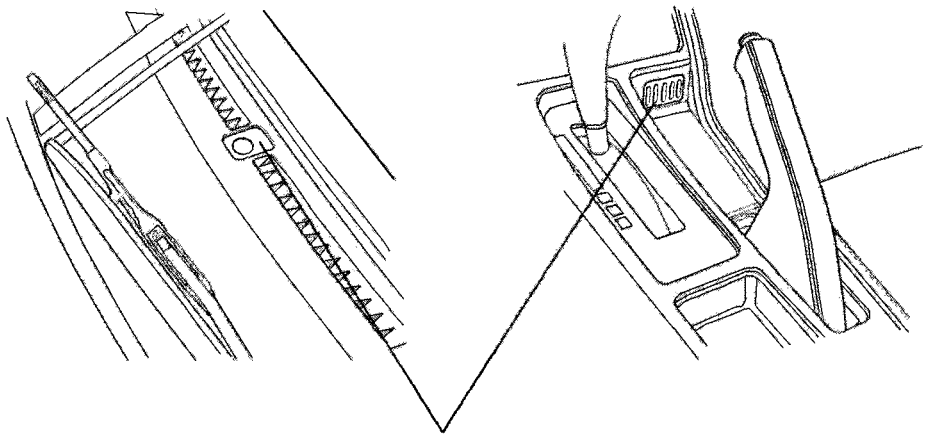


Fan Speed

You can manually select the fan speed by turning the dial. You must turn the fan speed dial back to AUTO to go to fully-automatic climate control.



Temperature Sensors
The climate control system has temperature sensors located on the dashboard and in the center console. Do not cover these sensors or spill any liquid on them.



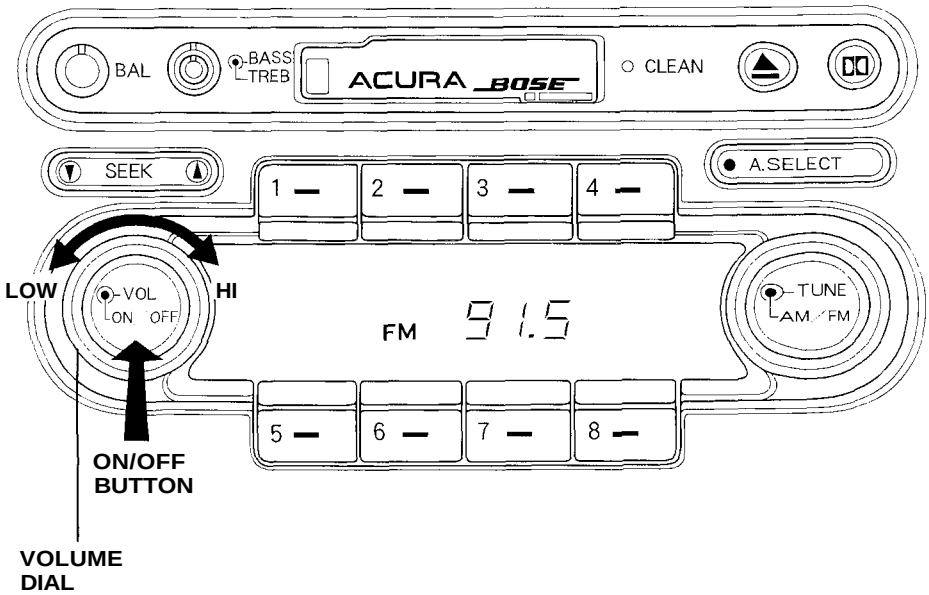
TEMPERATURE SENSOR

Audio System

The sound system in your NSX can deliver excellent reception on both the AM and FM bands. The cassette system uses Dolby B* noise reduction to give excellent sound reproduction on tapes that were recorded using that feature. The system can also sense when a metal or chromium-dioxide (CRO_2) tape is being played, and adjusts accordingly.

* Dolby noise reduction manufactured under license from Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation. "DOLBY" and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corporation.

A trunk-mounted CD changer is available as an option. See page 95 for CD changer operation.

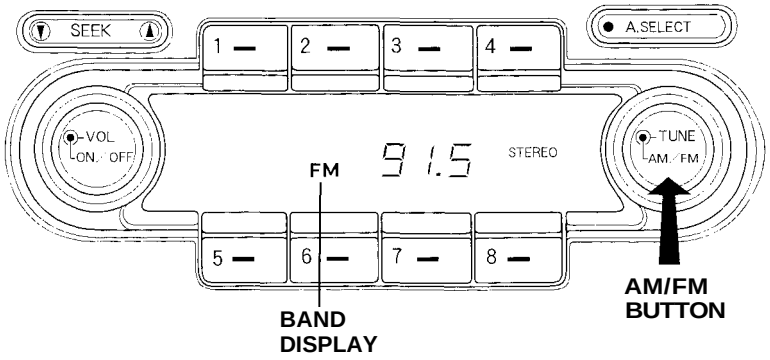


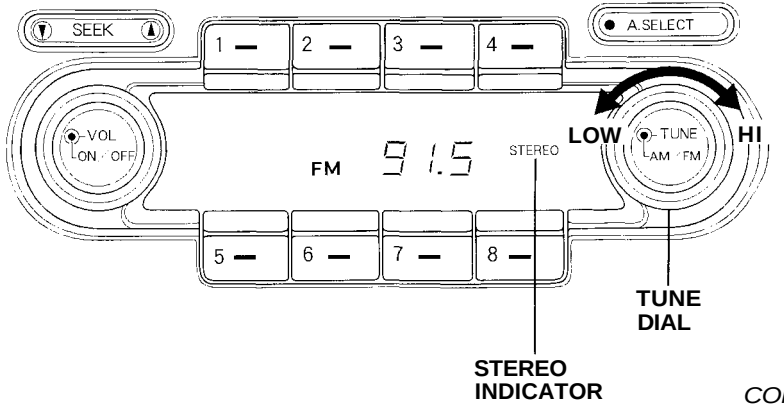
Operating the Radio

Turn the ignition switch to ACCESSORY (I) or ON (II). Turn the radio on by pressing the ON/OFF button. The radio will come on and display the frequency of the last station it was tuned to. The power antenna will also extend. Adjust the volume with the VOL dial (outside ring of the left knob). Select the AM or FM band by pushing the AM/FM button. The selected band is shown next to the frequency display.

Finding Radio Stations

To tune to *a* station, turn the TUNE dial (outside ring of the right knob). Turn it clockwise to tune to a higher frequency, and counterclockwise to tune to a lower frequency. The STEREO indicator next to the frequency display lights if the station is broadcasting in FM stereo. The STEREO indicator will flash if you are driving in an area where the radio signal is weak. This system cannot receive AM broadcasts in stereo.

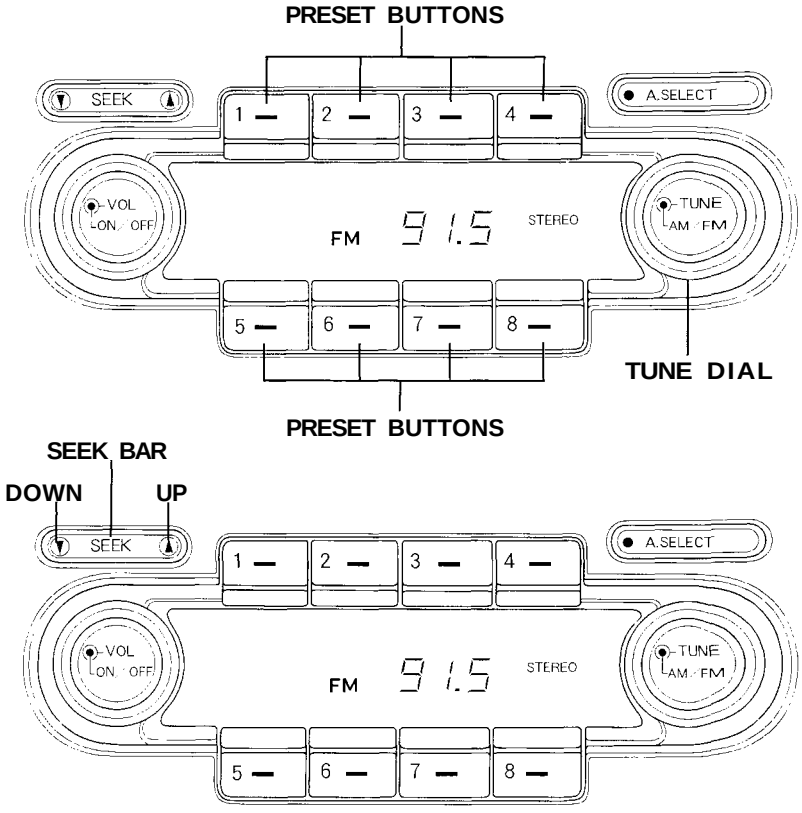




CONTINUED

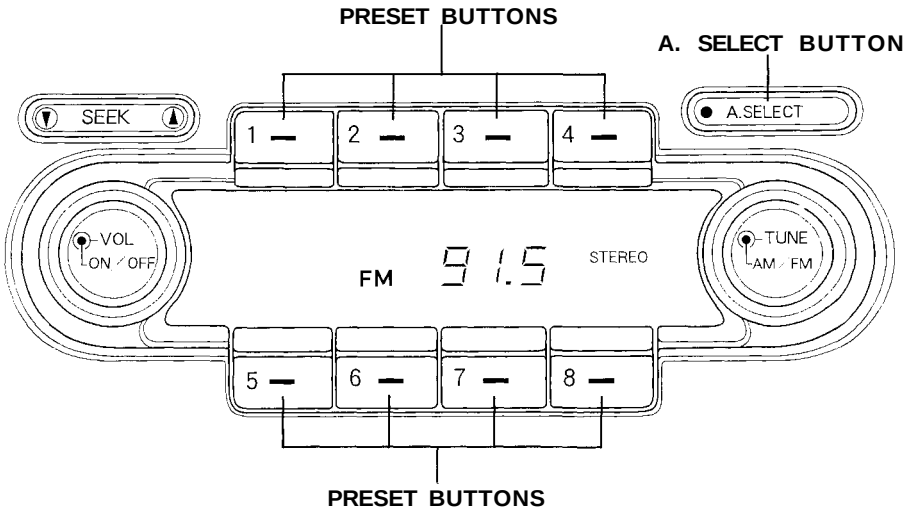
The easiest way to find your favorite stations is to set their frequencies into the eight preset buttons. To do this, tune to the desired station as described previously. Press one of the preset buttons (1—8) and hold it until you hear a beep. You can preset eight stations on each band.

When you press the SEEK bar. the radio scans the selected band and stops on the next station with a strong signal. Press the left side of the SEEK bar to scan lower frequencies, and the right side of the bar to scan higher frequencies. This helps you locate stations when driving outside your normal reception area.



The A. SELECT function allows you to find stations easily when you are in an unfamiliar area. Press the A. SELECT button. The system automatically scans both the AM and FM bands, memorizes the eight strongest stations on each band, and stores them in the eight preset buttons. You can then use the buttons to tune to those stations. The light in the A. SELECT button stays on as a reminder.

You cannot manually change any presets with A. SELECT on. If you do not like the stations found by A. SELECT, you can still use the TUNE or SEEK function to find other stations.



A. SELECT does not erase the stations you have manually preset. When you return to your normal reception area, turn off A. SELECT by pressing the button again. The light in the button goes out and the preset buttons can then select the stations you originally set.

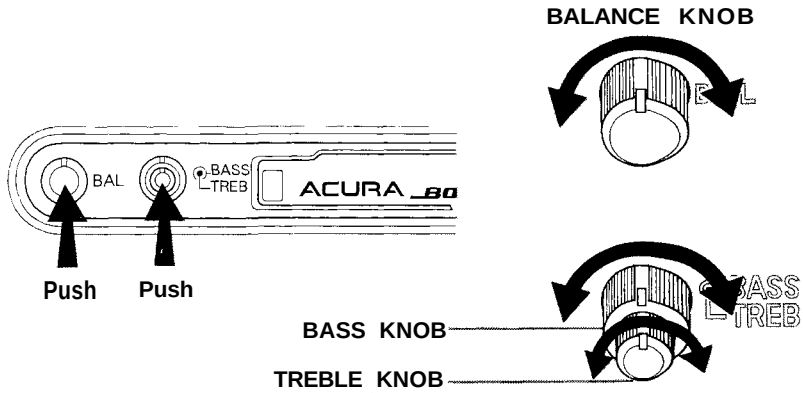
Audio System

Radio Frequencies
Your Acura's radio can tune in all frequencies in both the AM and FM bands. Those bands cover these frequencies:

AM band: 530 to 1710 kilohertz
FM band: 87.7 to 107.9 megahertz

Radio stations on the AM band are assigned frequencies at least 10 kilohertz apart (530, 540, 550). Those on the FM band are assigned frequencies at least 0.2 megahertz apart (87.9,88.1,88.3).

Stations must use these exact frequencies. It is fairly common for stations to round-off the frequency in their advertising, so your radio will show a frequency of 100.9 even though the announcer may call the station "FM 101."



Adjusting the Sound
Use the TREB and BASS knobs to adjust the tone quality to your liking. Push on the TREB knob to get both to pop out. The outside ring changes the bass level, and the inner knob changes the treble level.

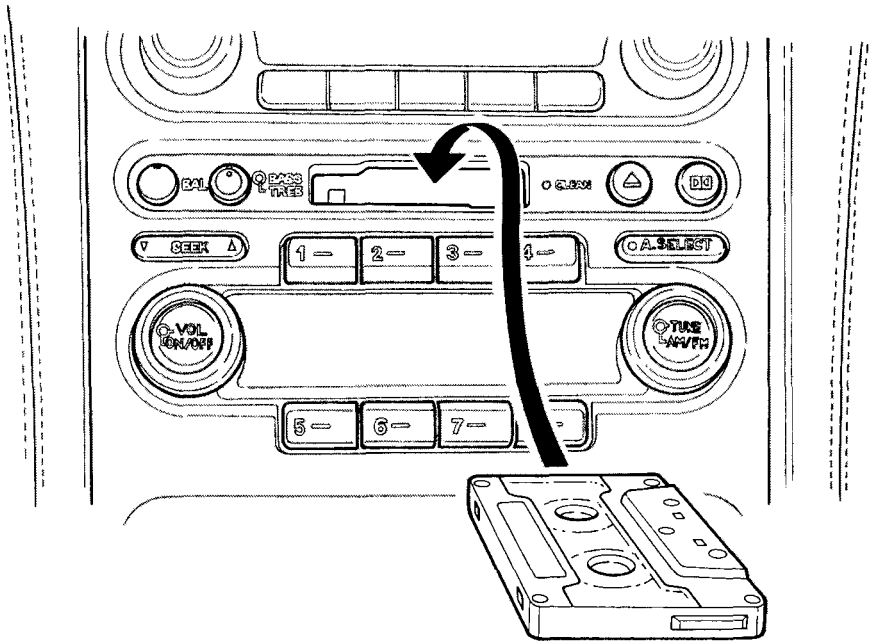
When you have finished the adjustments, push the knobs back in so there is less chance of accidentally changing your settings.

The BAL control adjusts the sound balance between the speakers. Push on the knob so it pops out. Adjust the side-to-side balance as desired, then push the knob back in.

When the headlights are on, the radio panel illumination is on, even if the radio is turned off. The panel lighting can be turned off by first pushing the BAL control knob so it pops out, then pulling it out slightly farther.

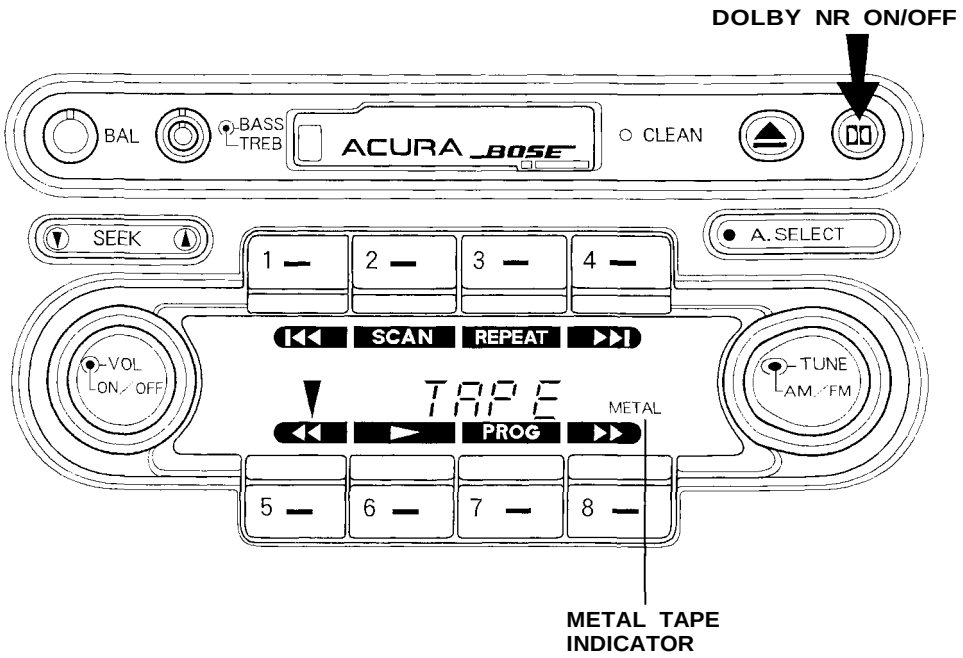
Operating the Cassette Player
Make sure the radio is ON. Insert the cassette with the tape opening to the right. Push the cassette most of the way into the slot. It will be pulled in the rest of the way and begin to play. The display will change from the radio frequency to the word TAPE.

The ▲ or ▼ will light to show you which side of the cassette is playing. The ▲ indicates the side you inserted facing upward is now playing. To play the other side of the tape, press the PROG button (7). The system also has an Auto-reverse feature. It will automatically reverse direction when it reaches the end of the cassette.

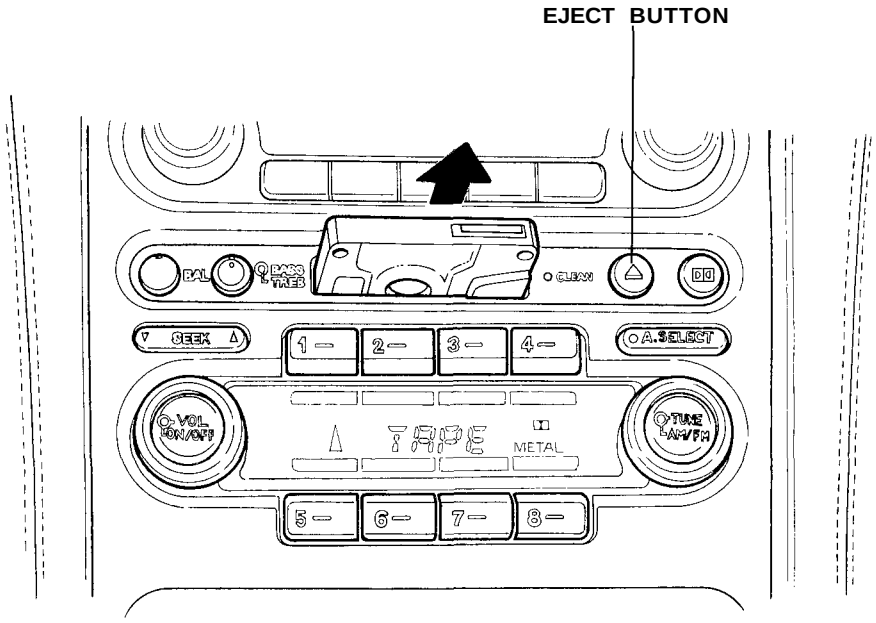


CONTINUED

Dolby B noise reduction turns on when you insert a cassette. If the tape was not recorded in Dolby B noise reduction, turn it off by pressing DD button. If you play a metal or chromium-dioxide (CrO_2) tape, the system automatically senses it. The METAL indicator in the frequency display lights.

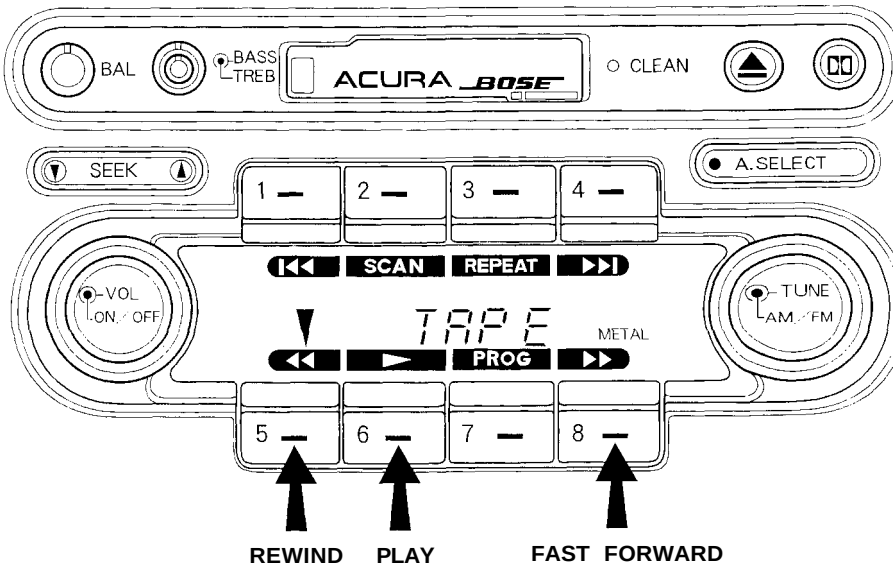


To remove the cassette from the drive, press the ⏏ button. The system automatically ejects the cassette whenever you turn off the system or the ignition switch.



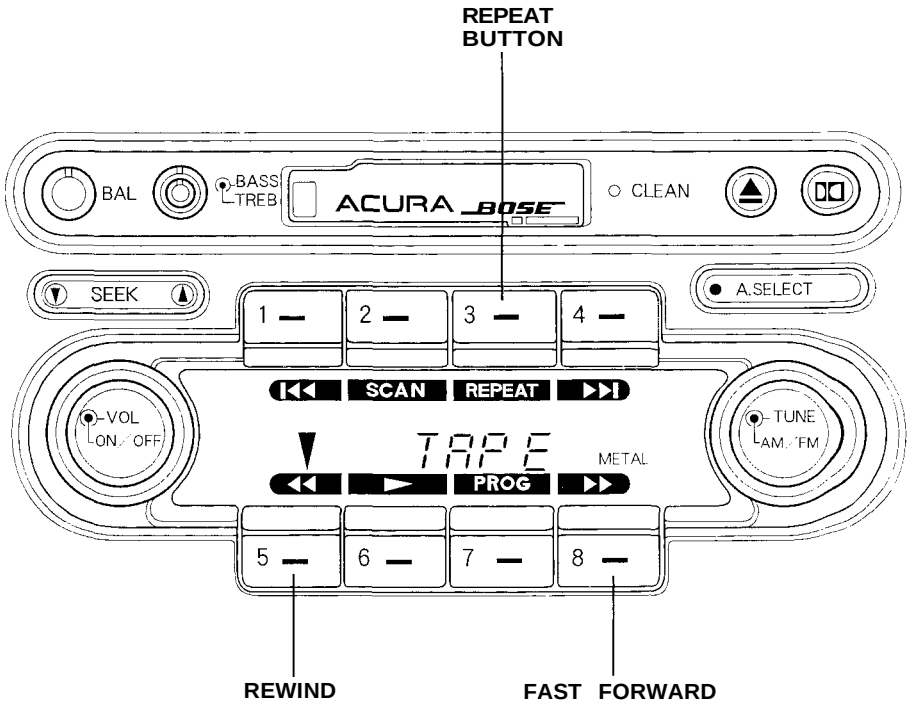
Cassette Search Functions
You can use the preset buttons to control tape movement while playing a cassette. Six functions are available: fast forward, rewind, Repeat, Replay, Skip, and Scan.

Press ▶▶ to fast forward the tape. Press ◀◀ to rewind the tape. To stop fast forward or rewind, press PLAY. Fast forward or rewind stops automatically at the end of the tape. The system reverses direction, then begins to play.



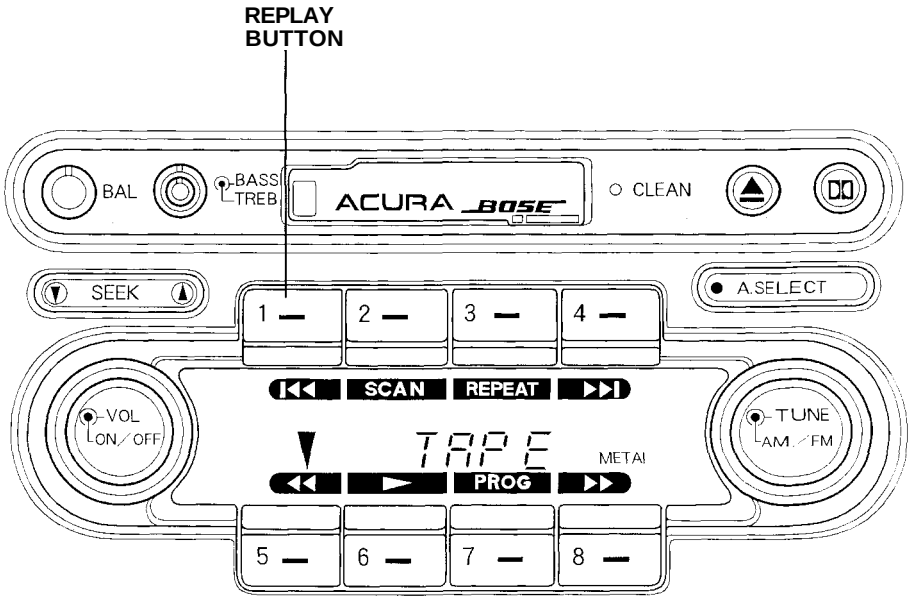
The REPEAT function plays the current song or passage over again. press REPEAT to enable it. The light in the button stays lit to remind you. When the system senses a silent period in the program (such as the end of a song), it rewinds the tape to the previous silent period. It continues to repeat this same passage as long as REPEAT is on.

To turn it off, press the button again, Pressing ◀◀ or ▶▶ also turns off REPEAT.

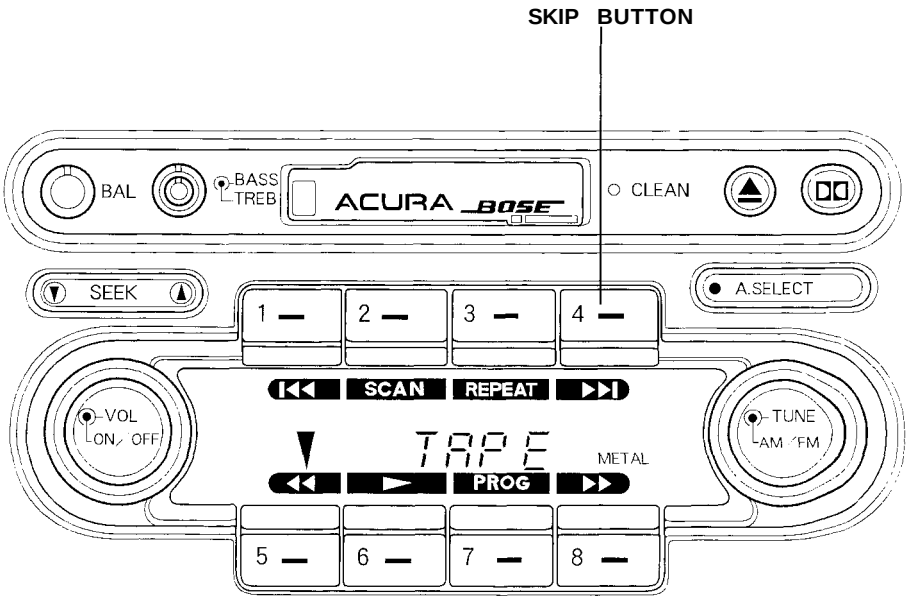


CONTINUED

The ⏮ function is similar to REPEAT. When you press this button, the system immediately goes into rewind. The light in the REPLAY button flashes during rewind. When it senses a silent period on the tape, the system stops rewinding and goes back to PLAY. Unlike REPEAT, this function replays a selection only once. If you do not press ⏮ again, the tape will play straight through.



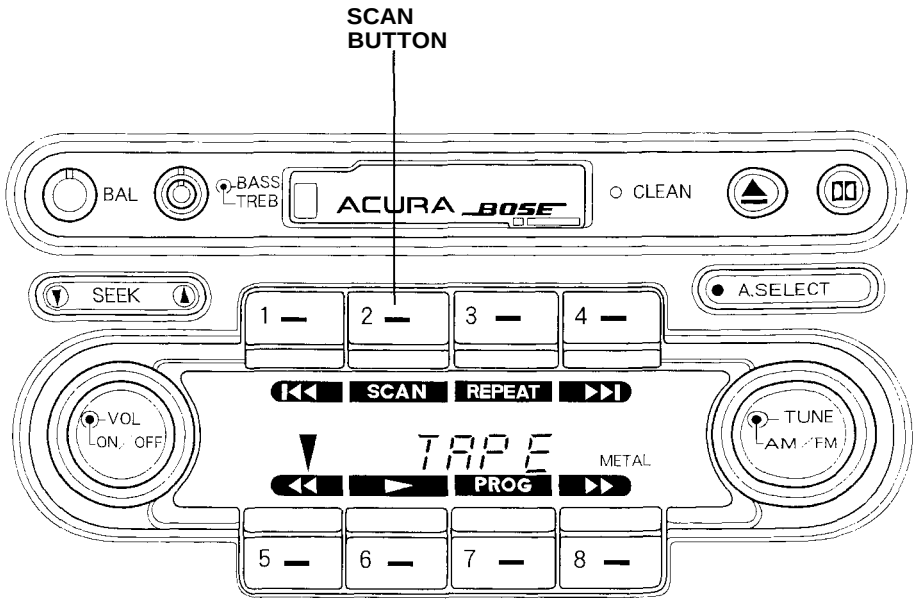
The ▶▶| function allows you to skip over a song or other passage. When you press this button, the system goes into fast forward until it senses a silent period on the tape. The light in the SKIP button flashes during fast forward. When the system finds a silent period, it goes back to PLAY.



CONTINUED

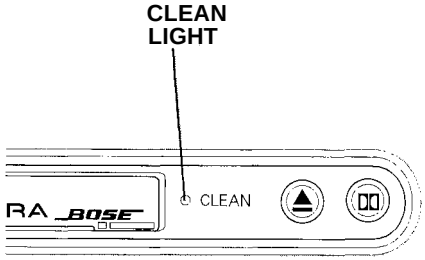
SCAN allows you to search a tape for a desired passage. When you press this button, the system goes into fast forward. It goes back to PLAY when it senses a silent period on the tape. It stays in PLAY for eight seconds so you can listen to that passage and decide if you want to hear it all. If you are not interested in that passage, leave the system alone. After eight seconds, it will go into fast forward again until it senses another silent period, then go back to PLAY.

When it gets to a passage you want to hear, press SCAN again. The tape plays normally after that.



The |◄◄, ►►|, and SCAN functions use silent periods on the tape to find the end of a selection. These features may not work satisfactorily on tapes that have almost no gap between songs, a high noise level between songs, or silent periods in the middle of songs.

Caring for the Cassette Player



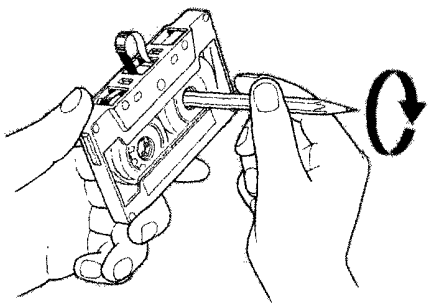
The cassette drive picks up dirt and oxides whenever you play a tape. This builds up over time and causes the sound quality to degrade. To prevent this, you should clean the cassette drive after every 30 hours of use. Your dealer has a cleaning kit available for this purpose.

After 50 hours of use, the CLEAN light comes on to remind you to clean the cassette drive. After cleaning the drive, turn off the CLEAN light by pushing it in with the tip of a ballpoint pen or similar object.

If you do not clean the cassette drive regularly, it may eventually become impossible to remove the deposits with a normal cleaning kit.

Use 100 minutes or shorter cassettes. Cassettes longer than 100 minutes use thinner tape that may break or jam the drive.

CONTINUED



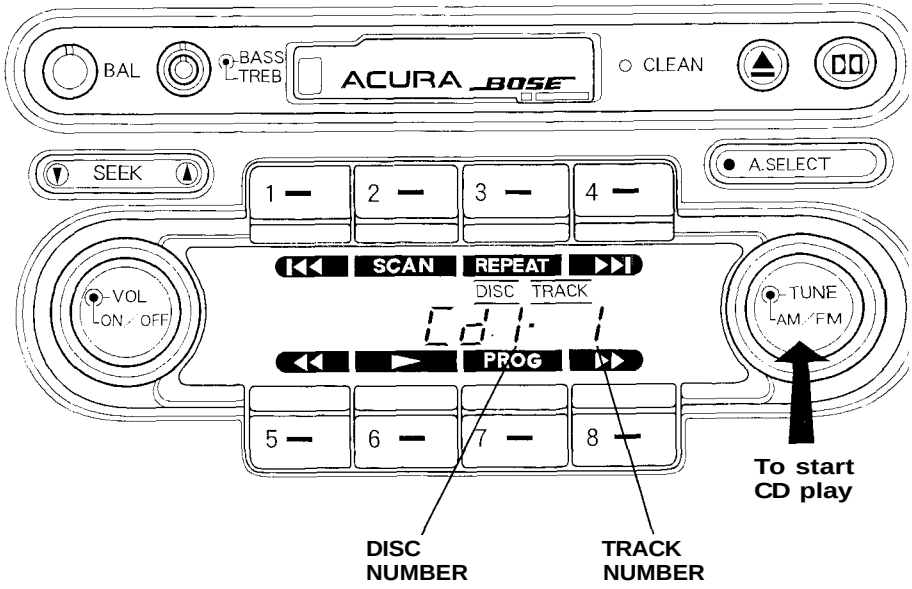
Look at a cassette before you insert it. If the tape is loose, tighten it by turning one of the hubs with a pencil or your finger. If the label is peeling off, do not put it in the player. It may cause the cassette to jam in the drive mechanism when you try to eject it.

Do not leave cassettes sitting where they are exposed to high heat or humidity, such as on top of the dashboard or in the player. If a cassette is exposed to extreme heat or cold, let it reach a moderate temperature before putting it in the player.

Operating the CD Changer (Optional)

A trunk-mounted Compact Disc changer is available for your car. It holds up to six discs, providing several hours of continuous programming. You operate the CD changer with the same controls used for the radio and cassette player.

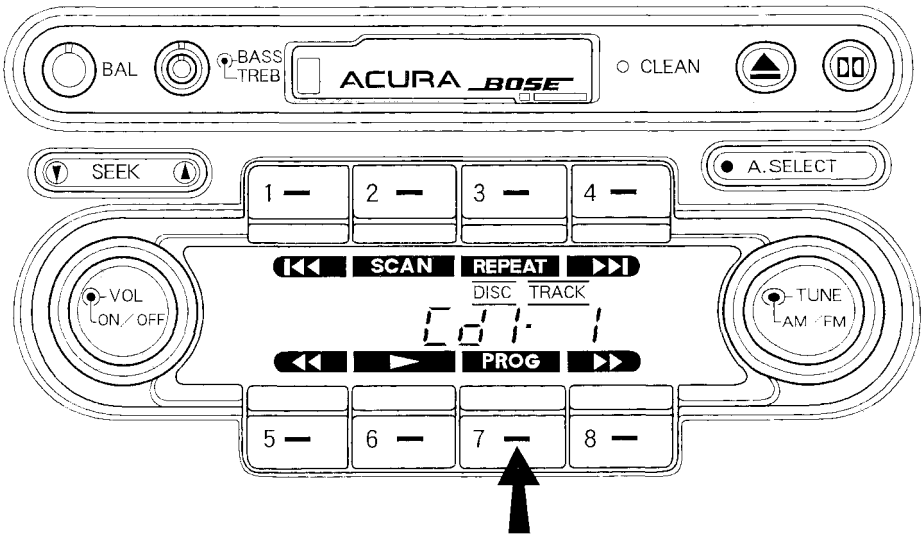
Load the desired CD's in the magazine and load the magazine in the changer according to the instructions included with the unit. Turn on the audio system as described previously. Press the AM/FM button until "CD" appears in the display. The selected disc (1-6) and track, also displayed, will begin playing. When that disc ends, the next disc in the magazine is loaded and played. When disc 6 has completed, the system will return to disc 1.



CONTINUED

To select another disc, press PROG. The next CD in the changer is loaded and starts to play from the first track. The new CD and track numbers are displayed.

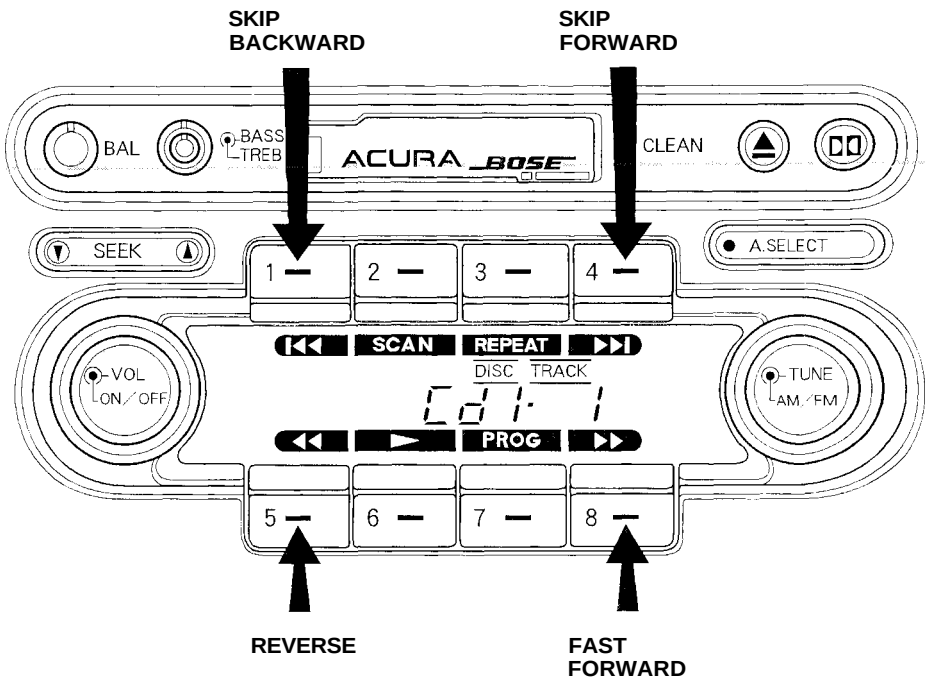
To return to the radio function, press the AM/FM button again. To turn the system completely off, press the ON/OFF button.



You can use the preset buttons while a CD is playing to select passages and change tracks.

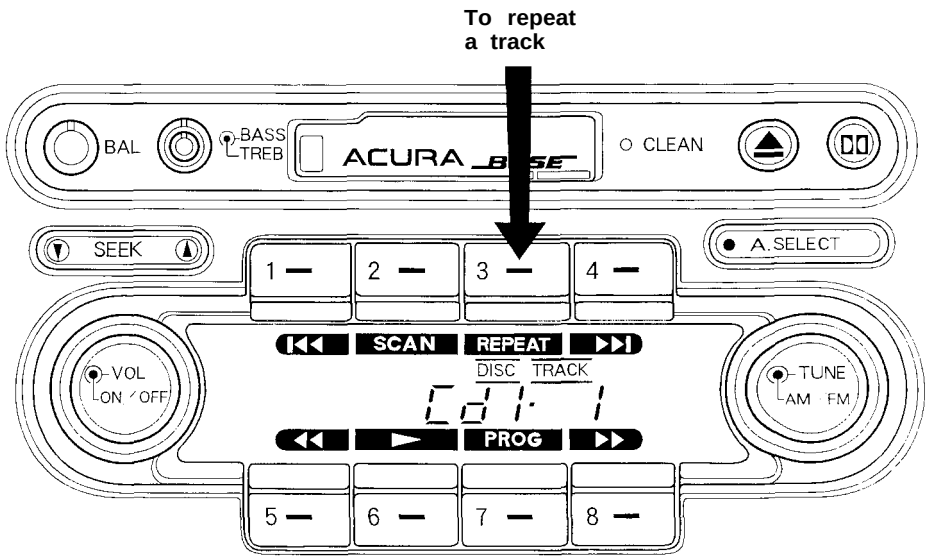
To move rapidly within a track, press and hold the ▶▶ button to move forward or the ◀◀ button to move backward. The player will fast forward or reverse for as long as you hold the button. It goes to normal play mode when you release the button.

Each time you press ▶▶|, the system skips forward to the beginning of the next track on that CD. Pressing |◀◀ skips backward to the beginning of the current track.

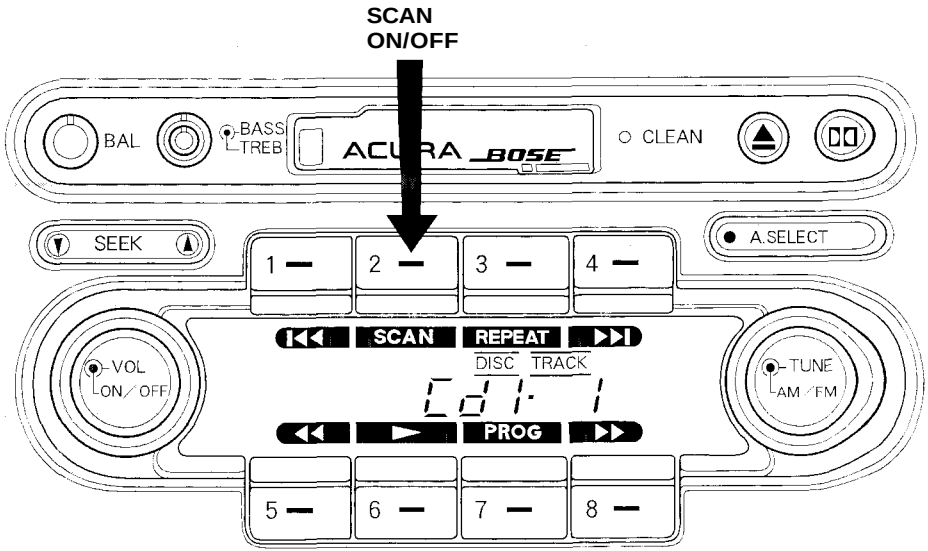


CONTINUED

To replay the current track, press REPEAT. The indicator in the preset button will come on as a reminder. At the end of the track, the system skips back to its beginning. That track will repeat continuously until you cancel REPEAT by pressing the button again.

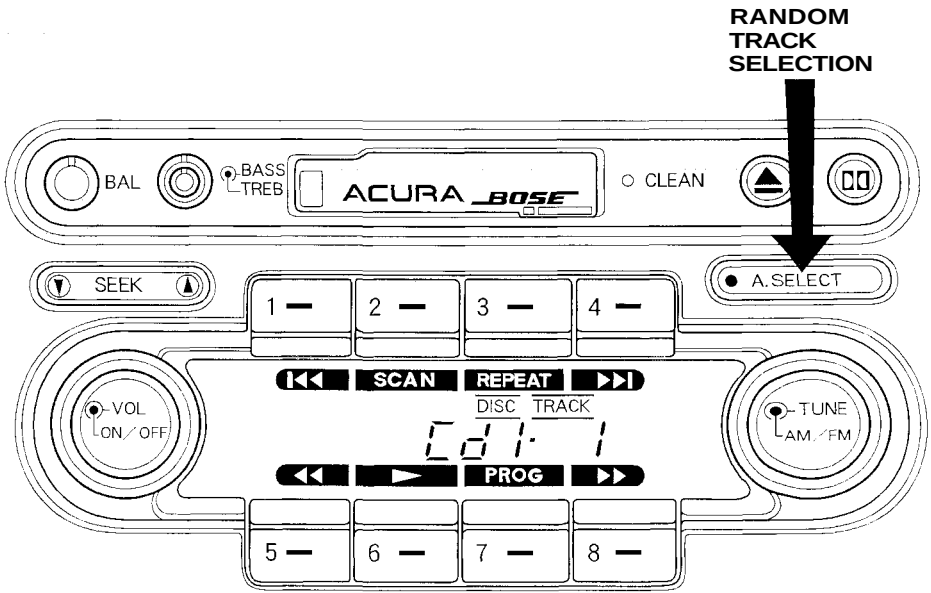


To search for a particular program on a disc, press SCAN. The system will skip forward to the next track and begin to play it. If you do not touch my of the controls, the system skips to the beginning of the next track after ten seconds and begins to play that. When the system gets to a track you want to hear all the way through, press SCAN again. You can only scan tracks on the disc currently being played.



CONTINUED

You can get the CD changer to randomly select tracks by pressing A. SELECT. The indicator in the button lights as a reminder. With this active, the system selects and plays tracks randomly rather than sequentially. Random selection only works on the disc currently playing, not across all six discs. Cancel random selection by pressing A. SELECT again. Random selection is also cancelled by selecting the SCAN function.

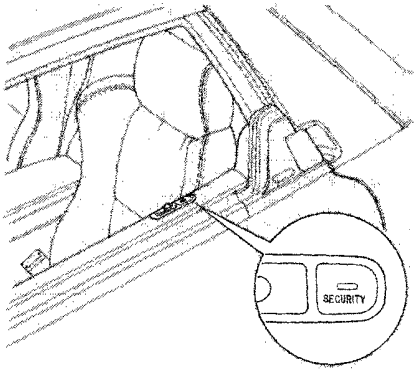


CD Error Indications

If you see an error indication on the display, find the cause in the chart to the right. If you cannot clear the error indication, take the car to your Acura dealer.

Indication	Cause	Solution
E·01	Disc-changer malfunction.	Consult Acura dealer.
E·02	Disc is in changer mechanism.	Press the magazine eject button, and insert an empty magazine.
E·03 E·04 E·05	Disc-changer malfunction.	If the code disappears within a few seconds, unit is OK. If it does not, consult your Acura dealer.
E·06	Disc-changer malfunction.	Press the magazine eject button and pull out the magazine, check for error indication. Insert the magazine again. If the magazine can not be pulled out, consult your Acura dealer.
E·07	CD magazine ejection impossible.	Press the magazine eject button. If the magazine does not eject, consult your Acura dealer.
-·-H	High temperature.	Will disappear when the temperature returns to normal.
E·EE	Misconnection or disconnection of CD changer.	See your Acura dealer.
-·--	No CD magazine in the CD changer.	Insert CD magazine.

Security System



The security system helps to protect your car and valuables from theft. The horn sounds, the headlights pop up, and all the exterior lights flash if someone attempts to break into your car or remove the radio. The system alarms continue for two minutes unless you turn it off manually. To turn the system off, unlock either door with the key.

The security system sets automatically fifteen seconds after you lock the doors, hood, rear window and trunk. For the system to activate, you must lock the doors from the outside with the key, lock tab, or door lock switch (see page 49). The security system light next to the driver's door lock starts blinking immediately to show you the system is setting itself.

Once the security system is set, opening either door (without the key), the hood, or the rear window will cause it to alarm. It also alarms if the radio is removed from the dashboard or the wiring is cut.

With the system set, you can still open the trunk with the master key without triggering the alarm. The alarm will sound if the trunk lock is forced or smashed, or the trunk is opened with the release button on the driver's door.

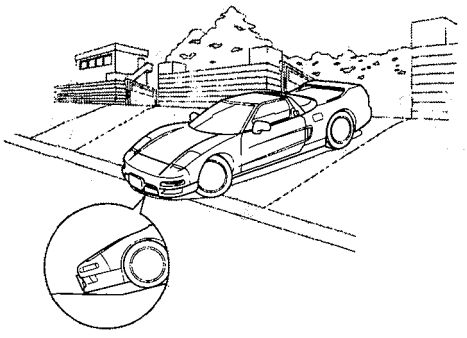
The security system does not set if the hood, rear window, trunk, or either door is not latched completely. If the system will not set, check the Door and Lamp Monitor on the instrument panel (see page 33), to see if the doors, rear window, and trunk are fully closed. Since it is not monitored, manually check the hood.

Before you begin driving your NSX, you should know what gasoline to use, and how to check the levels of important fluids. You also need to know how to stow luggage or packages. This section will help you. If you plan to add any accessories to your car, please read the information in this section first.

General Precautions

Your NSX is designed to give you optimum handling and performance on well-maintained roads. As part of this design, your car has a minimum of ground clearance and very low-profile tires.

- Use caution if you should drive your car on very rough or rutted roads. You could damage the suspension and underbody by bottoming out. Going too fast over parking lot "speed bumps" can also cause damage.



- Curbs and steep inclines could damage the front and rear bumpers. Low curbs that do not affect the average sedan may be high enough to hit the bumper on your NSX. The front or rear bumper may scrape when trying to drive onto an incline, such as a steep driveway or trailer ramps.

- Because of the low-profile tires fitted to your car, the alloy wheels are closer to the ground. Driving over a pothole or road debris at too high a speed can seriously damage a wheel. Slow down under these conditions.

Break-In Period

Help assure your car's future reliability and performance by paying extra attention to how you drive during the first 1000 km (600 miles). During this period:

- Avoid full-throttle starts and rapid acceleration. Do not exceed 5,500 RPM for the first 1000 km (600 miles) of operation.
- If you need to add oil, use the engine oil recommended in this owner's manual (see page 145).
- Avoid hard braking. New brakes need to be broken-in by moderate use for the first 300 km (200 miles).

You should follow these same recommendations with an overhauled or exchanged engine, or when the brakes are relined.

Gasoline

Your Acura operates most effectively on premium unleaded gasoline with a pump octane number of 91 or higher. If you are unable to find premium unleaded gasoline, you may substitute an unleaded regular gasoline. The engine will compensate for the lower octane, but you may notice a slight decrease in power as a result.

We recommend gasolines containing detergent additives that help prevent fuel system and engine deposits.

Using gasoline containing lead will damage your car's emission controls. This contributes to air pollution and can void certain parts of your warranty.

Oxygenated Fuels

Some conventional gasolines are being blended with alcohol or an ether compound. These gasolines are collectively referred to as oxygenated fuels. To meet clean air standards, some areas of the United States and Canada use oxygenated fuels to help reduce emissions.

If you use an oxygenated fuel, be sure it is unleaded and meets the minimum octane rating requirement.

Before using an oxygenated fuel, try to confirm the fuel's contents. Some states/provinces require this information to be posted on the pump.

CONTINUED

Gasoline

The following are the EPA-approved percentages of oxygenates:

ETHANOL (ethyl or grain alcohol)
You may use gasoline containing up to 10% ethanol by volume. Gasoline containing ethanol may be marketed under the name "Gasohol."

MTBE (Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether)
You may use gasoline containing up to 15% MTBE by volume.

METHANOL (methyl or wood alcohol)
You may use gasoline containing up to 5% methanol by volume as long as it also contains cosolvents and corrosion inhibitors to protect the fuel system. Gasoline containing more than 5% methanol by volume may cause starting and/or performance problems. It may also damage metal, rubber, and plastic parts of your fuel system.

If you notice any undesirable operating symptoms, try another service station or switch to another brand of gasoline.

Fuel system damage or performance problems resulting from the use of an oxygenated fuel containing more than the percentages of oxygenates given above are not covered under warranty.

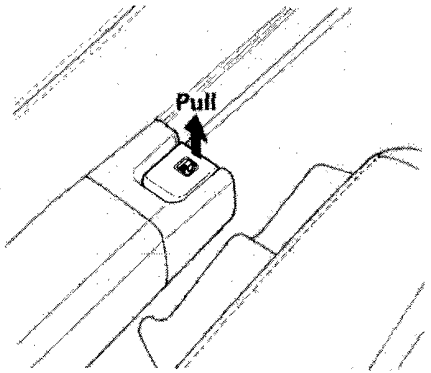
Driving in Foreign Countries

Using any type of leaded gasoline in your NSX will affect performance and damage its emission controls and engine. Unleaded gasoline may not be available in other countries. If you are planning to take your car outside the U.S. or Canada, write to Acura at the address shown for information about any modifications your car may need. Be sure to include the year and model of your car.

U.S. Owners:
Acura Automobile Division
Customer Relations Office
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

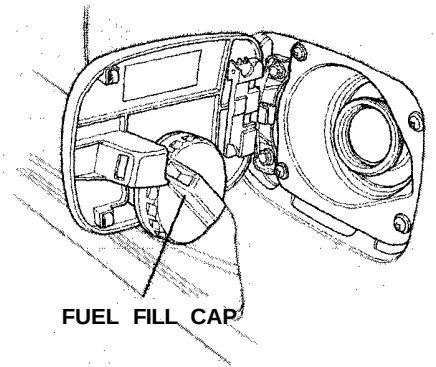
Canadian Owners:
Honda Canada Inc.
715 Milner Ave.
Scarborough, Ontario M1B 2K8

Filling the Fuel Tank



1. The fuel fill is on the driver's side of the car. Park with that side closest to the service station pumps.

2. Open the fuel fill door by pulling on the handle to the left of the driver's seat.



3. Remove the fuel fill cap slowly. You may hear a hissing sound as pressure inside the tank escapes. Place the fuel fill cap on the inside of the door as shown.

⚠ WARNING

Gasoline is highly flammable and explosive. You can be burned or seriously injured when handling fuel.

- Stop the engine and keep heat, sparks, and flame away.
- Handle fuel only outdoors.
- Wipe up spills immediately.

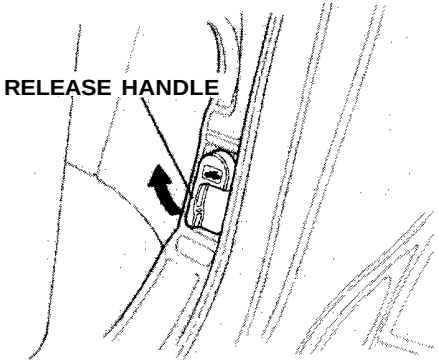
4. Stop filling the tank after the fuel pump automatically clicks off. Do not try to "top off" the tank, leave some room for the fuel to expand with temperature changes.

5. Screw the fuel fill cap back on, tighten it until it clicks more than twice.

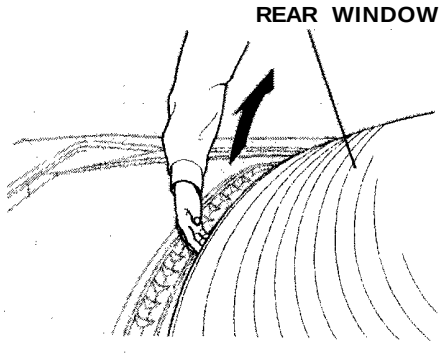
6. Push the fuel fill door until it latches.

CONTINUED

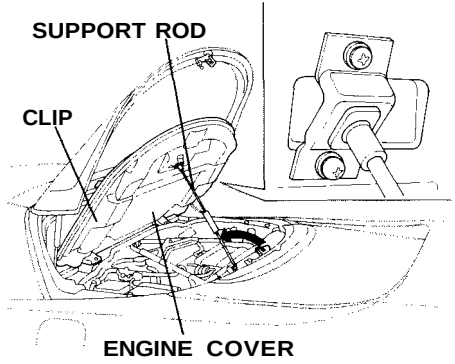
Opening the Engine Compartment



1. Shift to Park or Neutral and set the parking brake. Locate the release handle on the rear of the driver's door opening, next to the seat. Pivot this handle towards the driver's seat. The rear window will pop up slightly.

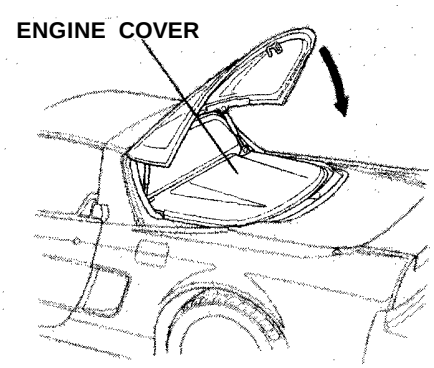


2. Stand just behind the driver's door. Reach under the rear edge of the rear window at its center and raise it. It will stay up by itself.



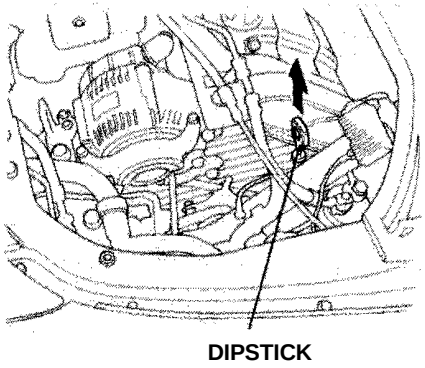
3. Lift the engine cover.

4. Pull the support rod out of its clip and insert the end into the square hole in the bracket.



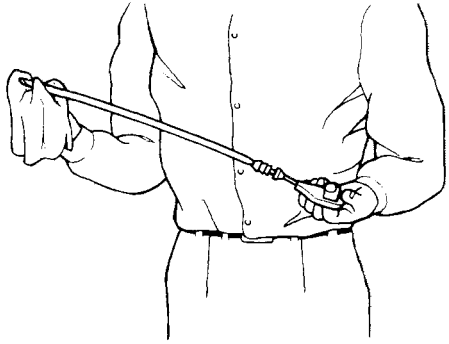
To Close the Rear Window:
Snap the support rod back into the clip and lower the engine cover or roof holder. Pull the rear window down until it is resting on the body, then push on the center of the back edge until it latches. Make sure it is securely closed before driving away.

Oil Check



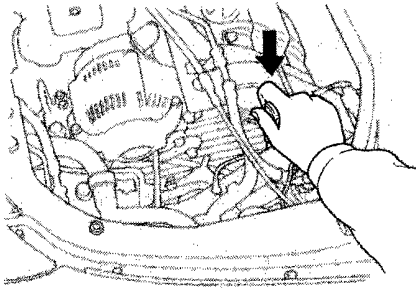
Check the engine oil level every time you fill the car with fuel. Wait at least two minutes after turning the engine off before you check the oil.

1. Remove the dipstick (orange handle).

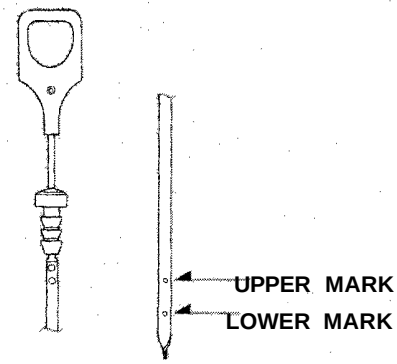


2. Wipe the dipstick with a clean cloth or paper towel.

CONTINUED



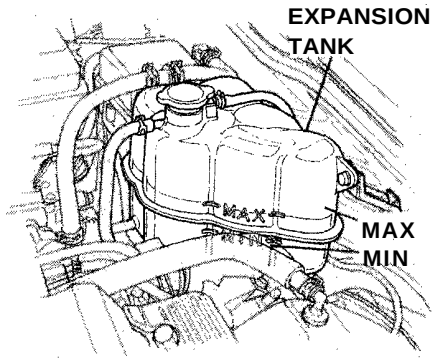
3. Insert it all the way back in its tube.



4. Remove it again and check the level. It should be between the upper and lower marks.

If it is near or below the lower mark, see page 144 for information on the proper oil and how to add it.

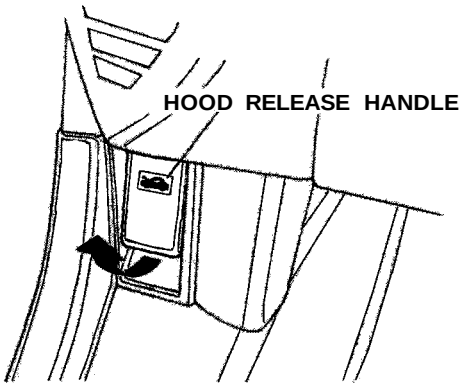
Engine Coolant check



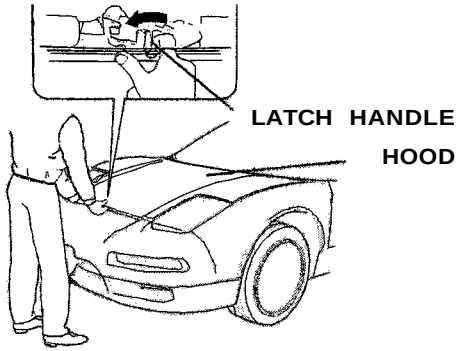
Look at the coolant level in the expansion tank. Make sure it is between the MAX and MIN lines. If it is below the MIN line, see **Adding Engine Coolant** on page 148 for information on adding the proper coolant.

Refer to **Periodic Checks** on page 142 for information on checking other items in your NSX.

Checking the Front Compartment

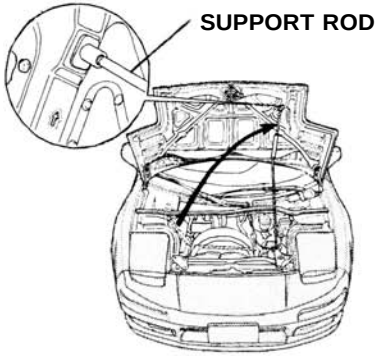


1. Shift to Park or Neutral and set the parking brake. Pull the hood release handle, located under the left lower corner of the dashboard.



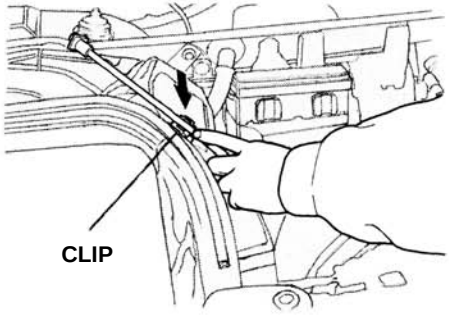
2. Standing in front of the car, put your fingers under the front edge of the hood to the right of center. Slide your hand to the left until you feel the hood latch handle. Push this handle to the left until it releases the hood. Lift the hood.

CONTINUED

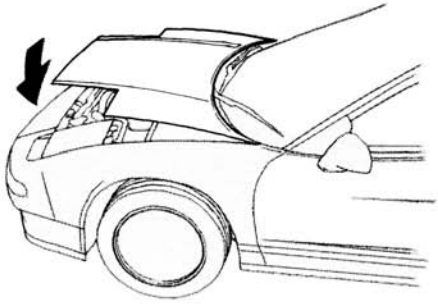


3. Pull the support rod out of its clip and insert the end into the square hole on the right side of the hood.

4. To close the hood, lift it up slightly to remove the support rod from the hole.



5. Snap the support rod back into its holding clip.



6. Lower the hood about halfway down and let the hood drop. Make sure the hood is securely latched.

Refer to **Maintenance** on pages 133-183 for instructions on how to check items under the hood.

The condition of your car and your driving habits are the two most important things that affect the fuel mileage you get.

Vehicle Condition
Always maintain your car according to the maintenance schedule. This will keep it in top operating condition.

An important part of that maintenance is the **Periodic Checks** (see page 142). For example an underinflated tire causes more "rolling resistance," which uses fuel. It also wears out faster, so check the tire pressure at least monthly. In winter, the build-up of snow on your car's underside adds weight and rolling resistance. Frequent cleaning helps your fuel mileage and reduces the chance of corrosion.

Driving Habits
You can improve fuel economy by driving moderately. Rapid acceleration, abrupt cornering, and hard braking use more fuel. Always drive in the highest gear that allows the engine to run and accelerate smoothly. Depending on traffic conditions, try to maintain a constant speed. Every time you slow down and speed up, your car uses extra fuel. Use the cruise control, when appropriate, to increase fuel economy.

A cold engine uses more fuel than a warm engine. It is not necessary to "warm up"a cold engine by letting it idle for a long time. You can drive away within thirty seconds, no matter how cold it is outside. The engine will warm up faster, and you get better fuel economy. To cut down on the number of "cold starts," try to combine several short trips into one.

The air conditioning puts an extra load on the engine which makes it use more fuel. Turn off the A/C or set the climate control to a higher temperature to cut down on air conditioning use. Use the flow-through ventilation when the outside air temperature is moderate.

Accessories

Your Acura dealer has many Genuine Acura Accessories that allow you to personalize your car. These have all been approved by our engineers for installation and use on your car, and are covered by warranty.

Some non-Acura accessories you can buy in the "aftermarket" are designed for universal applications. Although they may fit your Acura, they may not be within factory specifications. For example, aftermarket wheels may not meet Acura's specifications for width and offset. They could cause suspension problems which would not be covered by your warranty. Improperly-designed accessories can adversely affect your car's handling and stability.

Your car has several computer-controlled systems, including the SRS system, the engine's fuel injection, and the Anti-lock Brake system. Strong electronic interference can affect their operation.

Electronic communications equipment, such as cellular telephones and two-way radios are regulated by the FCC (DOC in Canada) and should not interfere with your car's systems. Improper installation, or using electrical equipment not intended for mobile use may interfere with your car's operation. If you want to install a cellular telephone, other mobile communications equipment or even add-on stereo amplifiers, please discuss it first with your Acura dealer.

In many cases, improper installation is the real cause of problems with aftermarket accessories. Have these accessories installed by qualified technicians who are familiar with your Acura. If possible, have your Acura dealer inspect the final installation.

Any packages or other items you want to transport should be stored in the trunk. They should be no heavier than 45 kg (100 lbs). If you must carry something in the passenger compartment that is too large to fit in the glove box, store it on the passenger side floor.

Do not store anything under the driver's seat. It can roll forward and block the pedals or your feet. You may not be able to brake or release the clutch.

The front compartment is not for carrying cargo. Parts of the Anti-lock brake system, SRS, and other systems are in the front compartment and could be accidentally damaged. Cargo may also restrict air flow through the radiator, causing overheating of the engine. Storing cargo in the area between the rear window and engine cover cuts your vision to the rear.

Because it is a sealed compartment next to the engine, the trunk can get very warm. Be careful of the type of items you store in it. Fresh or frozen food could spoil if left in the trunk for very long. Use the trunk to transport normal luggage, sports equipment, etc.

This section gives you tips on starting the engine under various conditions, and how to operate the manual and automatic transmissions. It also includes important information on your car's braking system and the Traction Control System.

Preparing to Drive

You should do the following checks and adjustments every day before you drive your car.

1. Make sure all windows, mirrors, and outside lights are clean and unobstructed. Remove frost, snow, or ice.

2. Check that the hood, trunk and rear window are fully closed.

3. Visually check the tires. If a tire looks low, use a gauge to check its pressure. Also check if the tread wear indicators are visible (see page 172).

4. Check that any items you may be carrying with you inside are stored properly or fastened down securely.

5. Check the adjustment of the seat (see page 52).

6. Check the adjustment of the inside and outside mirrors (see page 61).

7. Check the adjustment of the steering wheel (see page 43).

8. Make sure both doors are securely closed and locked.

9. Fasten your seat belt. Check that your passenger has fastened his seat belt (see page 6).

10. Turn the ignition ON (II). Check the indicator lights in the instrument panel.

11. Start the engine (see page 119).

12. Check the gauges and indicator lights in the instrument panel (see page 30).

5-Speed Manual Transmission

1. Apply the parking brake.

2. In cold weather, turn off all electrical accessories to reduce the drain on the battery.

3. Push the clutch pedal down all the way. START (III) does not function unless the clutch pedal is depressed.

4. Without touching the accelerator pedal, turn the ignition key to the START (III) position. If the engine does not start right away, do not hold the key in START (III) for more than 15 seconds at a time. Pause for at least 10 seconds before trying again.

5. If the engine does not start within 15 seconds, or starts but stalls right away, repeat step 4 with the accelerator pedal pressed half-way down. If the engine starts, release pressure on the accelerator pedal so the engine does not race.

6. If the engine still does not start, press the accelerator pedal all the way down and hold it there while starting in order to clear flooding. As before, keep the ignition key in the START (III) position for no more than 15 seconds. Return to step 5 if the engine does not start. If it starts, lift your foot off the accelerator pedal so the engine does not race.

Automatic Transmission

1. Apply the parking brake.

2. In cold weather, turn off all electrical accessories to reduce the drain on the battery.

3. Make sure the shift lever is in Park. Press on the brake pedal.

4. Without touching the accelerator pedal, turn the ignition key to the START (III) position. If the engine does not start right away, do not hold the key in START (III) for more than 15 seconds at a time. Pause for at least 10 seconds before trying again.

CONTINUED

5. If the engine does not start within 15 seconds, or starts but stalls right away, repeat step 4 with the accelerator pedal pressed half-way down. If the engine starts, release pressure on the accelerator pedal so the engine does not race.

6. If the engine still does not start, press the accelerator pedal all the way down and hold it there while starting in order to clear flooding. As before, keep the ignition key in the START (III) position for no more than 15 seconds. Return to step 5 if the engine does not start. If it starts, lift your foot off the accelerator pedal so the engine does not race.

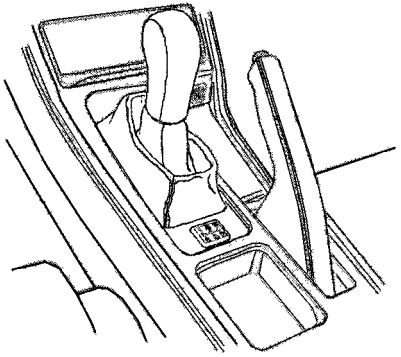
Starting in Cold Weather at High Altitude (Above 2400 meters/ 8000 feet)

An engine is harder to start in cold weather. The thinner air found at high altitude above 2400 meters (8000 feet) adds to the problem. Use the following procedure:

1. Turn off all electrical accessories to reduce the drain on the battery.

2. Push the accelerator pedal half-way to the floor and hold it there while starting the engine. Do not hold the ignition key in START (III) for more than 15 seconds. When the engine starts, release the accelerator pedal gradually as the engine speeds up and smooths out.

3. If the engine fails to start in step 2, push the accelerator pedal to the floor and hold it there while you try to start the engine for no more than 15 seconds. If the engine does not start, return to step 2.



The manual transmission is synchronized in all forward gears for smooth operation. It has a lockout so you cannot shift directly from Fifth to Reverse. When shifting up or down, make sure you push the clutch pedal down all the way, shift to the next *gear,* and let the pedal up gradually. When you are not shifting, do not rest your foot on the clutch pedal. This can cause your clutch to wear but faster.

Come to a full stop before you shift into reverse. You can damage the transmission by trying to shift into reverse with the car moving. Depress the clutch pedal and pause for a few seconds before putting it in reverse, or shift into one of the forward gears for a moment. This stops the gears, so they won't "grind."

You can get extra braking from the engine when slowing down by shifting to a lower gear. This extra braking can help you maintain a safe speed and prevent your brakes from overheating while going down a steep hill. Before downshifting, make sure engine speed will not go into the red zone in the lower gear. Refer to the Maximum Speeds chart.

⚠ WARNING

Rapid slowing or speeding-up can cause loss of control on slippery surfaces. If you crash, you can be injured.

Use extra care when driving on slippery surfaces.

Recommended Shift Points

Drive in the highest gear that lets the engine run and accelerate smoothly. This will give you the best fuel economy and effective emissions control. The following shift points are recommended:

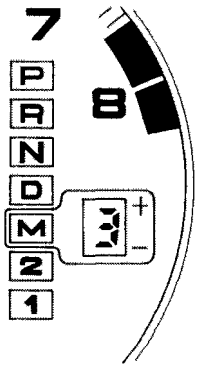
Shift Up	Normal Acceleration
1st to 2nd	15 mph (24 km/h)
2nd to 3rd	25 mph (40 km/h)
3rd to 4th	40 mph (64 km/h)
4th to 5th	48 mph (77 km/h)

Maximum Speeds
The speeds in this table are the maximums for the given gears. If you exceed these speeds, the engine speed will enter into the tachometer's red zone. If this occurs, you may feel the engine cut in and out. This is caused by a limiter in the engine's computer controls. The engine will run normally when you reduce the RPM below the red zone.

Gear	Maximum Speeds
1st	45mph(72km/h)
2nd	77mph(124km/h)
3rd	114mph(182km/h)
4th	144mph(231km/h)
5th	Top Speed

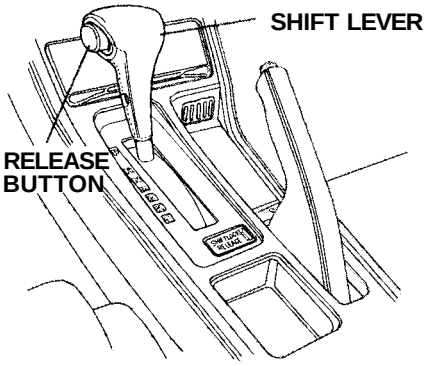
Automatic Transmission
Your Acura's transmission has four forward speeds, and is electronically controlled for smoother shifting. It also has a "lock-up" torque converter for better fuel economy. You may feel what seems like another shift when the converter locks.

Shift Lever Positions



This display is in the tachometer. It shows you the position of the console shift lever. The illuminated number next to the "3/M" indicator shows you the gear you have selected when shifting manually.

The "D" indicator will come on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition switch to ON (II). If it flashes at any time (in any shift position), it indicates a possible problem in the transmission. Avoid rapid acceleration and have the transmission checked by an Acura dealer as soon as possible.

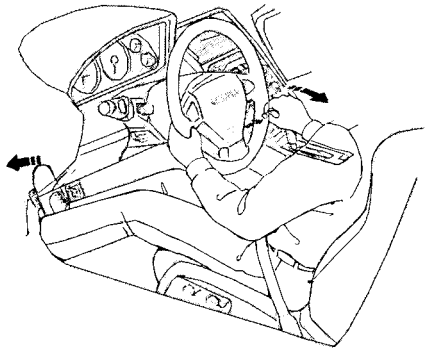


The console shift lever has seven positions. It must be in Park or Neutral to start the engine.

The shift lever on the steering column's right pod allows you to shift up and down manually when the console shift lever is in the "3/M" position.

To shift from:	Do this:
P to R	Press the brake pedal and push the release button.
R to P N to R 3/M to 2 2 to 1	Push the release button.
1 to 2 2 to 3/M 3/M to D D to N D to 3/M N to D R to N	Move the lever.

Park (P) — This position mechanically locks the transmission. Use Park whenever you are turning off or starting the engine. To shift out of Park, you must press on the brake pedal and have your foot off the accelerator pedal. Press the release button on the side of the shift lever to move it.



CONTINUED

If you have done all of the above and still cannot move the lever out of Park, see Shift Lock Release on page 126.

You must also press the release button to shift into Park. To avoid transmission damage, come to a complete stop before shifting into Park. The shift lever must be in Park before you can remove the key from the ignition switch.

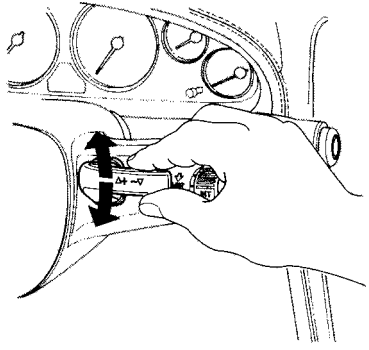
Reverse (R) — To shift to Reverse from Park, see the explanation under Park. To shift to Reverse from Neutral, come to a complete stop and then shift. Press the release button before shifting into Reverse from Neutral.

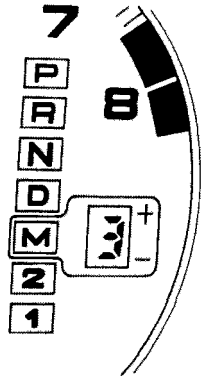
Neutral (N) — Use Neutral if you need to restart a stalled engine, or if it is necessary to stop briefly with the engine idling. Shift to Park position if you need to leave the car for any reason. Press on the brake pedal when you are moving the shift lever from Neutral to another gear.

Drive (D) — Use this position for your normal driving. The transmission automatically selects a suitable gear for your speed and acceleration. You may notice the transmission shifting up at higher speeds when the engine is cold. This helps the engine warm up faster.

Press firmly on the brake pedal when you are stopped in Drive, 3/M, 2, 1, N or Reverse. Never press on the accelerator pedal at the same time. For faster acceleration when passing, you can get the transmission to automatically downshift by pushing the accelerator pedal to the floor. The transmission will shift down to a lower gear.

Manual (3/M) — With the console shift lever in this position, you can use the manual shift lever on the right pod to shift gears; much like a manual transmission without a clutch pedal. Each time you push up on the manual shift lever, the transmission will shift up to the next higher gear. Push down on the lever to downshift. The number of the selected gear is displayed next to the "3/M" indicator.





If you move the console shift lever from "D" to "3/M" while the car is moving, the transmission automatically selects third gear. If you do this while stopped, the transmission selects first gear.

When you accelerate away from a stop, the transmission will be in first gear. If you do not manually upshift to second gear, the transmission will automatically upshift when the engine reaches redline, or when you lift your foot off the accelerator pedal. It will remain in second gear until you either upshift manually or come to a stop. You cannot manually downshift to first gear.

The transmission remains in the selected gear (4, 3, or 2). There is no automatic downshift when you push the accelerator pedal to the floor. The only time it will shift automatically is when the car comes to almost a complete stop. It will then downshift to first gear.

If you try to manually downshift at a speed that would cause the engine to exceed the redline in the lower gear, the transmission will not downshift. The gear indicator will flash the number of the gear you tried to select several times, and then display the number of the higher gear.

Second (2) — To shift to Second, press the release button on the shift lever. This position locks the transmission in second gear. It does not downshift to first gear when you come to a stop. Second gives you more power when climbing, and increased engine braking when going down steep hills. Use second gear when starting out on a slippery surface or in deep snow. It will help reduce wheelspin.

Whenever you move either shift lever to a lower gear, the transmission downshifts only if the engine's redline will not be exceeded in the lower gear.

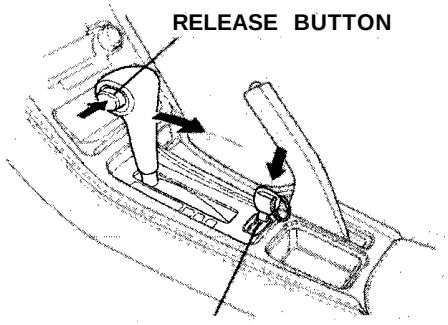
First (1) — To shift from Second to First, press the release button on the shift lever. With the lever in this position, the transmission locks in First gear.

Maximum Speeds
The speeds in this table are the maximums for the given position. If you exceed these speeds, the engine speed will enter into the tachometer's red zone. If this occurs, you may feel the engine cut in and out. This is caused by a limiter in the engine's computer controls. The engine will run normally when you reduce the RPM below the red zone.

Position		Maximum Speeds
D		Top Speed
3/M	4	Top Speed
	3	117mph(187km/h)
	2	77mph(123km/h)
2		77mph(123km/h)
1		45mph(72km/h)

Shift Lock Release
This allows you to move the shift lever out of Park if the normal method of pushing on the brake pedal and pressing the release button does not work.

1. Set the Parking brake.
2. Remove the key from the ignition switch.
3. Insert the key in the Shift Lock Release slot next to the shift lever.
4. Push down on the key while you press the release button and move the shift lever out of Park to Neutral.



5. Remove the key from the Shift Lock Release slot. Depress the brake pedal and restart the engine.

If you need to use the Shift Lock Release it could mean your car is developing a problem. Have the car checked by your Acura dealer.

Your Acura is equipped with disc brakes at all four wheels. A power assist helps reduce the effort needed on the brake pedal. The ABS helps you retain steering ability when braking hard.

Put your foot on the brake pedal only when you intend to brake. Resting your foot on the pedal keeps the brakes applied lightly, causing them to build up heat. Heat build-up can reduce how well your brakes work. It also keeps your brake lights on all the time, confusing drivers behind you.

Constant application of the brakes when going down a long hill builds up heat and reduces their effectiveness. Use the engine to assist the brakes by downshifting to a lower gear and taking your foot off the accelerator pedal.

Check your brakes after driving through deep water. Apply the brakes moderately to see if they feel normal. If not, apply them gently and frequently until they do. Since a longer distance is needed to stop with wet brakes, be extra cautious and alert in your driving.

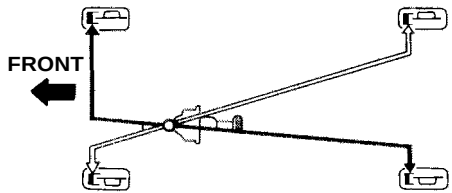
Brake Wear Indicators

All four brakes have audible brake wear indicators. When the brake pads need replacing, you will hear a distinctive metallic "screeching" sound when you apply the brakes. If you do not have the brake pads replaced, they will begin screeching all the time.

Your brakes may sometimes squeal or squeak when you use them lightly. Do not confuse this with the brake wear indicators. They make a very audible "screeching."

Brake System Design

The hydraulic system that operates the brakes has two separate circuits. Each circuit works diagonally across the car (the left-front brake is connected with the right-rear brake, etc.). If one circuit should develop a problem, you will still have braking at two wheels.



If this happens, you will immediately notice that the brake pedal goes down much farther and you need to press on it much harder. A much longer distance will be needed to stop the car.

Slow the car by downshifting to a lower gear and removing your foot from the accelerator pedal. Pull to the side of the road as soon as it is safe. Because of the longer stopping distance needed, brake system failure is very hazardous. It is best to have your car towed, but if you must drive the car in this condition, be extremely cautious. Have your car repaired as soon as possible.

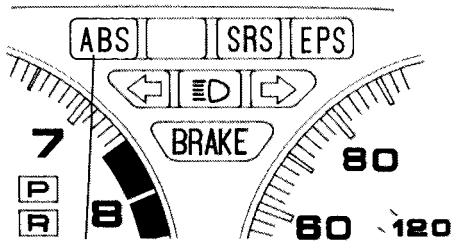
Anti-lock Brakes

Your car has an Anti-lock brake system (ABS). ABS helps you maintain steering control during hard braking. It does this by helping prevent the wheels from locking up and skidding.

The ABS is always "ON". It requires no special effort or driving technique. You will feel a pulsation in the brake pedal when the ABS activates.

Activation varies with the amount of traction your tires have. On dry pavement, you will need to press on the brake pedal very hard before you feel the pedal pulsation that means the ABS has activated. However, you may feel the ABS activate immediately if you are trying to stop on snow or ice. Under all conditions, the ABS is helping to prevent the wheels from locking so you can retain steering control. You should continue to press on the brake pedal with the same force.

You may feel a slight movement of the brake pedal just after you start the engine. This is the ABS working.



ANTI-LOCK BRAKE SYSTEM INDICATOR*

*** US indicator shown**

The ABS is self-checking. If anything goes wrong, the ABS indicator on the instrument panel comes on (see page 32). This means the Anti-lock function of the braking system has shut down. The brakes still work like a conventional system, providing normal stopping ability. You should have the dealer inspect your car as soon as possible.

A car with ABS may require a longer distance to stop on loose or uneven surfaces than an equivalent car without Anti-lock. The ABS cannot make up for road conditions or bad judgment. It is still your responsibility to drive at reasonable speeds for weather and traffic conditions, and to leave a margin of safety.

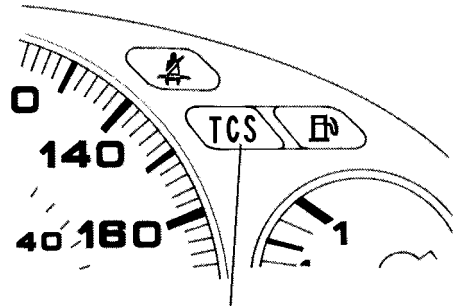
For a technical description of the ABS hardware, refer to page 230.

Traction Control System

Your Acura is equipped with a Traction Control System (TCS). TCS assists you in maintaining traction while accelerating on slippery surfaces. It does this by regulating the engine's power output when it senses either of the drive wheels starting to spin. This increases the car's traction and directional stability on loose or slippery road surfaces.

Driving with TCS requires no special skills or technique. The TCS does not affect braking, and cannot prevent skidding if you enter a corner too fast. It is still your responsibility to drive at reasonable speeds and to leave a sufficient margin of safety.

When driving on a loose or slippery road surface, you may notice that the engine does not respond to the accelerator in the same way it does at other times. This is a sign the TCS is active. You will see the TCS indicator light flash.



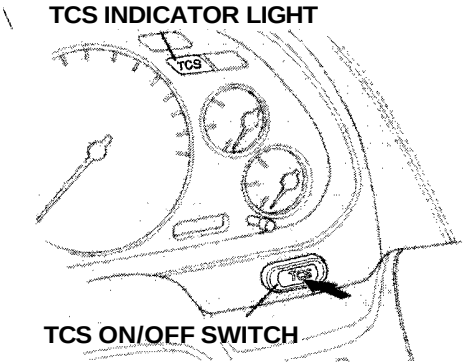
TCS INDICATOR LIGHT

You should still install winter tires on your car during the winter. Exercise the same caution in winter driving as you would if your car was not equipped with TCS.

Driving with the folding spare tire (see page 204) installed may activate the TCS. You may want to turn the system off under this condition.

Traction Control System

TCS On/Off Switch



This switch is on the dashboard behind the right control pod. It lets you turn the Traction Control System on and off. You cannot turn off the TCS while the TCS indicator light is flashing.

Deactivate the system by pressing the TCS On/Off switch. The light in the switch goes out, and the TCS indicator light comes on. Pressing the switch again turns the system back on.

The Traction Control System turns on every time you start the engine, even if you turned it off the last time you drove the car.

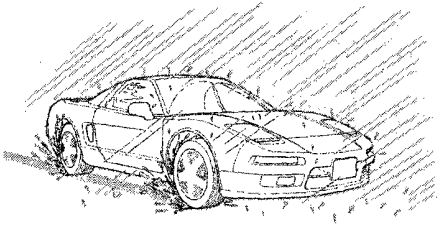
TCS Indicator

If the TCS develops a problem, the TCS indicator comes on and remains on. The TCS is automatically disabled.

If you see this, pull to the side of the road at your first opportunity and turn off the engine. Reset the system by restarting the engine, and see if the TCS indicator goes out. If it remains on, or comes back on again while driving, have the TCS inspected by your Acura dealer. You can still drive the car without TCS.

The TCS indicator light also comes on when you deactivate the TCS by pressing the TCS On/OFF switch.

While driving, the TCS indicator may occasionally come on for a few seconds and then go out. This is normal.



Rain, fog, and snow conditions require a different driving technique because of reduced traction and visibility. Keep your car well-maintained and exercise greater caution when you need to drive in bad weather. The cruise control should not be used in these conditions.

Driving Technique — Always drive slower than you would in dry weather. It takes your car longer to react, even in conditions that may seem just barely damp. Apply smooth, even pressure to all the controls. Abrupt steering wheel movements or sudden, hard application of the brakes can cause loss of control in wet weather. Be extra cautious for the first few miles (kilometers) of driving while you adjust to the change in driving conditions. This is especially true in snow. A person can forget some snow-driving techniques during the summer months. Practice is needed to relearn those skills.

Exercise extra caution when driving in rain after a long dry spell. After months of dry weather, the first rains bring oil to the surface of the roadway, making it slippery.

Visibility — Being able to see clearly in all directions, and being visible to other drivers are important in all weather conditions. This is more difficult in bad weather. To be seen more clearly during daylight hours, turn on your headlights.

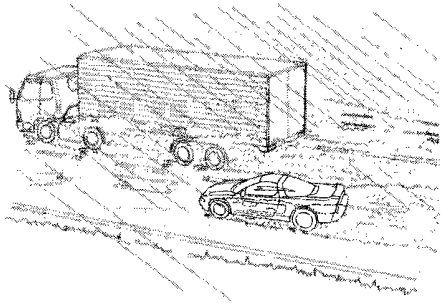
Inspect your windshield wipers and washers frequently. Keep the windshield washer reservoir full of the proper fluid. Have the windshield wiper blades replaced if they start to streak the windshield or leave parts unwiped. Use the defrosters and air conditioning to keep the windows from fogging up on the inside (see page 77).

Driving in Bad Weather, Towing a Trailer

Traction — Check your tires frequently for wear and proper pressure. Both are important in preventing "hydroplaning" (loss of traction on a wet surface). In the winter, mount snow tires on all four wheels for the best handling.

Watch road conditions carefully, they can change from moment to moment. Wet leaves can be as slippery as ice. "Clear" roads can have patches of ice. Driving conditions can be very hazardous when the outside temperature is near freezing. The road surface can become covered with areas of water puddles mixed with areas of ice, so your traction can change without warning.

Be careful when downshifting. If traction is low, you can lock up the drive wheels for a moment and cause a skid.



Be very cautious when passing, or being passed by other vehicles. The spray from large vehicles reduces your visibility, and the wind buffeting can cause you to lose control.

Towing a Trailer

Your NSX is not designed to tow a trailer. Trying to do so can void your warranties. Attempting to install a trailer hitch on your NSX can cause serious damage to its undercarriage.

This section explains why it is important to keep your car well maintained and to follow basic maintenance safety precautions.

This section also includes Maintenance Schedules for normal driving and severe drining conditions, a Maintenance Record, and instructions for simple maintenance tasks you may want to take care of yourself.

If you have the skills and tools required to perform more complex maintenance tasks on your Acura, you may want to purchase the Service Manual. See page 245 for information on how to obtain a copy, or see your Acura dealer.

Maintenance Safety

Regularly maintaining your car is the best way to protect your investment. Proper maintenance is essential to your safety and the safety of your passengers. It will also reward you with more economical, trouble-free driving and help reduce air pollution.

⚠ WARNING

Improperly maintaining this car or failing to correct a problem before driving can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Always follow the inspection and maintenance recommendations and schedules in this owner's manual.

This section includes instructions for simple maintenance tasks, such as checking and adding oil. Any service items not detailed in this section should be performed by an Acura technician or other qualified mechanic.

Some of the most important safely precautions are given in the next page. However, we cannot warn you of every conceivable hazard that can arise in performing maintenance. Only you can decide whether or not you should perform a given task.

⚠ WARNING

Failure to properly follow maintenance instructions and precautions can cause you to be seriously hurt or killed.

Always follow the procedures and precautions in this owner's manual.

Important Safety Precautions
Before you begin any maintenance, make sure your car is parked on level ground and that the parking brake is on. Also, be sure the engine is off. This will help to eliminate several potential hazards:

- **Carbon monoxide poisoning from engine exhaust.** Be sure there is adequate ventilation whenever you operate the engine.
- **Burns from hot parts.** Let the engine and exhaust system cool before touching any parts.
- **Injury from moving parts.** Do not run the engine unless instructed to do so.

Read the instructions before you begin, and make sure you have the tools and skills required.

To reduce the possibility of fire or explosion, be careful when working around gasoline or batteries. Use a nonflammable solvent, not gasoline, to clean parts. Keep cigarettes, sparks, and flames away from the battery and all fuel-related parts.

You should wear eye protection and protective clothing when working near the battery or when using compressed air.

Maintenance Schedule

The Maintenance Schedule specifies how often you should have your car serviced and what things need attention. It is essential that you have your car serviced as scheduled to retain its high level of safety, dependability, and emission control performance.

The services and time or distance intervals shown in the maintenance schedule assume you will use your car as normal transportation for passengers and their possessions. You should:

- Avoid exceeding your car's load limit. This puts excess stress on the engine, brakes, and many other parts of your car. The load limit is shown on the label on the driver's doorjamb.
- Operate your car on reasonable roads within the legal speed limit.
- Drive your car regularly over a distance of several kilometres (miles).
- Always use unleaded gasoline with the proper octane (see page 105).

Which Schedule to Follow:
Service your car according to the time and mileage periods on one of the Maintenance Schedules on pages 138 and 139. Select the schedule for "Severe Conditions" if most of your driving is done under one or more of the conditions listed on that page. Otherwise, follow the schedule for "Normal Conditions."

Your authorized Acura dealer knows your car best, and can provide competent, efficient service. However, service at a dealer is not mandatory to keep your warranties in effect. Maintenance may be done by any qualified service facility or person who is skilled in this type of automotive service. Keep all the receipts as proof of completion, and have the person who does the work fill out the Maintenance Record. Check your warranty booklet for more information.

We recommend the use of Genuine Acura parts and fluids whenever you have maintenance done. These are manufactured to the same high-quality standards as the original components, so you can be confident of their performance and durability.

U.S. Cars:
Maintenance, replacement or repair of emission control devices and systems may be done by any automotive repair establishment or individual using parts that are "certified" to EPA standards.

According to state and federal regulations, failure to perform maintenance on the items marked with an asterisk (*) will not void your emissions warranties. However, Acura recommends that all maintenance services be performed at the recommended time or mileage period to ensure long-term reliability.

Maintenance Schedule (Normal Conditions)

Service at the indicated distance or time – whichever comes first.								
	km × 1,000	24	48	72	96	120	144	168
	miles × 1,000	15	30	45	60	75	90	105
	months	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
Replace engine oil and oil filter		Replace every 12,000 km (7,500 miles) or 6 months						
Check engine oil and coolant		Check oil and coolant at each fuel stop						
Replace air cleaner element			●		●		●	
Inspect valve clearance			●		●		●	
Replace spark plugs		Replace every 96,000 km (60,000 miles) or 72 months						
Replace timing belt* and inspect water pump							●	
Inspect and adjust drive belts			●		●		●	
Replace fuel filter*					●			
Inspect idle speed*					●			
Inspect PCV valve					●			
Replace engine coolant				●		●		●
Replace transmission fluid			●		●		●	
Inspect front and rear brakes		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Replace brake fluid (including ABS)			●		●		●	
Replace ABS high pressure hose					●			
Check parking brake adjustment		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Check tire inflation and condition		At least once per month						
Visually inspect the following items:								
Brake hoses and lines								
All fluid levels								
Tie rod ends, steering gear box, and boots								
Suspension components		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Driveshaft boots								
Cooling system hoses and connections								
Exhaust system*								
Fuel pipes, hoses, and connections*								
Inspect supplemental restraint system		10 years after production						

Follow the Normal Maintenance Schedule if the severe driving conditions specified in the Severe Conditions Maintenance Schedule on the next page do not apply.

For Canadian Owners:
This Maintenance Schedule outlines the *minimum* required maintenance that you should perform to ensure the trouble-free operation of your vehicle. Due to regional and climatic differences, some additional servicing may be required.

Please consult your warranty handbook for a more detailed description.

Maintenance Schedule (Severe Conditions)

Service at the indicated distance or time – whichever comes first.	km × 1,000	24	48	72	96	120	144	168
	miles × 1,000	15	30	45	60	75	90	105
	months	12	24	36	48	60	72	84
Replace engine oil and oil filter		Replace every 6,000 km (3,750 miles) or 3 months						
Check engine oil and coolant		Check oil and coolant at each fuel stop						
Replace air cleaner element			●		●		●	
Clean air cleaner element		Clean every 12,000 km (7,500 miles) or 6 months						
Inspect valve clearance			●		●		●	
Replace spark plugs		Replace every 96,000 km (60,000 miles) or 72 months						
Replace timing belt* and inspect water pump		Replace every 96,000 km (60,000 miles)						
Inspect and adjust drive belts			●		●		●	
Replace fuel filter*					●			
Inspect idle speed*					●			
Inspect PCV valve					●			
Replace engine coolant				●		●		●
Replace transmission fluid		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Inspect front and rear brakes		Inspect every 12,000 km (7,500 miles) or 6 months						
Replace brake fluid (including ABS)			●		●		●	
Replace ABS high pressure hose					●			
Check parking brake adjustment		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Check tire inflation and condition		At least once per month						
Visually inspect the following items:								
Tie rod ends, steering gear box, and boots Suspension components Driveshaft boots		Every 12,000 km (7,500 miles) or 6 months						
Brake hoses and lines All fluid levels Cooling system hoses and connections Exhaust system* Fuel pipes, hoses, and connections*		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Inspect supplemental restraint system		10 years after production						

Follow the Severe Maintenance Schedule if you drive your vehicle *MAINLY under* one or more of the following conditions:

- Driving less than 8 km (5 miles) per trip or, in freezing temperatures, driving less than 16 km (10 miles) per trip.
- Driving in extremely hot [over 90°F (32°C)] conditions.
- Extensive idling or long periods of stop-and-go driving.
- Driving in mountainous conditions.
- Driving on muddy, dusty, or de-iced roads.

NOTE: If you only *OCCASIONALLY drive* under a "severe" condition, you should follow the Normal Conditions Maintenance Schedule on the previous page.

Required Maintenance Record

Have your servicing dealer record all Required Maintenance below. Keep receipts for all work done on your car.

12,000 km 7,500 Mi. (or 6 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
24,000 km. 15,000 Mi. (or 12 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
36,000 km. 22,500 Mi. (or 18 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
48,000 km. 30,000 Mi. (or 24 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
60,000 km. 37,500 Mi. (or 30 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
72,000 km. 45,000 Mi. (or 36 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
84,000 km. 52,500 Mi. (or 42 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date

96,000 km. 60,000 Mi. (or 48 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
108,000 km. 67,500 Mi. (or 54 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
120,000 km. 75,000 Mi. (or 60 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
132,000 km. 82,500 Mi. (or 66 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
144,000 km. 90,000 Mi. (or 72 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
156,000 km. 97,500 Mi. (or 78 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
168,000 km. 105,000 Mi. (or 84 Mo.)	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date

Non-Scheduled Maintenance Record

Record additional maintenance for severe driving conditions or non-scheduled maintenance on this page (see page 139).

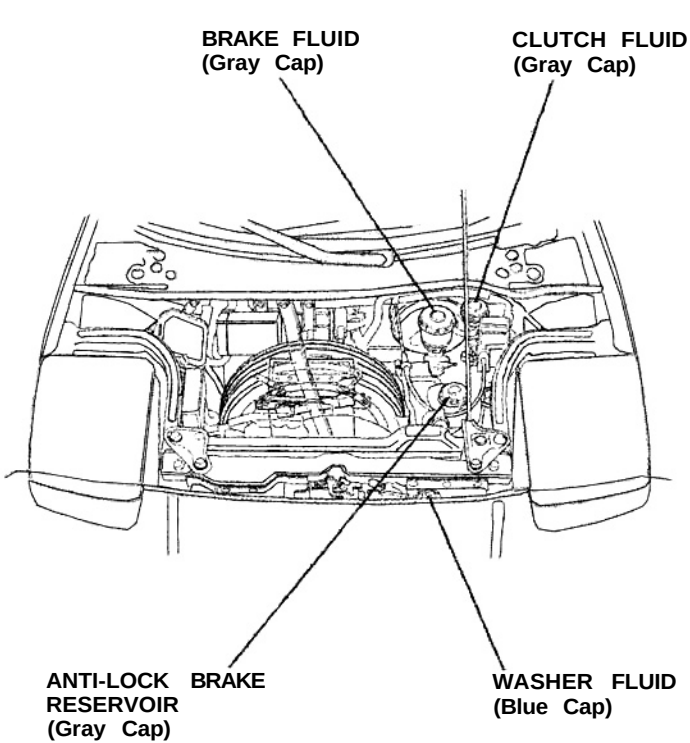
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date

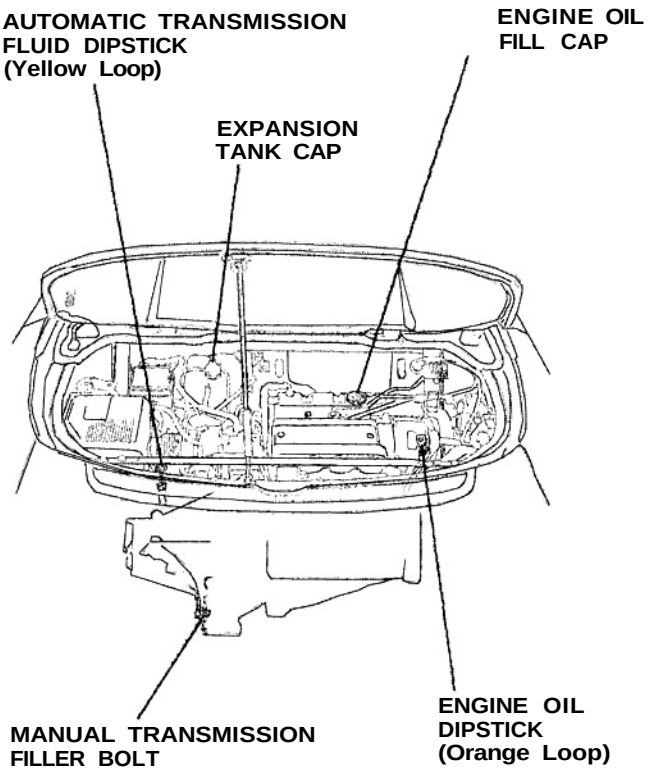
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date
Maintenance Performed:	(Sign or Stamp)	km (Mi.) Date

Periodic Checks

You should check the following items at the specified intervals. If you are unsure of how to perform any check, turn to the page given.

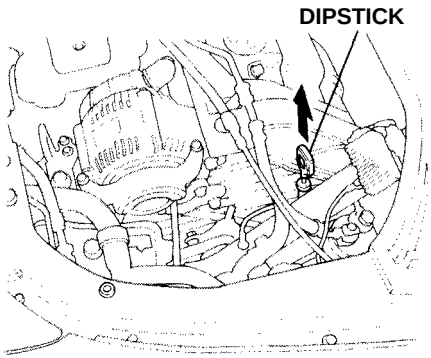
- Engine oil level - Check every time you fill the fuel tank. See page 144.
- Engine coolant level - Check the expansion tank every time you fill the fuel tank. See page 148.
- Windshield washer fluid - Check the level in the reservoir monthly. If weather conditions cause you to use the washers frequently, check the reservoir each time you stop for fuel. See page 154.
- Automatic transmission - Check the fluid level monthly. See page 155.
- Brakes and clutch - Check the fluid level monthly. See page 157.
- Tires - Check the tire pressure monthly. Examine the tread for wear and foreign objects. See page 172.
- Battery - Check its condition and the terminals for corrosion monthly. See page 164.
- Air conditioning - Check its operation weekly. See page 169.
- Lights - Check the operation of the headlights, parking lights, taillights, turn signals, brake lights, and license plate lights monthly. See page 175.


BRAKE FLUID
(Gray Cap)
CLUTCH FLUID
(Gray Cap)
ANTI-LOCK BRAKE
RESERVOIR
(Gray Cap)
WASHER FLUID
(Blue Cap)


AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
FLUID DIPSTICK
(Yellow Loop)
ENGINE OIL
FILL CAP
EXPANSION
TANK CAP
MANUAL TRANSMISSION
FILLER BOLT
ENGINE OIL
DIPSTICK
(Orange Loop)

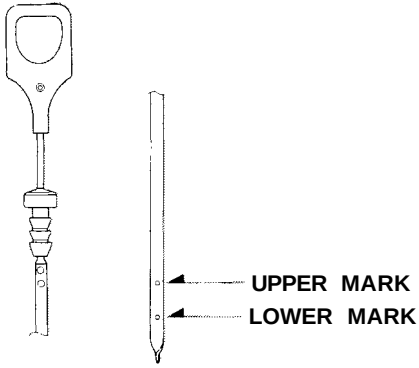
Engine Oil

Checking Engine Oil



Check the engine oil a couple of minutes after shutting off the engine. Make sure the car is parked on level ground. This will allow the oil to drain down into the bottom of the engine.

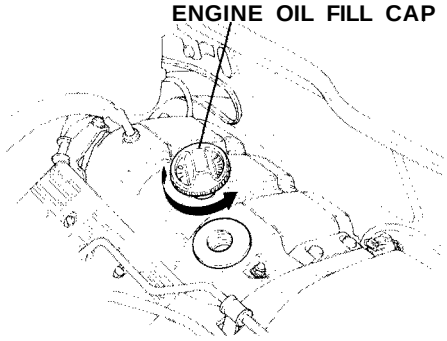
1. Pull out the dipstick (orange loop) and wipe it with a cloth or paper towel.



2. Insert it all the way back in its tube.

3. Pull it out again and look at the oil level at the end of the dipstick. If it is between the upper and lower marks, the level is correct. Add oil if the level is at or below the lower mark.

Adding



To add oil, unscrew and remove the engine oil fill cap on top of the valve cover. Pour in the oil, and replace the engine oil fill cap. Tighten it securely. Wait a few minutes and recheck the oil level. Do not fill above the upper mark; you could damage the engine.

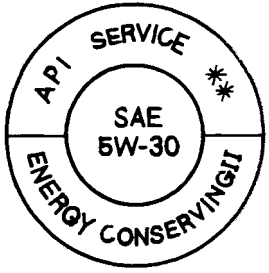
Recommended Oil

Oil is a major contributor to your engine's performance and longevity. Always use a premium-grade detergent oil.

You can determine an oil's SAE viscosity and Service Classification from the API Service label on the oil container.

A fuel-efficient oil is recommended for your Acura. This is shown on the API Service label by the words "Energy Conserving II." This oil is formulated to help your engine use less fuel.

The API Service label also tells you the service classification of the oil. Always use an oil that says "API Service SG or SH." This service rating may also include other designations, such as CD. These additional classifications are not a problem, as long as the label also carries the SG or SH classification. An oil that is only classified SF is not recommended.



API SERVICE LABEL

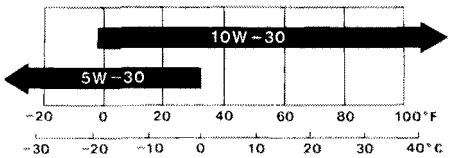
**SG or SH

The oil container may also display the API Certification mark shown below. Make sure it says "For Gasoline Engines."

API CERTIFICATION MARK

Engine Oil

The SAE numbers tell you the oil's viscosity or weight. Select the oil for your car according to this chart.



Ambient Temperature

An oil with a viscosity of 10W-30 is preferred for improved fuel economy and year-round protection in your Acura. You may use a 5W-30 oil if the temperature in your area never gets above freezing (0° C/32° F).

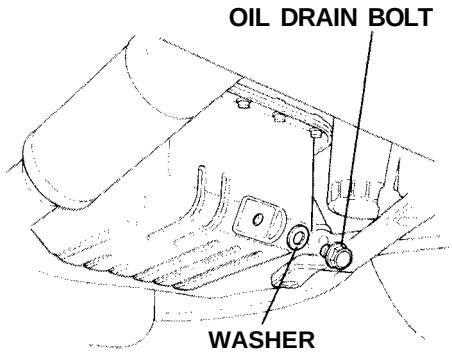
Additives

Your Acura does not need any oil additives. Purchasing additives for the engine or transmission will not increase your car's performance or longevity. It only increases the cost of operating your car.

Oil and Filter Changes

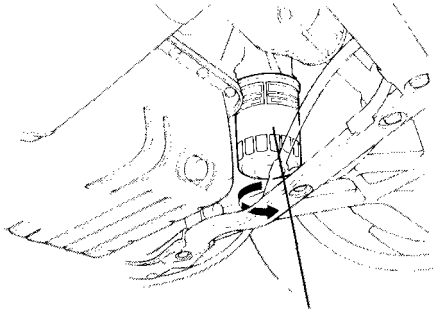
Always change the oil and filter according to the time and distance recommendations in the maintenance schedule. The oil and filter collect contaminants that can damage your engine if they are not removed regularly.

Changing the oil and filter requires special tools and access from underneath the car. The car should be raised on a service station-type hydraulic lift for this service. Unless you have the knowledge and proper equipment, you should have this maintenance done by a skilled mechanic.



1. Run the engine until it reaches normal operating temperature, then shut if off.

2. Remove the engine oil fill cap. Remove the oil drain bolt from the bottom of the engine. Drain the oil into an appropriate container.



3. Remove the oil filter and let the remaining oil drain. A special wrench (available from your Acura dealer) is required to remove the filter.

4. Install a new oil filter according to instructions that come with it.

5. Put a new washer on the drain bolt, then reinstall the drain bolt. Tighten it to:
   46 N·m (4.6 Kg-m, 33 lb-ft)

6. Refill the engine with the recommended oil.
   Engine oil change capacity (including filter):
   5.0 ℓ (5.3 US qt, 4.4 Imp qt)

7. Replace the engine oil fill cap. Start the engine. The oil pressure indicator should go out within five seconds and the gauge should register normal oil pressure. If it does not, turn off the engine and reinspect your work.

8. Let the engine run for several minutes and check the drain bolt and oil filter for leaks.

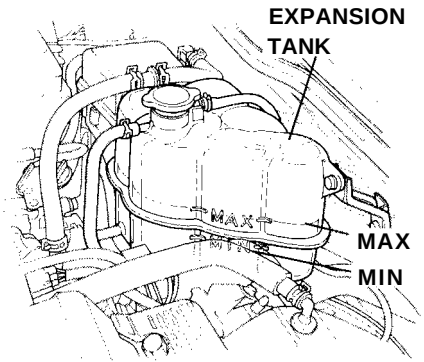
9. Turn off the engine, let it sit for several minutes, then check the oil level. If necessary, add oil to bring the level to the upper mark on the dipstick.

NOTICE

If you change your own oil, please dispose of the used oil properly. Put it in a sealed container and take it to a recycling center. Do not discard it in a trash bin or dump it on the ground.

The oil and filter should be changed every 6 months or 12,000 km (7,500 miles), whichever comes first. Under severe driving conditions, they should be changed every 3 months or 6,000 km (3,750 miles). See page 139 for a description of severe driving conditions.

Checking the Engine Coolant Level



Check the level of the engine coolant by looking at the expansion tank mounted above the engine. If the level is at or below the MIN line, add coolant to bring it up to the MAX line. This coolant should always be a mixture of 50% antifreeze and 50% water. Never add straight antifreeze or plain water.

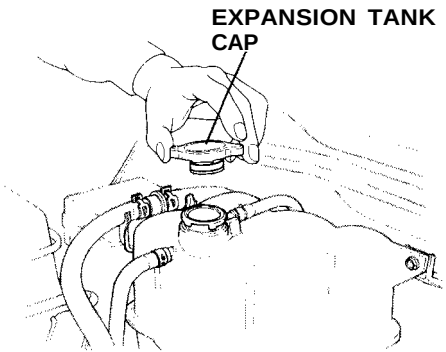
Always use Genuine Honda Antifreeze/Coolant. The cooling system contains many aluminum components which can corrode if an improper antifreeze is used. Some antifreezes, even though labeled as safe for aluminum parts, may not provide adequate protection.

⚠ WARNING

Removing the expansion tank cap while the engine is hot can cause the coolant to spray out, seriously scalding you.

Always let the engine and radiator cool down before removing the expansion tank cap.

Adding Engine Coolant



Loosen the expansion tank cap by turning it counterclockwise, without pushing it down, until it stops. This will relieve any remaining pressure in the cooling system. Then remove the cap by pushing down and turning. Fill the expansion tank with coolant to the MAX line and put the cap back on.

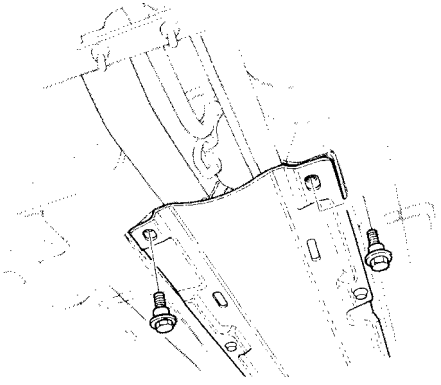
Do not add any rust inhibitors or other additives to your car's cooling system. They may not be compatible with the coolant or engine components.

Replacing Engine Coolant

The cooling system should be completely drained and refilled with new coolant according to the time and distance recommendations in the maintenance schedule. Only use recommended antifreeze.

Replacing the coolant requires special tools and access from underneath the car. Unless you have the tools and knowledge, you should have this maintenance done by a skilled mechanic.

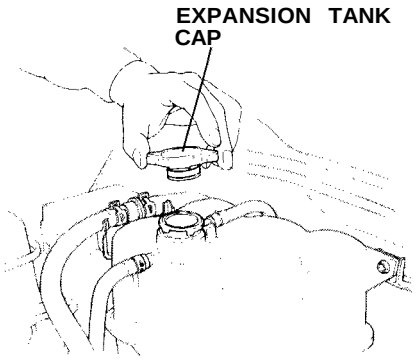
Before replacing the coolant, turn the ignition ON (II), slowly turn the climate control temperature dial to 90° F (32° C) and turn off the ignition. This will allow the coolant in the heater to drain out with the rest of the system.



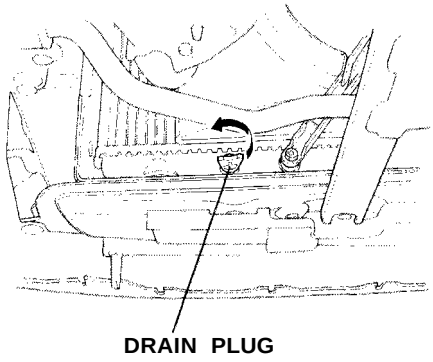
To replace the coolant:

1. Open the hood, the rear window, and engine cover.
2. Remove the cover protecting the coolant pipes and shift linkage on the underside of the car.

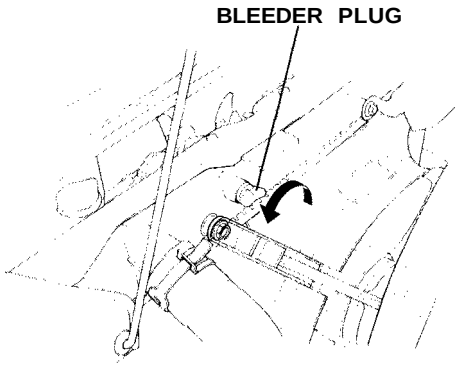
CONTINUED



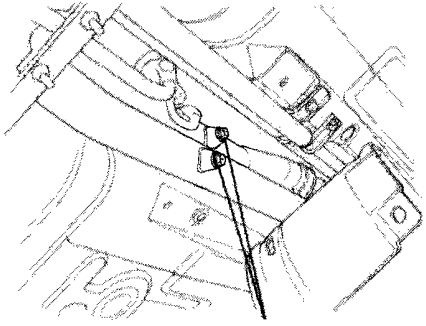
3. With the engine and radiator cool to the touch, remove the expansion tank cap.



4. Remove the drain plug from the bottom of the radiator.

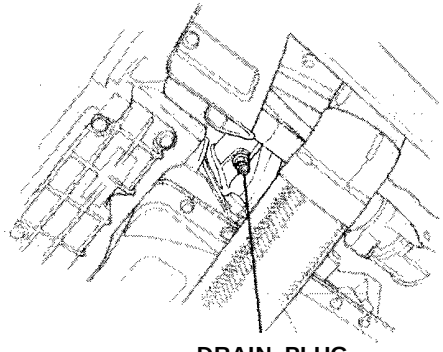


5. Loosen the bleeder plug on top of the radiator.

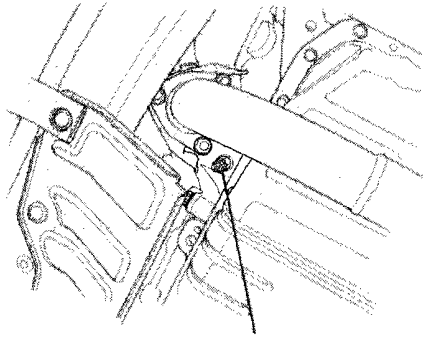


DRAIN PLUGS

6. Remove the drain plugs from the coolant pipes under the car.



DRAIN PLUG



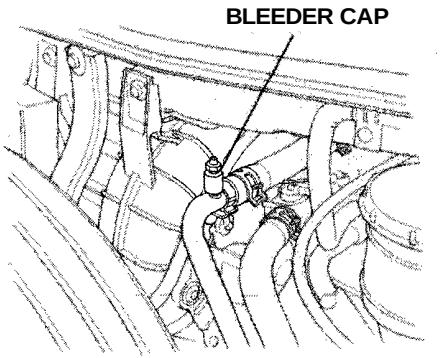
DRAIN PLUG

7. Loosen the drain plugs on the engine.

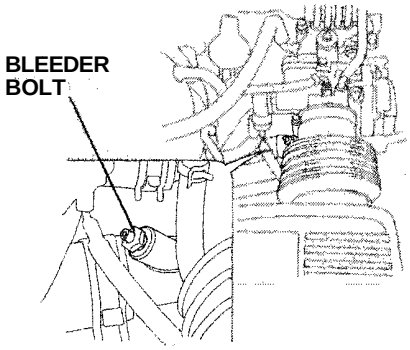
8. When the coolant stops draining, tighten the engine drain plugs, reinstall the plugs in the coolant pipes, and reinstall the radiator drain plug.

9. Mix the recommended antifreeze with an equal amount of purified or distilled water in a clean container.
   The cooling system capacity is: 12.0 ℓ (12.7 US qt, 10.6 Imp qt)

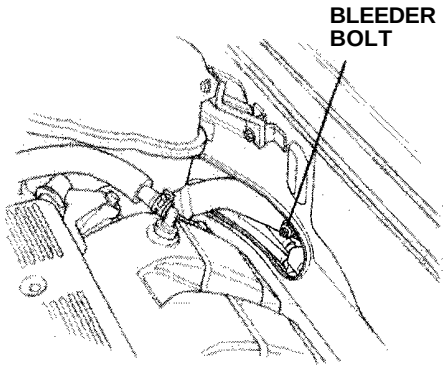
CONTINUED



10. Remove the bleeder cap from the top of the heater inlet.

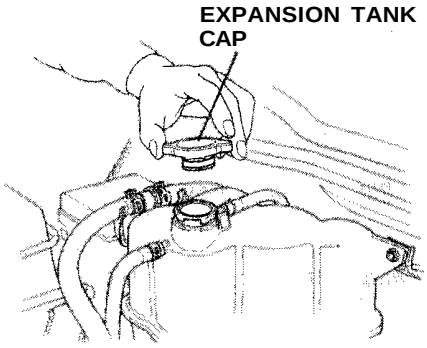


11. Loosen the bleeder bolt on top of the engine.



12. Loosen the bleeder bolt near the expansion tank.

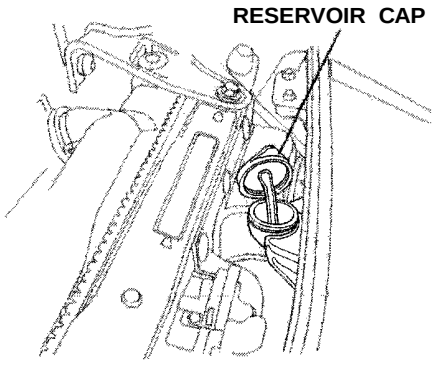
13. Pour coolant into the expansion tank. Coolant will go through the tank into the system. When the tank is full, go to each of the four bleeders. Close each bleeder when coolant comes out of it in a steady stream with no bubbles. You may need to refill the expansion tank.



14. Fill the expansion tank to about 1 inch above the MAX line. Put the cap back on the tank, only tighten it to the first stop. Start the engine and let it run until it warms up (the radiator cooling fan comes on at least twice).
15. Turn off the engine. Check the expansion tank and, if needed, add coolant to bring it up to the MAX line. Tighten the expansion tank cap. Reinstall the cover on the car's underside.

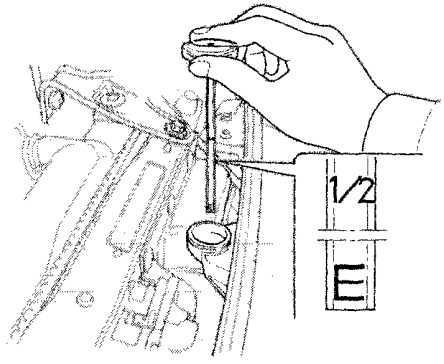
The first coolant replacement should be done at 36 months or 72,000 km (45,000 miles) by your dealer. After that, it should be replaced every 2 years or 48,000 km (30,000 miles).

Windshield Washers



Check the level in the windshield washer reservoir at least monthly during normal usage. In bad weather, when you use the washers often, check the level every time you stop for fuel.

The windshield washer reservoir is located in the front compartment in front of the radiator.



Check the windshield washer fluid level as follows:

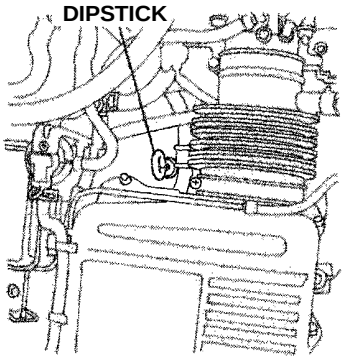
1. Unfasten the reservoir cap.
2. Cover the small hole on the cap with your finger and pull up until the tube is fully exposed.
3. Read the fluid level on the tube. If the fluid level is near the "E" mark, fill the reservoir with windshield washer fluid up to the brim.

Use a good-quality windshield washer fluid. This increases the cleaning capability and prevents freezing in cold weather.

NOTICE

Do not use engine antifreeze or a vinegar/water solution in the windshield washer reservoir. Antifreeze can damage your car's paint, while a vinegar/water solution can damage the windshield washer pump. Use only commercially-available windshield washer fluid.

Automatic Transmission

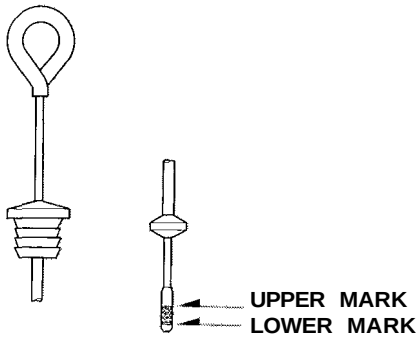


Check the fluid level with the engine at normal operating temperature.

1. Park the car on level ground. Shut off the engine.

2. Remove the dipstick (yellow loop) from the transmission and wipe it with a clean cloth.

3. Insert the dipstick all the way into its tube and pull it out again.



4. Check the fluid level. It should be between the upper and lower marks.

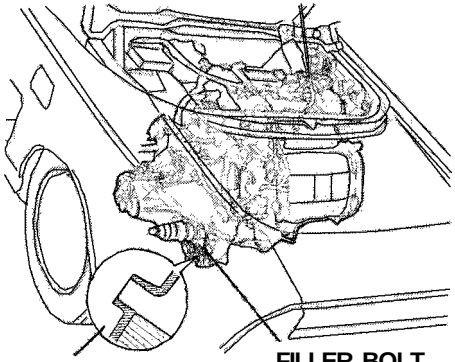
5. If the level is below the lower mark, add fluid to bring it to the upper mark. Use Honda Premium Formula Automatic Transmission Fluid or an equivalent DEXRON II Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF) only.

6. Insert the dipstick all the way back into its tube.

The transmission should be drained and refilled with new fluid every 24 months or 48,000 km (30,000 miles), whichever comes first. Shorten this to every 12 months or 24,000 km (15,000 miles) under severe driving conditions (see page 139).

Transmission Oil

5-Speed Manual Transmission



Check the oil level a couple of minutes after shutting off the engine. Make sure the car is on level ground. Remove the transmission filler bolt (located next to the left axle). The oil level should be up to the edge of the bolt hole. Feel inside the bolt hole with your finger. If you do not feel any oil, slowly add oil until it starts to run out of the hole. Reinstall the filler bolt and tighten it securely.

Only use an API service SF or SG grade motor oil, with a viscosity of SAE 10W-30 or 10W-40.

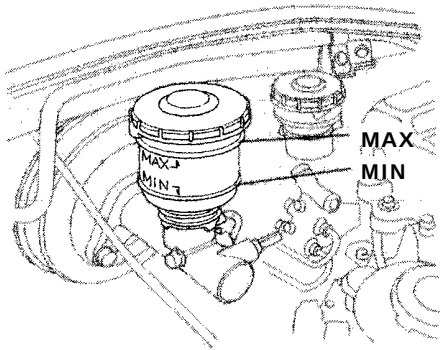
The transmission should be drained and refilled with new oil every 24 months or 48,000 km (30,000 miles), whichever comes first. Shorten the service interval to every 12 months or 24,000 km (15,000 miles) under severe driving conditions (see page 139).

Check the fluid level in the reservoirs monthly. There are three reservoirs. They are:

- Brake fluid reservoir
- Clutch fluid reservoir (manual transmission only)
- Anti-lock brake system (ABS) reservoir

The brake fluid in the brake and Anti-lock brake systems should be replaced every 2 years or 48,000 km (30,000 miles), whichever comes first.

Brake System

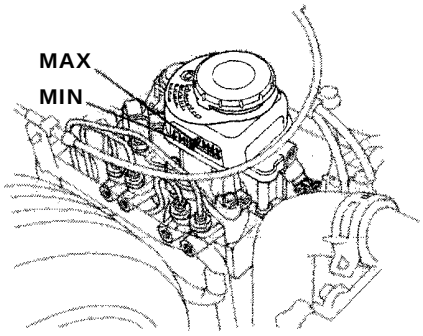


The fluid should be between the MIN and MAX marks on the side of the reservoir. If the level is at or below the MIN mark, it is an indication that your brake system needs attention. Have the brake system inspected for leaks or worn brake pads.

If you add brake fluid to bring it up to the MAX mark, use Genuine Honda Brake Fluid or an equivalent from a sealed container that is marked DOT3 or DOT4 only. Brake fluid marked DOT 5 is not compatible with your car's braking system.

Brake and Clutch Fluid

Anti-lock Brake System

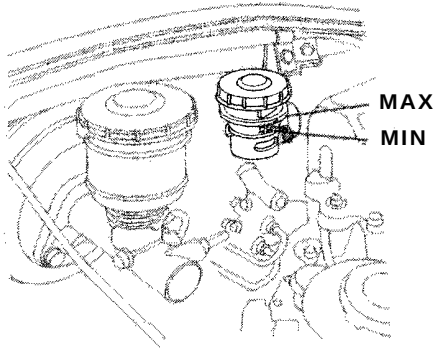


Check the fluid level in this reservoir after driving the car for at least a few minutes. It should be between the MIN and MAX marks on the side of the reservoir. If it is at or below the MIN mark, it may indicate a problem in the braking system. Have the dealer inspect your car.

If the fluid level is half an inch or more above the MAX mark, it may indicate a problem in the ABS. Have your dealer inspect the system as soon as possible.

If you add brake fluid to bring it up to the MAX mark, use the same DOT3 or DOT4 brake fluid specified for the brake system.

Clutch System

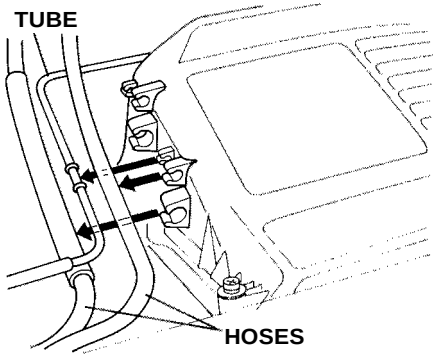


The fluid should be between the MIN and MAX marks on the side of the reservoir. If it is not, add brake fluid to bring it up to that level. Use the same DOTS or DOT4 brake fluid specified for the brake system.

Low fluid level can indicate a leak in the clutch system. Have this system inspected as soon as possible.

The air cleaner element should be replaced every 2 years or 48,000 km (30,000 miles), whichever comes first. Under severe driving conditions, it should also be cleaned every 6 months or 12,000 km (7,500 miles), whichever comes first (see the next page).

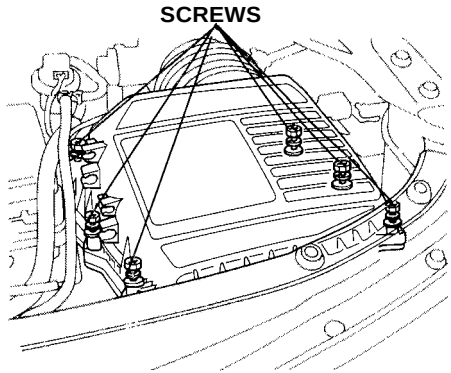
Replacement



The air cleaner element is inside the box on the driver's side of the engine compartment. To replace it:

1. Loosen the hose clamp around the engine air intake tube. Slide the tube off the air cleaner housing cover.

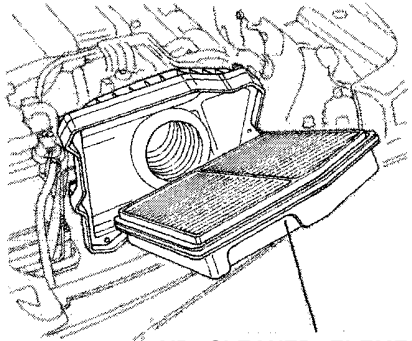
2. Carefully unsnap the two hoses from their clips on the air cleaner housing cover.



3. Loosen the six Phillips-head screws around the edge of the air cleaner housing cover. Remove the air cleaner housing cover and set it aside.

CONTINUED

Air Cleaner Element



AIR CLEANER ELEMENT

4. Remove the old air cleaner element. Clean the inside of the air cleaner element housing with a clamp cloth.

5. Install the new air cleaner element, making sure the rubber seal fits on all four sides.

6. Reinstall the air cleaner housing cover. Tighten the six screws.

7. Slide the air intake tube onto the air cleaner housing cover. Tighten the hose clamp.

8. Snap the two hoses back into their clips on the air cleaner housing cover.

Cleaning (Severe Conditions)
Follow the replacement procedure for removal and reinstallation.

Clean the air cleaner element by blowing compressed air through the side that faces up as installed in the car. If you do not have access to compressed air (such as a fuel station), ask your Acura dealer to do this service.

Fuel Filter

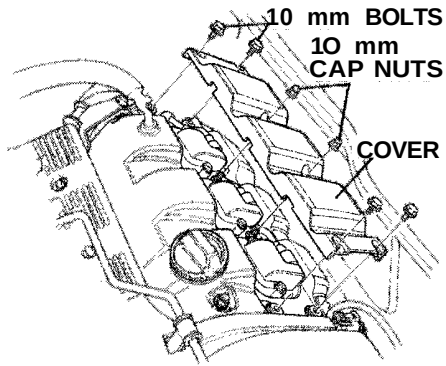
The fuel filter should be replaced every 4 years or 96,000 km (60,000 miles), whichever comes first. Have a qualified technician change the fuel filter. Since the fuel system is under pressure, gasoline can spray out and create a hazard if all fuel line connections are not handled correctly.

The filter may require replacement sooner if you happen to buy one or more tankfuls of contaminated gasoline. Have the filter tested or replaced if you suspect it has been clogged by contaminants.

Spark Plugs

The original spark plugs in your car are a special platinum-tipped design for longer life. They only need to be replaced every 6 years or 96,000 km (60,000 miles), whichever comes first.

Replacement

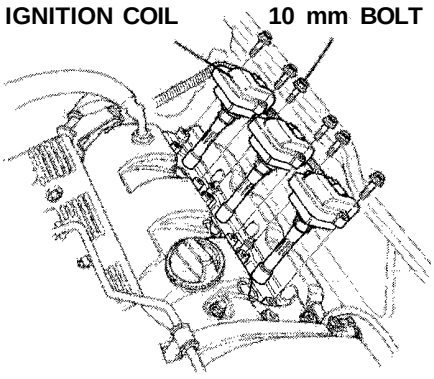


Replace the spark plugs one side at a time. Make sure the front cylinder ignition coils and the back side of the cover are marked "FR," and the rear cylinder ignition coils and the back side of the cover are marked "RR". To replace the spark plugs:

1. Remove the cover over the spark plugs by removing the four 10 mm bolts and the two 10 mm cap nuts.

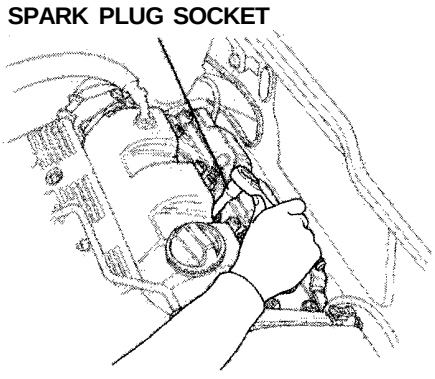
CONTINUED

Spark Plugs

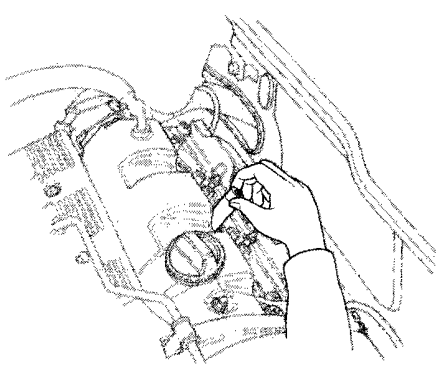


2. Disconnect the three ignition coils from the wire harness by squeezing the harness end of each connector and pulling.

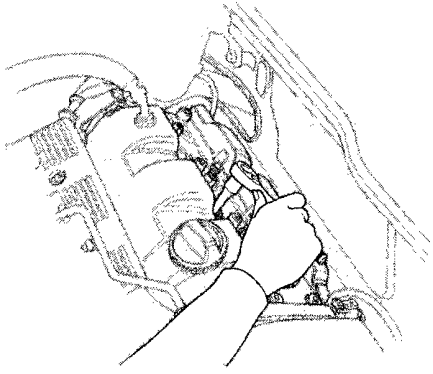
3. Remove the two 10 mm bolts holding the ignition coil. Remove the ignition coil by pulling it straight out as you twist it slightly.



4. Use a 16 mm (5/8 in.) spark plug socket, with a 6 in. extension, to remove the spark plug.



5. Put the new spark plug into the socket, then thread it into the hole. Screw it in by hand so you do not crossthread it.



6. Torque the spark plug. (If you do not have a torque wrench, tighten the spark plug 2/3 turn after it contacts the cylinder head.)
   Tightening torque:
   18 N·m (1.8 kg-m, 131b-ft).

NOTICE

Tighten the spark plugs carefully. A spark plug that is too loose can overheat and damage the engine. Overtightening can cause damage to the threads in the cylinder head.

7. Install the ignition coil. Install and tighten the two holddown bolts to:
   Tightening torque:
   12 N·m (1.2 kg-m, 8.7 lb-ft).

8. Reconnect the ignition coil to the wire harness.

9. After changing the three spark plugs on each side, reinstall the spark plug covers, bolts and nuts.

   Tighten the bolts and nuts.
   Tightening torque:
   12 N·m (1.2 kg-m, 8.7 lb-ft).

Specifications:

NGK:	PFR6N-11
Nippondenso:	PK20PR-L11

Spark Plug Gap:
1.1 mm (0.04 in) $^{+0}_{-0.1\ mm}$

Battery

Check the condition of your car's battery monthly. You should check for proper electrolyte level and corrosion on the terminals. The battery is located in the front compartment behind the folding spare tire.

⚠ WARNING

The battery contains sulfuric acid (electrolyte) which is highly corrosive and poisonous.

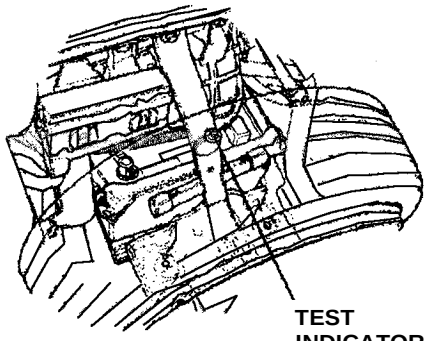
Getting electrolyte in your eyes or on your skin can cause serious burns. Wear protective clothing and eye protection when working near the battery.

Emergency Procedures

Eyes — Flush with water from a cup or other container for at least fifteen minutes. (Water under pressure can damage the eye.)
Immediately call a physician or 911.

Skin — Remove contaminated clothing. Flush the skin with large quantities of water. Call a physician immediately.

Swallowing — Drink water or milk. Call your local Poison Control Center or a physician immediately.



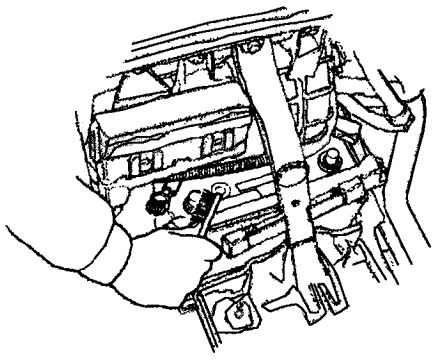
The electrolyte level should be between the two lines on the side of the battery. Low electrolyte level can be an indication of a problem with your car's charging system. Take the car to your dealer for service.

Check the battery condition by looking at the test indicator window on the battery:

Blue-Good condition
Red-Add distilled water
White-Charging necessary

If the indicator is red or white, remove the battery from its mount.

Check the battery terminals for corrosion (a white or yellowish powder). To remove it, cover the terminals with a solution of baking soda and water. It will bubble up and turn brown. When this stops, wash it off with plain water. Dry off the battery with a cloth or paper towel. Coat the terminals with grease to help prevent future corrosion.



If the terminals are severely corroded, clean them with baking soda and water. Then use a wrench to loosen and remove the cables from the terminals. Always disconnect the negative (—) cable first and reconnect it last. Clean the battery terminals with a terminal cleaning tool or wire brush. Reconnect and tighten the cables, then coat the terminals with grease.

CONTINUED

Battery

If you need to charge the battery after storing the car, make sure you do it outside the car. Do not connect a battery charger to the jump start terminal in the engine compartment fuse box.

Disconnect the terminals to prevent damage to the car's electrical system, and remove the battery from the front compartment so hydrogen gas does not build up during charging. You need to remove the spare tire holder before removing the battery.

⚠ WARNING

The battery gives off explosive hydrogen gas during normal operation

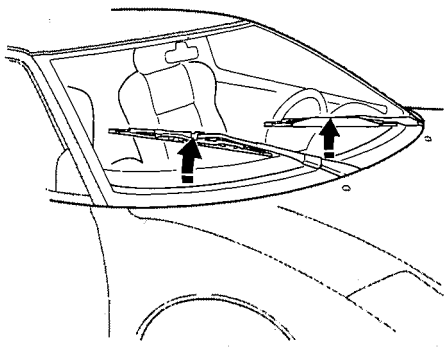
A spark or flame can cause the battery to explode with enough force to kill or seriously hurt you.

Wear protective clothing and a face shield, or have a skilled mechanic do the battery maintenance.

NOTICE

Charging the battery with the cables connected can seriously damage, your car's electronic controls.
Detach the battery cables before connecting the battery to a charger.

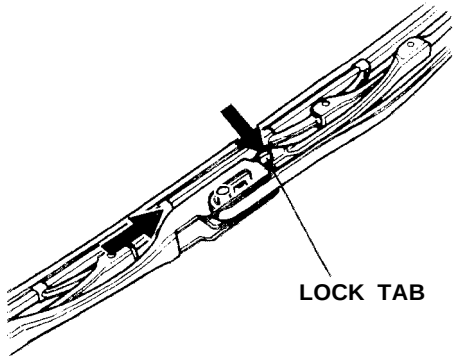
Check the condition of the windshield wiper blades at least every six months. Look for signs of cracking in the rubber, or areas that are getting hard. Replace the blades if you find these signs, or they leave streaks and unwiped areas when used.



To replace:

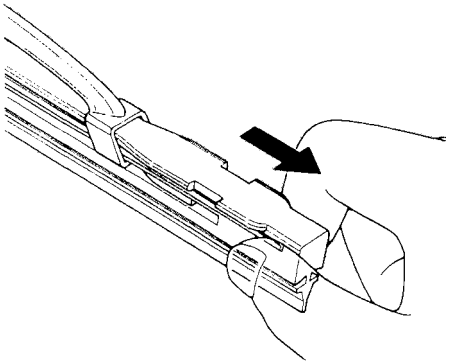
1. Turn the ignition switch ON (II). Turn on the windshield wipers. Turn off the ignition switch to stop the wipers about a foot above their park position.

2. Lift the wiper off the windshield.

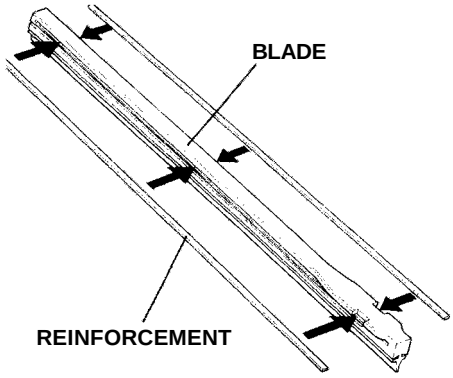


3. Disconnect the blade assembly from the wiper arm by pushing in the lock tab. Hold it in while you push the blade assembly toward the base of the arm. Gently lower the wiper arm against the windshield.

CONTINUED



4. Remove the blade from its holder by grasping the tabbed end of the blade. Pull firmly until the tabs come out of the holder.



5. Examine the new wiper blades. If they have no plastic or metal reinforcement along the back edge, remove the metal reinforcement strips from the old wiper blade and install them in the slots along the edge of the new blade.

6. Slide the new wiper blade into the holder until the tabs lock.

7. Slide the blade assembly onto the wiper arm. Make sure it locks in place.

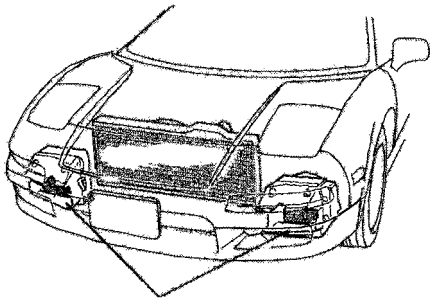
8. Turn the ignition ON (II) and return the windshield wipers to their park position.

Your car's air conditioning is a sealed system. Any major maintenance, such as recharging, should be done by a qualified technician. There are a couple of things you can do to make sure the air conditioning works efficiently.

Periodically check the engine's radiator and air conditioning condensers (located in the openings below the parking lights) for leaves, insects, and dirt stuck to the front surface. These block the air flow and reduce cooling efficiency. Use a light spray from a hose or a soft brush to remove them.

NOTICE

The condenser and radiator fins bend easily. Only use a low-pressure spray or soft-bristle brush to clean them.



AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSERS

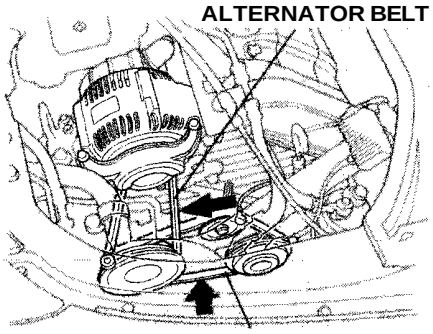
Run the air conditioning at least once a week during the cold weather months. Run it for at least ten minutes while you are driving at a steady speed with the engine at normal operating temperature. This circulates the lubricating oil contained in the refrigerant.

If the air conditioning does not get as cold as before, have your dealer check the system. Recharge the system with Refrigerant HFC-134a (R-134a).
(See Specifications on page 228.)

NOTICE

Whenever you have the air conditioning system serviced, make sure the service facility uses a refrigerant recycling system. This system captures the refrigerant for reuse. Releasing refrigerant into the atmosphere can damage the environment.

Engine Belts



You should check the condition of the two engine belts every six months. Examine the edges of each belt for cracks or fraying. Check the tension of each belt by pushing on it at the point shown in the diagram.

The belts should have the following "play" or deflection.

Alternator belt:
11 — 13.5 mm (0.43 — 0.55 in)
Compressor belt:
10 — 12 mm (0.39 — 0.47 in)

If you see signs of wear or looseness, have your dealer adjust or replace the belts.

Tires

To safely operate your car, your tires must be the proper type and size, in good condition with adequate tread, and correctly inflated. The following pages give more detailed information on how and when to check air pressure, how to inspect your tires for damage and wear, and what to do when your tires need to be replaced.

⚠ WARNING

Using tires that are excessively worn or improperly inflated can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Follow all instructions in this owner's manual regarding tire inflation and maintenance.

Inflation

Keeping the tires properly inflated provides the best combination of handling, tread life and riding comfort. Underinflated tires wear unevenly, adversely affect handling and fuel economy, and are more likely to fail from being overheated. Overinflated tires can make your car ride more harshly, are more prone to damage from road hazards, and wear unevenly.

We recommend that you visually check your tires every day and use the pressure gauge that came with your car to measure the air pressure at least once a month. If you think a tire might be low, check it immediately.

Check the pressure in the tires when they are cold. This means the car has been parked for at least three hours.

If you have to drive the car before checking the tire pressure, the tires can still be considered "cold" if you drive less than 1.6 km (1 mile).

If you check the pressure when the tires are hot (the car has been driven several miles), you will see readings 28 to 41 kPa (0.3 to 0.4 kg/cm^2, 4 to 6 psi) higher than the cold reading. This is normal. Do not let air out to match the specified cold pressure. The tire will be underinflated.

Recommended Tire Pressures for Normal Driving

The following chart shows the recommended cold tire pressures for most normal driving conditions and speeds. Tire pressures for high speed driving are the same as for normal driving.

Front:

Tire Size	Cold Tire Pressure for Normal Driving
215/45 ZR16	230 kPa (2.3 kg/cm^2, 33 psi)

Rear:

Tire Size	Cold Tire Pressure for Normal Driving
245/40 ZR17	275 kPa (2.8 kg/cm^2, 40 psi)

The pressures are also given on the tire information label on the driver's doorjamb.

Use the pressure gauge that came with your car every time you check the tires. This will make it easier for you to tell if a pressure loss is due to a tire problem and not due to a variation between gauges.

CONTINUED

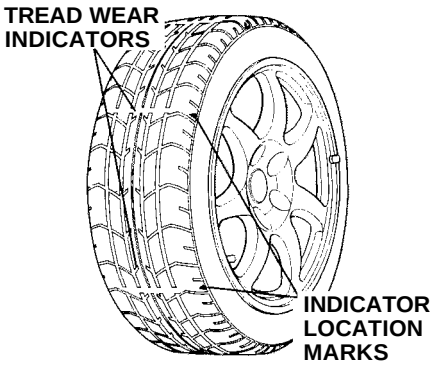
Tires

Tubeless tires have some ability to self-seal if they are punctured. However, because leakage is often very slow, you should look closely for punctures if a tire starts losing pressure.

Inspection
At least every 2,000 miles, you should also examine the tires for damage, foreign objects, and wear.

You should look for:

- Bumps or bulges in the tread or side of the tire. Replace the tire if you find either of these conditions.
- Cuts, splits, or cracks in the side of the tire. Replace the tire if you can see fabric or tread.
- Excessive tread wear.



Your car's tires have wear indicators molded into the tread. When the tread wears down to that point, you will see a 12.7 mm (1/2 inch) wide band running across the tread. This shows there is less than 1.6 mm (1/16 inch) of tread left on the tire. A tire that is this worn gives very little traction on wet roads. You should replace the tire if you can see the tread wear indicator in three or more places around the tire.

Maintenance
In addition to proper inflation, correct wheel alignment helps to decrease tire wear. If you find a tire is worn unevenly, have your dealer check the wheel alignment.

The tires were properly balanced by the factory, They may need to be rebalanced at some time before they are worn out. Have your dealer check the tires if you feel a consistent vibration while driving. A tire should always be rebalanced if it is removed from the wheel for repair.

Make sure the installer balances the wheels when you have new tires installed. This increases riding comfort and tire life. Your car's original tires were dynamic or "spin" balanced at the factory. For best results, have the installer perform a dynamic balance.

NOTICE

Improper wheel weights can damage your car's aluminum wheels. Use only genuine Acura wheel weights for balancing.

Tire Rotation

You should not rotate your NSX's tires. The front wheels are 16" diameter and the rear wheels are 17" so they cannot be rotated front-to-rear. The original-equipment tires on your NSX have a unidirectional tread pattern, so they cannot be rotated side-to-side.

Tire Wear

The tires that came on your NSX were designed and constructed to provide superior grip during acceleration, braking, and cornering. As a trade-off, they will wear more rapidly than tires used on ordinary passenger cars. Because of the car's weight distribution, and the fact that they are the driving wheels, you can expect the rear tires to wear more rapidly than the front tires.

The tire mileage you can expect from your NSX is the same as comparable mid-and rear-engined sports cars, and it will vary greatly with your driving habits. If you drive moderately, the rear tires could last more than 10,000 miles. However, the mileage will be substantially less if you tend to drive your NSX at the upper limits of its capabilities. You should carefully inspect your car's tires for wear, damage, and proper inflation every 2,000 miles (see page 172).

Replacing Tires and Wheels

The tires that came with your car were selected to match the performance capabilities of the car while providing the best combination of handling, ride comfort, and tread wear.

If a tire becomes damaged, you should replace it, not repair it. A repaired tire will have lower performance limits.

You should replace them with radial tires of the same size, load range, speed rating, and maximum cold tire pressure rating (as shown on the tire's sidewall). Mixing radial and bias-ply tires on your car can reduce its braking ability, traction, and steering accuracy.

⚠ WARNING

Installing improper tires on your car can affect handling and stability. This can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Always use the size and type of tires recommended in this owner's manual.

CONTINUED

Tires

It is best to replace all four tires at the same time. If that is not possible or necessary, then replace the two front tires or the two rear tires as a pair. Replacing just one tire can seriously affect your car's handling.

The ABS works by comparing the speed of the wheels. When replacing tires, use the same size originally supplied with the car. Tire size and construction can affect wheel speed and may cause the system to work inconsistently

If you ever need to replace a wheel, make sure the wheel's specifications match those of the original wheel that came on your car. Replacement wheels are available at your Acura dealer.

Wheels and Tires

Wheels:
Front — 16 x 7 JJ
Rear — 17x81/2JJ

Tires:
Front — 215/45ZR16
Rear — 245/40ZR17

See Tire Information on page 232 for additional information about tire and wheel size designations. See page 233 for information about DOT Tire Quality Grading.

Winter Tires

You should mount winter tires on your NSX before winter starts (before consistent sub-freezing temperatures). Change back to "summer" tires after winter weather has stopped.

Use winter tires on all four wheels. The performance capabilities of the winter tires may not be the same as your car's original-equipment tires. Check with the tire dealer for maximum speed recommendations.

Tire Chains

Mount snow chains on your car when warranted by driving conditions or required by local laws. Make sure the chains are the correct size for your tires. Use greater caution when driving with snow chains on snow or ice. They may have less-predictable handling than good winter tires without chains. Some snow chains may damage the car's tires, wheels, suspension and body. Consult your Acura dealer before purchasing any type of chains for your NSX.

Check the operation of your car's exterior lights at least once a month. A burned out bulb can create an unsafe condition by reducing your car's visibility and the ability to signal your intentions to other drivers. Check the following:

- Headlights (low and high beam)
- Parking lights
- Taillights
- Brake lights
- Turn signals
- Back-up lights
- Hazard light function
- License plate light
- Side marker lights
- Daytime running lights (Canadian cars)

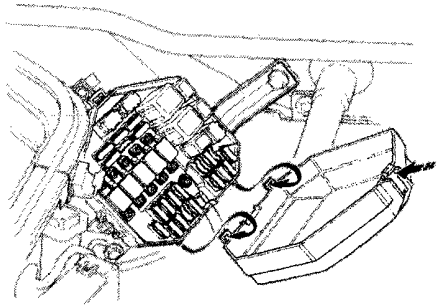
If you find any bulbs are burned out, replace them as soon as possible. Refer to the chart on page 229 to determine what type of replacement bulb is needed.

Replacing a Headlight Bulb

Your car has two bulbs on each side, four in total. Make sure you are replacing the bulb that is burned out. Your car uses halogen headlight bulbs. When replacing a bulb, handle it by its plastic case and protect the glass from contact with your skin or hard objects. If you touch the glass, clean it with denatured alcohol and a clean cloth.

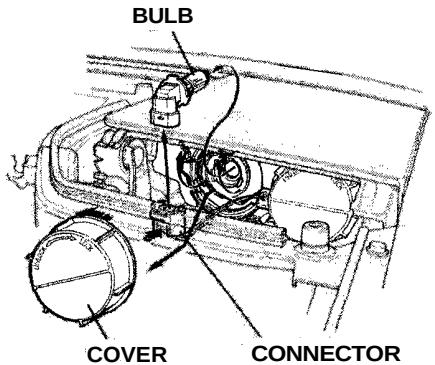
NOTICE

Halogen headlight bulbs get very hot when lit. Oil, perspiration, or a scratch on the glass can cause the bulb to overheat and shatter.



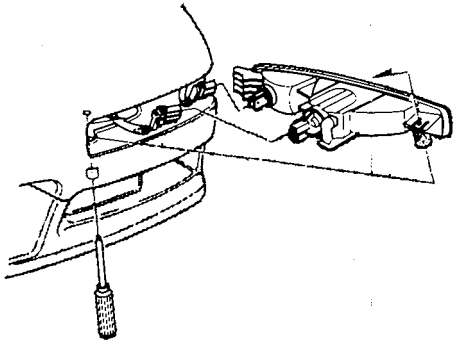
1. Lift the hood and remove the cover from the front compartment fuse box.
2. Use the label on the fuse box cover to locate the fuse for the headlight motor. Remove the fuse with the fuse remover located in the interior fuse box.

CONTINUED



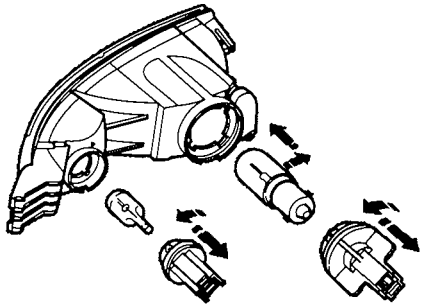
3. Remove the cover from the back of the burned-out bulb by turning it counterclockwise.
4. Remove the electrical connector from the bulb by grasping it between your thumb and fingers and pushing downward while you wiggle it slightly. Make sure you pull on the connector, not the wires.
5. Unclip the end of the hold-down wire from its slot. Pivot the wire up out of the way and remove the bulb.
6. Insert the new bulb into the hole, making sure all the tabs are in place. Pivot the hold-down wire over the end of the bulb and clip the end back into the slot.
7. Push the electrical connector back onto the bulb. Make sure it is on all the way.
8. Replace the bulb cover. Line up the three tabs, push the cover in, and turn it clockwise until it locks.
9. Reinstall the headlight motor fuse.
10. Turn on the head lights to test the new bulb.

Replacing a Front Turn Signal and Parking Light Bulbs



1. Use a Phillips-head screwdriver to remove the turn signal assembly's mounting screw.

2. Remove the turn signal assembly from the bumper. Remove the electrical connector from the bulb holder by squeezing the connector and pulling.



3. Remove the bulb holder from the turn signal assembly by turning it one-quarter turn to the left.

4. To remove the turn signal bulb, push it in slightly and turn it counterclockwise. To remove the parking light bulb, pull it straight out of its holder.

5. Install the new bulb in the socket.

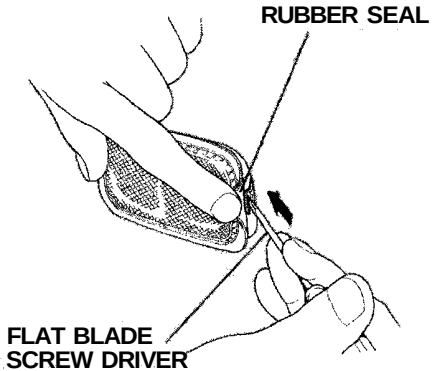
6. Push the bulb holder into the turn signal assembly and turn it clockwise until it locks.

7. Reconnect the electrical connector to the bulb holder.

8. Test the turn signals to make sure the new bulb is working.

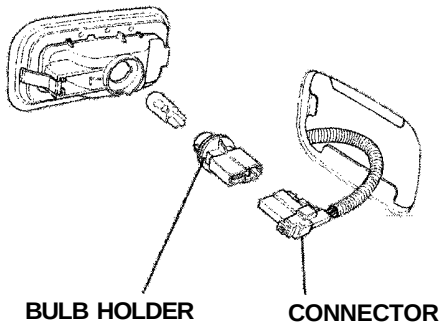
9. Put the turn signal assembly into the bumper. Install and tighten the mounting screw.

Replacing Side Marker Bulbs



1. Use your fingernail to lift the rubber seal along the back edge of the side marker lens.

2. Use a small flat blade screwdriver under the rubber seal to pry carefully on the back edge of the side marker assembly until it pops out of the body.



3. Remove the electrical connector from the bulb holder by squeezing the connector and pulling them apart.

4. Turn the bulb holder one-quarter turn counterclockwise to remove it from the lens.

5. Pull the bulb straight out of its socket. Push the new bulb straight into the socket until it bottoms.

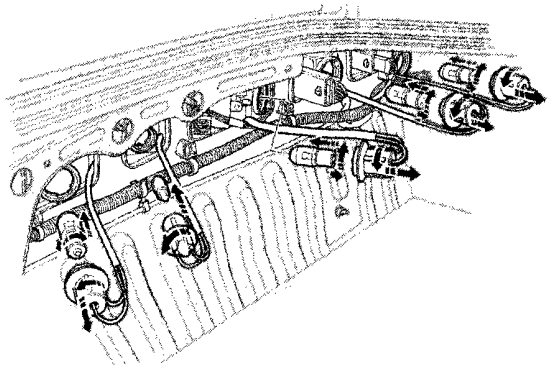
6. Put the bulb holder back into its hole in the lens, and turn it clockwise until it locks.

7. Plug the wire harness back into the bulb holder.

8. Turn on the parking lights and check that the new bulb is working.

9. Put the side marker assembly back into the body, front first. Push on the back edge until it snaps into place.

Replacing Bulbs in the Rear



The bulbs for the taillights, tail/stop-lights, rear turn signals, and back-up lights are behind the trunk liner.

1. Pull the top edge of the trunk liner out from under the rubber seal. Remove the plastic clips holding the trunk liner by putting your thumbs under the head of the clip between the liner and body and pushing the clip outward as you wiggle it back and forth.

2. Determine which bulb in the taillight assembly is burned out.

3. Remove the socket assembly by turning it oue-quarter turn counterclockwise and pulling it outward.

4. If the turn signal light bulb, back-up bulb, or tail/stoplight bulb is burned out, remove it by pushing it in and turning counterclockwise. If the taillight bulb is burned out, remove it by pulling it straight out of its socket.

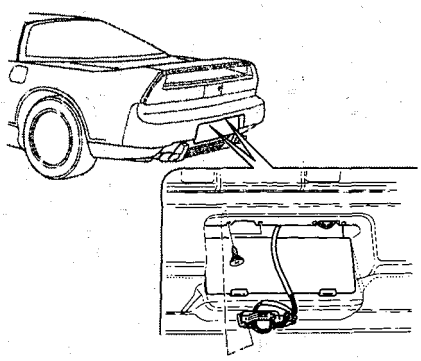
5. Install the new bulb in the socket in the reverse order of removal.

6. To reinstall the socket, line up the tabs on the socket with the slots in the taillight, push the socket into the hole, and turn it clockwise until it locks.

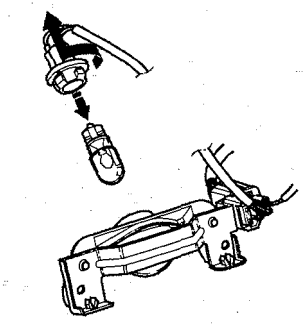
7. Test the lights to make sure the new bulb is working.

8. Install the trunk liner clips by pushing them straight in. Insert the top edge of the liner back under the rubber seal.

Replacing a Rear License Bulb



1. Use a Phillips-head screwdriver to remove the two outer screws holding the license plate light assembly to the bumper bracket. Pull the assembly away from the bracket.



2. Remove the socket from the light assembly by turning it one-half turn to the right.

3. Pull the bulb out of the socket.

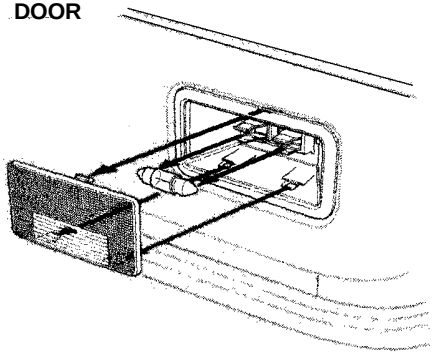
4. Install the new bulb.

5. Turn on the parking lights and make sure the new bulb is working. Reinstall the license plate assembly on the bumper bracket with the same two screws.

Replacing Bulbs in the Interior Courtesy Lights

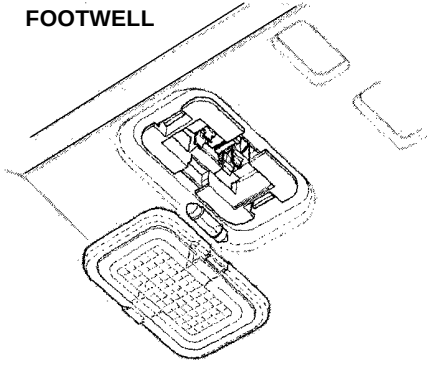
The courtesy lights in the doors, roof, and under the dashboard come apart the same way. They do not all use the same bulb.

DOOR



1. Remove the lens by carefully prying on the edge with your fingernail or a small flat-tip screwdriver. The two lenses on the roof-mounted interior light come out as a unit.

FOOTWELL



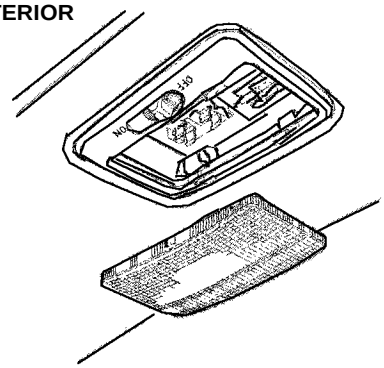
2. Remove the bulb by pulling it straight out of its metal tabs.

3. Push the new bulb into the metal tabs. Snap the lens back in place.

CONTINUED

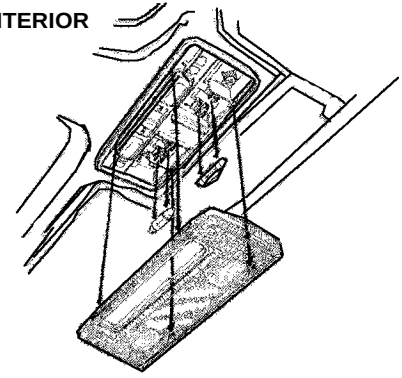
On cars with removable roof

INTERIOR

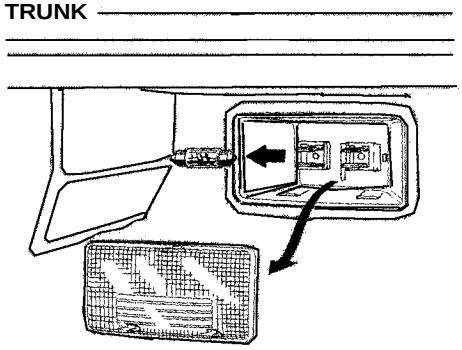


On the standard model

INTERIOR



TRUNK



If you need to park your car for an extended period (more than 1 month), there are several things you should do to prepare it for storage. Proper preparation helps prevent deterioration and makes it easier to get your car back on the road. It is best to store your car indoors if at all possible.

- Fill the fuel tank.
- Change the engine oil and filter (see page 146).
- Wash and dry the exterior completely.
- Clean the interior. Make sure the carpeting, floor mats, etc. are completely dry.
- Leave the parking brake off. Put the transmission in Reverse (manual) or Park (automatic).
- Block the rear wheels.
- If the car is to be stored for a longer period, it should be supported on jackstands so the tires are off the ground.
- Leave one window open slightly (if the car is being stored indoors).
- Disconnect the battery.
- Support the front wiper blade arms with a folded towel or rag so they do not touch the windshield.
- Apply a silicone spray lubricant to all door and trunk seals. Also, apply wax to the painted surfaces that mate with the door and trunk seals.
- Cover the car with a "breathable" car cover, one made from a porous material such as cotton. Nonporous materials, such as plastic sheeting, trap moisture which can damage the paint.
- If possible, run the engine for a while periodically (preferably once a month).

If you store your car for 12 months or longer, have your Acura dealer perform the inspections called for in the 24 months/48,000 km (30,000 miles) maintenance schedule as soon as you take it out of storage (see page 138). The replacements called for in the maintenance schedule are not needed unless the car has actually reached that time or distance.

Regular cleaning and polishing of your NSX helps to keep it "new" looking. This section gives you hints on how to clean and preserve your car's appearance: the paint, brightwork, wheels, and interior. Also included are several things you can do to help prevent corrosion.

Exterior Care

NOTICE

Although the exterior panels on your NSX are made of hardened aluminum, they may dent more easily than steel under some conditions. Exercise care when leaning on or over any part of the body.

Washing

Frequent washing helps preserve your car's beauty. Dirt and grit can scratch the paint, while tree sap and bird droppings can permanently ruin the finish.

Wash your car in a shady area, not in direct sunlight. If the car is parked in the sun, move it into the shade and let the exterior cool clown before you start.

NOTICE

Chemical solvents and strong cleaners can damage the paint, metal and plastic on your car.

- Rinse the car thoroughly with cool water to remove loose dirt.
- Fill a bucket with cool water. Mix in a mild detergent, such as dish-washing liquid or a product made especially for car washing.
- Wash the car, using the water and detergent solution and a soft-bristle brush, sponge or soft cloth. Start at the top and work your way down. Rinse frequently.
- Check the body for road tar, tree sap, etc. Remove these stains with tar remover or turpentine. Rinse it off immediately so it does not harm the finish. Remember to re-wax these areas, even if the rest of the car does not need waxing.
- When you have washed and rinsed the whole exterior, dry it with a chamois or soft towel. Letting it air-dry will cause dulling and water spots.

As you dry the car, inspect it for chips and scratches that could allow corrosion to start. Repair them with touch-up paint (see page 188).

NOTICE

Do not use a high-pressure spray or steam in the engine compartment. You may damage the. electrical parts in the compartment.

Power Antenna Cleaning
Twice a year, clean the antenna mast with a dry cloth and mild detergent. Scrub the antenna in upward strokes to avoid bending it. Rinse with water.

Make sure the antenna works smoothly by turning the stereo off and on several times with the ignition switch ON (II). The antenna does not need lubricating.

If you use a "drive-through" car wash, make sure you turn the stereo off first. This retracts the antenna to prevent damage from the car wash brushes.

Waxing
Always wash and dry the whole car before waxing it. You should wax your car, including the metal trim, whenever water sits on the surface in large patches. It should form into beads or droplets after waxing.

You should use a quality liquid or paste wax. Apply it according to the instructions on the container. In general, there are two types of products:

Waxes - A wax coats the finish and protects it from damage by exposure to sunlight, air pollution, etc. You should use a wax on your NSX when it is new.

Polishes - Polishes and cleaner/waxes can restore the shine to paint that has oxidized and lost some of its shine. They normally contain mild abrasives and solvents that remove the top layer of the finish. You should use a polish on your NSX if the finish does not have its original shine after using a wax.

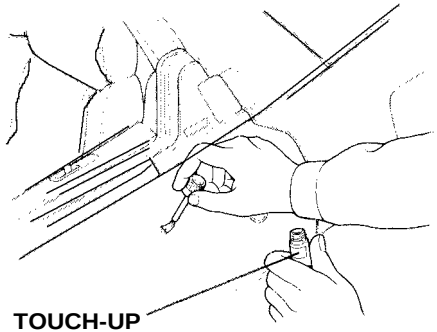
Cleaning tar, insects, etc. with removers also takes off the wax. Remember to re-wax those areas, even if the rest of the car does not need waxing.

Aluminum Wheels
Clean your Acura's aluminum alloy wheels as you do the rest of the exterior. Wash them with the same solution, and rinse them thoroughly.

The wheels have a protective clear-coat that keeps the aluminum from corroding and tarnishing. Using harsh chemicals, including some commercial wheel cleaners, or stiff brushes can damage this clear-coat. Only use a mild detergent and soft brush or sponge to clean the wheels.

Paint Touch-up

Your dealer has touch-up paint to match your car's color. The color code is printed on a sticker on the driver's doorjamb. Take this code to your dealer so you are sure to get the correct color. Although bare aluminum does not "rust" like bare metal, it will corrode and turn to dull gray if left unprotected.



TOUCH-UP PAINT

Inspect your car for chipped or scratched paint every time you wash it. Repair it as soon as possible to prevent corrosion. Use the touch-up paint on small chips and scratches. More extensive damage should be repaired by a professional.

Examine the chip or scratch closely before repairing it. If it does not go down to bare metal, clean it with soap and water and apply the touch-up paint. If it does go to the metal, apply a coat of primer first. After this dries, apply the touch-up paint. Build up the paint in the damaged area to the level of the surrounding paint. Several thin coats of paint are better than one thick coat.

Carpeting
Vacuum the carpeting frequently to remove dirt. Ground-in dirt will make the carpet wear out faster. Periodically shampoo the carpet to keep it looking new. Use one of the foam-type carpet cleaners on the market. Follow the instructions that come with the cleaner, applying it with a sponge or soft brush. Keep the carpeting as dry as possible by not adding water to the foam.

Fabric
Vacuum dirt and dust out of the material frequently. For general cleaning, use a solution of mild soap and lukewarm water, letting it air dry. To clean off stubborn spots, use a commercially-available fabric cleaner. Test it on a hidden area of the fabric first, to make sure it does not bleach or stain the fabric. Follow the instructions that come with the cleaner.

Vinyl
Remove dirt and dust with a vacuum cleaner. Wipe the vinyl with a soft cloth dampened in a solution of mild soap and water. Use the same solution with a soft-bristle brush on more difficult spots. You can also use commercially-available spray or foam-type vinyl cleaners.

Leather
Vacuum dirt and dust from the leather frequently. Pay particular attention to the pleats and seams. Clean the leather with a soft cloth dampened with clear water, then buff it with a clean, dry cloth. If further cleaning is needed, use a soap specifically for leather, such as saddle soap. Apply this soap with a clamp, soft cloth. Wipe down and buff as described above.

Seat Belts
If your seat belts get dirty, you can use a soft brush with a mixture of mild soap and warm water to clean them. Do not use bleach, dye, or cleaning solvents. They can weaken the belt material. Let the belts air-dry before you use the car.

Interior Care, Corrosion Protection

Windows

Clean the windows, inside and out, with a commercially-available glass cleaner. You can also use a mixture of one part white vinegar to ten parts water. This will remove the haze that builds up on the inside of the windows. Use a soft cloth or paper towels to clean all glass and clear plastic surfaces.

NOTICE

The rear window defogger and antenna wires are bonded to the inside of the glass. Wiping vigorously up-and-down can dislodge and break these wires. When cleaning the rear window, use gentle pressure and wipe side-to-side.

Air Fresheners

If you want to use an air freshener/deodorizer in the interior of your NSX, it is best to use a solid type. Some liquid air fresheners contain chemicals that may cause parts of the interior trim and fabric to crack or discolor.

If you use a liquid air freshener, make sure you fasten it securely so it does not spill as you drive.

Corrosion Protection

Two factors normally contribute to causing corrosion in your car:

1. Moisture trapped in body cavities. Dirt and road salt that collects in hollows on the underside of the car stays damp, promoting corrosion in that area.

2. Removal of paint and protective coatings from the exterior and underside of the car.

Many corrosion-preventive measures are built into your Acura. You can help keep your car from corroding by performing some simple periodic maintenance:

- Repair chips and scratches in the paint as soon as you discover them.

- Inspect and clean out the drain holes in the bottom of the doors and body.
- Check the floor coverings for dampness. Carpeting and floor mats may remain damp for a long time, especially in winter. This dampness can eventually cause the floor panels to corrode.
- Use a high-pressure spray to clean the underside of your car. This is especially important in areas that use road salt in winter. It is also a good idea in humid climates and areas subject to salt air. Be careful of the ABS sensors and wiring at each wheel.
- Have the corrosion-preventive coatings on the underside of your car inspected and repaired periodically.

Body Repairs

The entire body and undercarriage of your NSX is made of aluminum. Aluminum has different properties than steel, so special techniques are required to do successful body repair.

Acura recognizes the uniqueness of the NSX. Many dealers and other body repair facilities have been given the special training and equipment needed to do professional repairs on your car. If your NSX ever needs body repair, contact the Acura Customer Relations Office for the location of a facility near you.

Repair facilities approved by Acura will use genuine replacement body parts. That may not be the case if you take your car somewhere else. Make sure the replacement body parts are genuine Acura body parts.

Some companies make parts that seem to duplicate the original Acura body parts, but are inferior in fit, finish, and quality. In our experience, these parts do not fit as well and do not have as high a level of corrosion resistance.

Inspect areas of the body that have been repaired rather than replaced. Try to look at the inside surfaces. Make sure the repair included reapplication of corrosion-preventive coatings. Bare metal corrodes very fast.

If you have any doubts about replaced or repaired body parts and whether corrosion-prevention measures were used during the repair, take the car to your Acura dealer for inspection.

This section covers the more-common problems that motorists experience with their cars. It gives you information about how to safely evaluate the problem and what to do to correct it. If the problem has stranded you on the side of the road, you may be able to get going again. If not, you will also find instructions on getting your car towed.

If You Have a Flat Tire

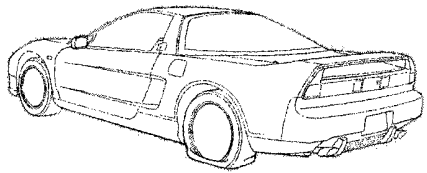
If you have a flat tire while driving, slop in a safe place to change it. Stopping in traffic or on the shoulder of a busy road is dangerous. Drive slowly along the shoulder until you get to an exit or an area to stop that is far away from the traffic lanes.

⚠ WARNING

The car can easily roll off the jack, seriously injuring anyone underneath.

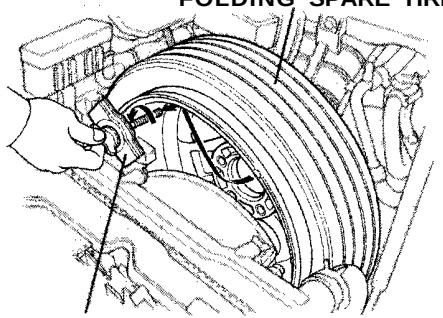
Follow the directions for changing a tire exactly, and never get under the car when it is supported only by the jack.

Changing a Flat Tire



1. Park the car on firm, level ground away from traffic. Turn on the hazard warning lights and turn the ignition to LOCK (0).

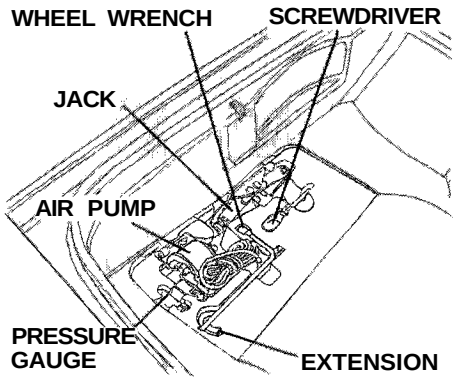
2. Put the transmission in Park (automatic) or Reverse (manual). Set the parking brake.



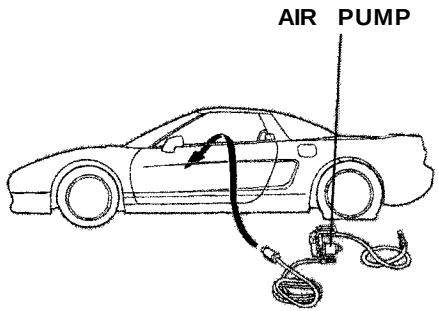
3. Open the hood (see page 111). Unscrew the wing bolt holding the folding spare tire. Remove the folding spare tire from the compartment. The wing bolt and wheel may be very warm from the air passing through the radiator. Use a cloth or gloves (not provided) to protect your hands when removing the spare tire.

⚠ CAUTION

The radiator's electric fan runs automatically, even with the ignition off. Keep your hands and arms away from this fan when removing the spare tire.

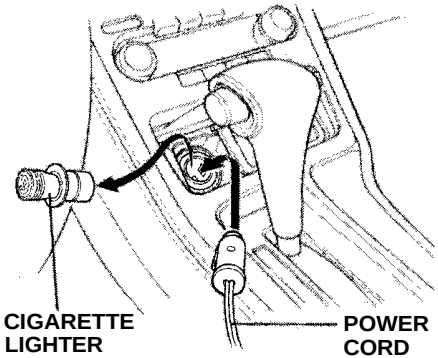


4. Open the trunk (see page 50). Lift the cover; remove the jack, wheel wrench, extension, air pump, pressure gauge and screwdriver from the trunk. The tools may become very hot while the car is being driven. Wear gloves or use a protective cloth when handling the tools.

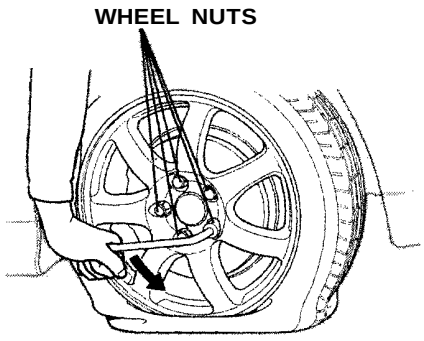


5. Place the air pump near the flat tire. Open the nearest window, and route the air pump's power cord through the open window.

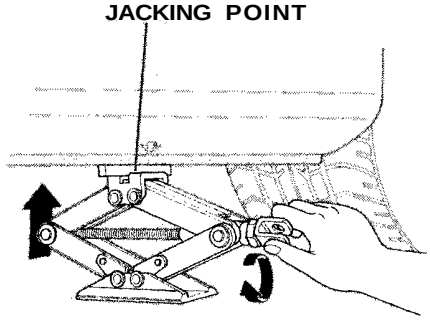
CONTINUED



6. Remove the cigarette lighter from its socket and plug the power cord end into the socket. Make sure the key is in the ignition switch at LOCK (0).



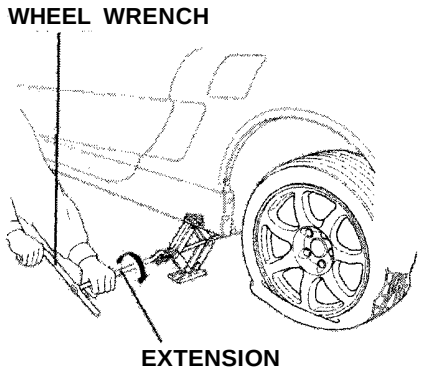
7. Loosen the five wheel nuts 1/2 turn with the wheel wrench.



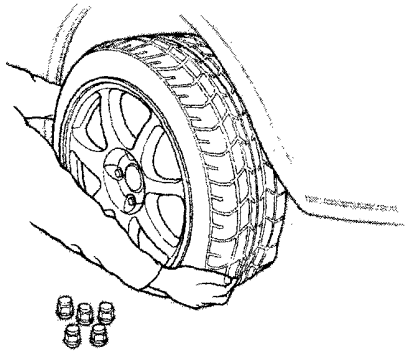
8. Locate the jacking point nearest the tire you need to change. It is pointed to by an arrow molded into the underside of the body. Place the jack under the jacking point. Turn the end bracket clockwise until the top of the jack contacts the jacking points. Make sure the jacking point tab is resting on the jack notch.

NOTICE

Garage-type floor jacks and jacks of similar design can damage your car's underbody, even if they are located on the jacking point. Only use the scissors jack that comes with your NSX to raise the car.

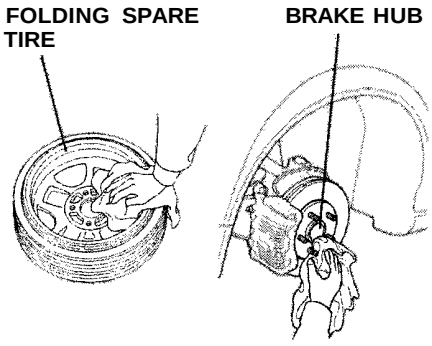


9. Use the extension and wheel wrench as shown to raise the car until the flat tire is off the ground.

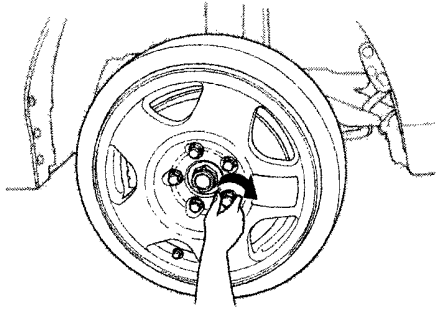


10. Remove the wheel nuts and flat tire. Temporarily place the flat tire on the ground with the outside surface of the aluminum wheel facing up. Placing the wheel face down could mar its finish.

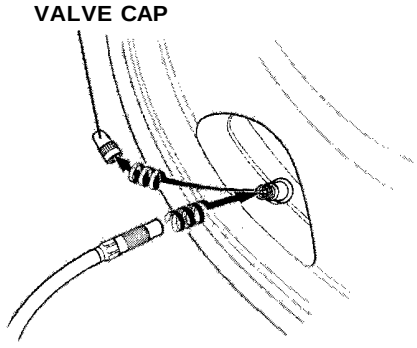
CONTINUED



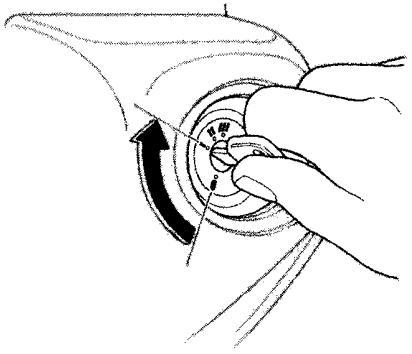
11. Before you put on the folding spare tire, wipe any dirt off the mounting surface of the brake hub and the wheel. This will assure a tight, even contact between the wheel and hub.



12. Put on the folding spare tire with the air valve toward the bottom. Put the wheel nuts back on finger-tight, then tighten them in a crisscross pattern with the wheel wrench until the wheel is firmly against the hub. Do not try to tighten them fully. Inflate the folding spare tire only when it is on the car. Inflating it while it is lying on the ground may trap stones or other foreign matter between the tire and the wheel rim.



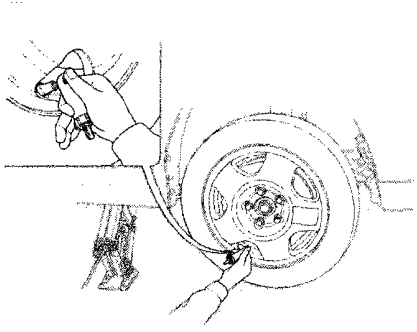
13. Unscrew the valve cap from the folding spare tire's air valve by turning it counterclockwise. Then screw on the air pump hose.



14. Reach into the car and turn the ignition switch to ACCESSORY (I). This will start the air pump to inflate the tire.

NOTICE

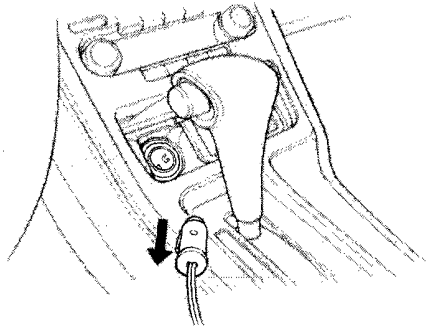
Do not climb into the car when it is on the jack. You could cause the car to roll off the jack, damaging the suspension and body.
Keep your fingers and clothing away as the tire inflates and unfolds from its compact size.



15. After about five minutes, unscrew the air pump hose and check the pressure with the supplied pressure gauge.
Inflate to:

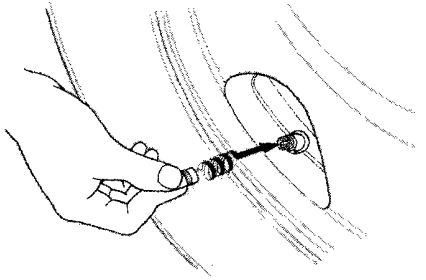
Front — 180 kPa
(1.8 kg/cm^2, 26psi)

Rear — 220 kPa
(2.2 kg/cm^2, 32 psi)

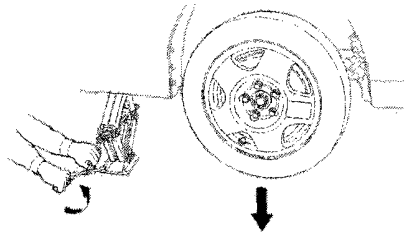


16. When finished, reach in and turn the ignition switch to LOCK (0). Unplug the air pump power cord.

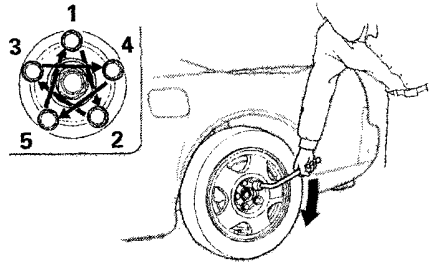
CONTINUED



17. Screw the valve cap on the valve tightly with your hands.

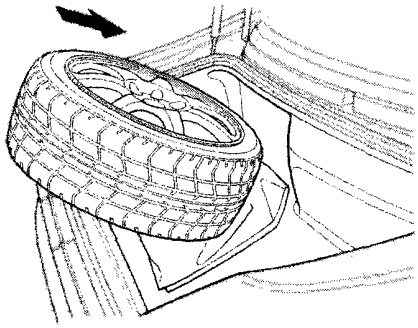


18. Lower the car to the ground and remove the jack.



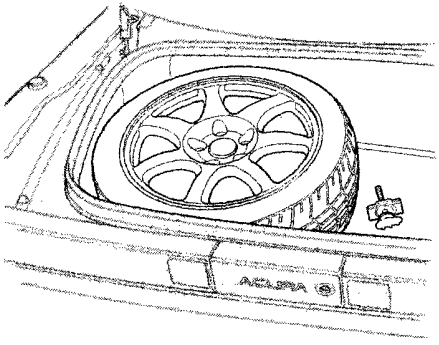
19. Tighten the wheel nuts securely in the same crisscross pattern. Have the wheel nut torque checked at the nearest automotive service facility.
    Tighten the wheel nuts to:

    110 N·m (11 kg-m, 80 lb-ft)



20. Store the jack, wheel wrench, extension, air pump, pressure gauge, screwdriver and flat tire in the trunk.

    To store the flat tire, put a sheet of paper on the contact surface of the tire and the trunk well as shown in the illustration. Slide the tire in the trunk well with the outside surface of the aluminum wheel facing up.



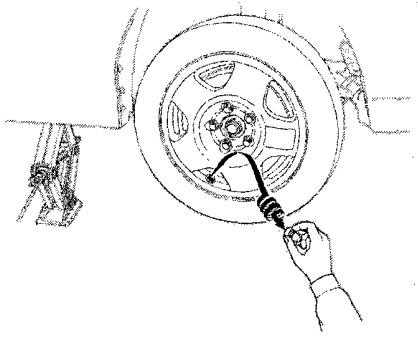
21. Temporarily keep the wing bolt in the trunk as well. See **Replacing Tires and Wheels** on page 173 for tire replacement.

Storing the Folding Spare Tire
Before returning the folding spare tire to its compartment, you must let out all the air. It will fold back to its original space saving shape.

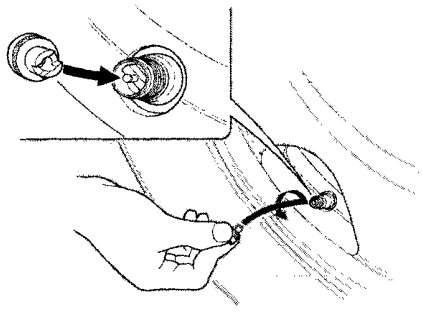
The folding spare tire must be off the ground when you let the air out. It is best to deflate the folding spare tire while it is still mounted on the car. This prevents foreign material from being trapped between the wheel and tire.

1. If the folding spare tire is still on the car, follow the instructions under **Changing a Flat Tire** to loosen the wheel nuts and jack up the car.

CONTINUED

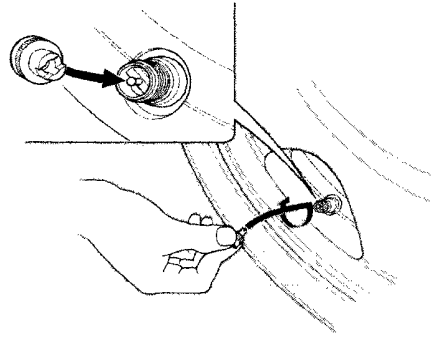


2. Unscrew and remove the folding spare tire valve cap.

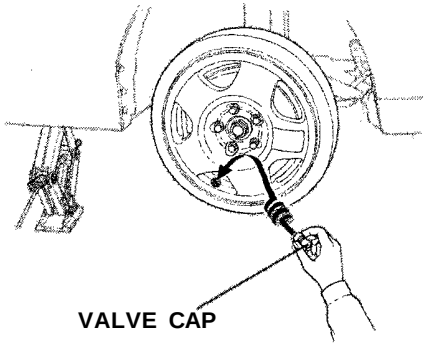


3. Remove the rubber cover on top of the valve cap. Use the notch on the valve cap to unscrew the spare tire valve core until the air starts coming out. Use your hand to shield your eyes. The valve core can fly out under pressure.

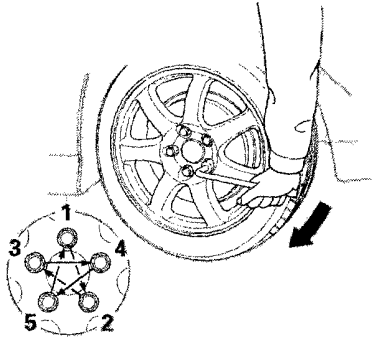
   Keep your fingers and clothing away as the tire deflates and folds back to its compact size.



4. As the tire deflates, it will fold back to its original shape. When the air stops coming out of the tire, use the notch on the valve cap to tighten the valve core.

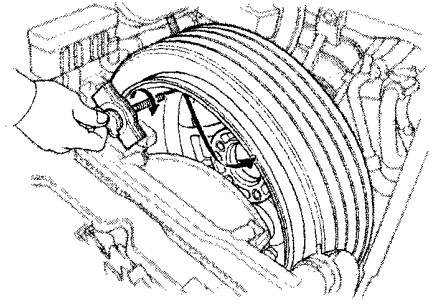


5. Put the rubber cap back on the valve cap. Screw the valve cap back on the folding spare tire valve.



6. Remove the folding spare tire and install the original tire and wheel nuts. Lower the car and tighten the wheel nuts securely in a criss-cross pattern. Tighten to:

   110 N·m (11 kg-m, 80 lb-ft)



7. Store the folding spare tire in the front compartment with the outside surface of the wheel contacting the bracket of the spare tire well. Securely tighten the wing bolt.

Air Pump
The air pump that comes with your NSX is designed specifically to inflate the folding spare tire.
Follow these precautions:

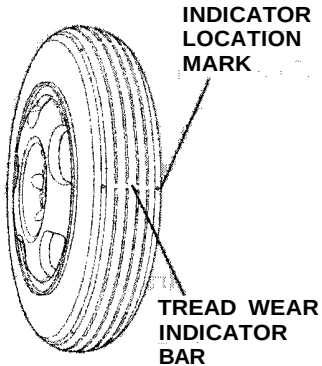
- Connect the air pump only to a 12 V car battery. Connecting it to any other power source could damage the air pump.
- Applying oil to any component of the air pump is not necessary.
- The surface of the air pump will become hot during use. Do not touch the air pump while in use.
- Continuous operation for more than 15 minutes could damage the air pump. Let it cool down before using it again.

Folding Spare Tire
Your car comes with a folding spare tire. Use this spare tire as a temporary replacement only. Get your regular tire replaced and put back on your car as soon as you can.

Follow these precautions whenever you are using the folding spare tire:

- Inflate or deflate the spare tire only when it is on the car. Inflating it on the ground may trap stones or other foreign matter between the tire and the wheel rim.
- Do not exceed 50 mph (80 km/h) under any circumstances.
- This tire gives a harsher ride and less traction on some road surfaces than the regular tire. Use greater caution while driving on this tire.
- The spare tire is smaller than the regular tire, reducing your car's ground clearance. Such things as road debris and parking lot speed bumps could possibly damage the underside of your car.
- Do not take your car to an automatic car wash when the spare tire is mounted. Because of the reduced ground clearance, the underside of your car could be damaged by the mechanism that pulls the car through the car wash.

- The wheel of the folding spare tire is designed especially to fit your car. Do not use your spare tire on another car unless it is the same make and model.
- The folding spare tire cannot be repaired. Special equipment is required to remove it from the rim and install a new tire. If it is damaged, replace it with a folding spare tire of the same design. New spare tires are available at your Acura dealer.
- Do not mount snow chains on the folding spare tire.



The folding spare tire has a shorter tread life than a regular tire. Replace it when you can see the tread wear indicator bars. The spare tire is not designed to be mounted on a regular wheel, and the compact wheel is not designed for mounting a regular tire.

If Your Engine Won't Start

Diagnosing why your engine won't start falls into two areas, depending on what you hear when you turn the key to START (III):

- You hear nothing, or almost nothing. The engine's starter motor does not operate at all, or operates very slowly.
- You can hear the starter motor operating normally, but the engine does not start up and run.

Nothing Happens or the Starter Motor Operates Very Slowly

When you turn the ignition switch to START (III), you do not hear the normal noise of the engine trying to start. You may hear a clicking sound or series of clicks, or nothing at all. Check these things:

- Check the transmission interlock. If you have a manual transmission, the clutch pedal must be pushed all the way to the floor or the starter will not operate. With an automatic transmission, it must be in Park or Neutral.
- Turn the ignition switch to ON (II). Check the voltmeter reading. Turn on the headlights and check their brightness. If the voltmeter does not register and the headlights are very dim or don't light at all, the battery is discharged. See **Jump Starting** on page 207.
- If the voltmeter reads normally and the headlights are bright, turn the key to START (III) then release it.

  If the headlights do not dim, check the condition of the fuses (see page 216). If the fuses are OK, there is probably something wrong with the electrical circuit for the ignition switch or starter motor. You will need a qualified technician to determine the problem (see **Towing** on page 223).

  If the headlights dim noticeably or go out when you try to start the engine, either the battery is discharged or the connections are corroded. Check the condition of the battery and terminal connections (see page 164). You can then try jump starting the car from a booster battery (see page 207).

The Starter Operates Normally
In this case, the starter motor sounds normal when you turn the ignition switch to START (III), but the engine does not run.

- Are you using the proper starting procedure? Refer to **Starting the Engine** on page 119.
- Do you have fuel? Turn the ignition switch to ON (II) for a minute and watch the fuel gauge. The low fuel level warning light may not be working, so you were not reminded to fill the fuel tank.
- There may be an electrical problem, such as no power to the fuel pump. Check all the fuses (see page 216).

If you find nothing wrong, you will need a qualified technician to find the problem. See **Towing** on page 223.

Jump Starting
If your car's battery has run down, you may be able to start the engine by using a booster battery. Although this seems like a simple procedure, there are several precautions you should take. Follow the directions closely.

⚠ WARNING

A battery can explode if you do not follow the correct procedure, seriously injuring anyone nearby.

Keep all sparks, open flames, and smoking materials away from the battery.

You cannot start an NSX with an automatic transmission by pushing or pulling it.

To jump start your car:

1. Open the hood and check the physical condition of the battery (see page 164). In very cold weather, check the condition of the electrolyte. If it seems slushy or like ice, do not try jump starting until it thaws.

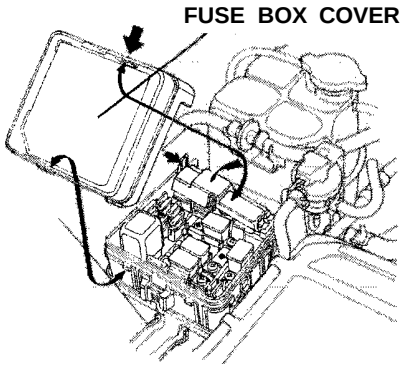
NOTICE

If a battery sits in extreme cold, the electrolyte inside can freeze. Attempting to jump start with a frozen battery can cause it to rupture or explode.

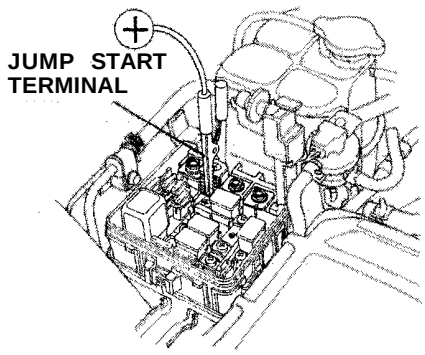
2. Turn off all the electrical accessories: climate control, stereo system, lights, etc. Put the transmission in Neutral or Park and set the parking brake.

CONTINUED

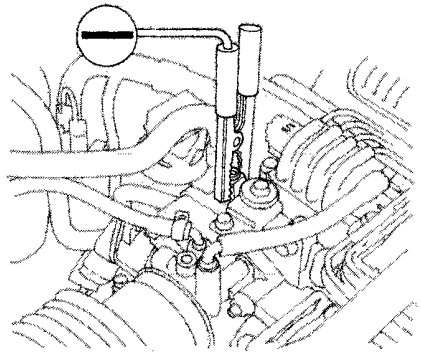
Jump Starting



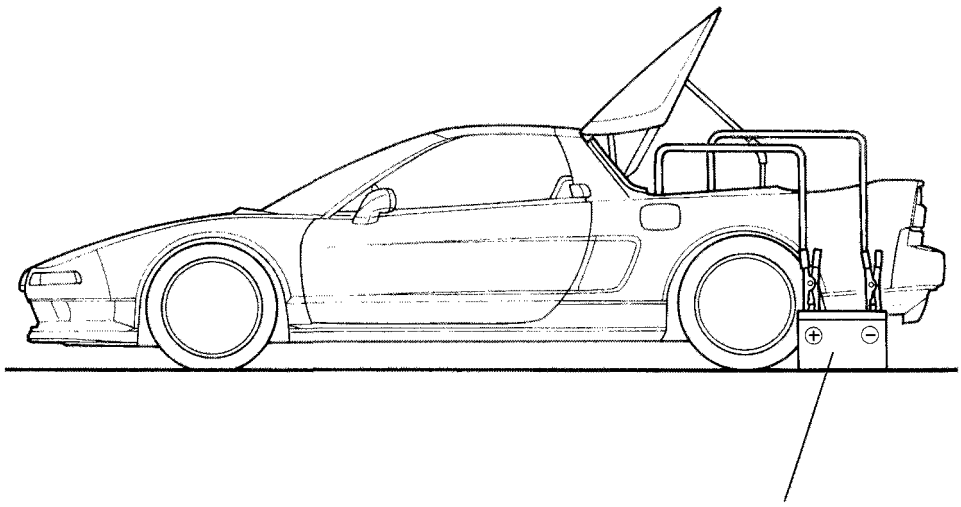
3. Open the rear window and engine cover. Locate the engine compartment fuse box on the driver's side of the compartment. Remove the fuse box cover.



4. Connect one jumper cable to the positive (+) terminal on the booster battery. Connect the other end to the JUMP START terminal in the fuse box.



5. Connect the second jumper cable to the negative (—) terminal on the booster battery. Connect the other end to the boss on the intake manifold as shown. Do not connect this jumper cable to any other part of the engine.



6. If the booster battery is in another car, have an assistant start that car and run it at a fast idle.

7. Start your car. If the starter motor still operates slowly, check the jumper cable connections to make sure they have good metal-to-metal contact.

8. Once your car is running, disconnect the negative cable from your car, then from the booster battery. Disconnect the positive cable from your car, then the booster battery.

If Your Engine Overheats

The pointer of your car's temperature gauge should stay in the midrange under most conditions. It may go higher if you are driving up a long steep hill on a very hot day. If it climbs to the red mark, you should stop and determine the reason.

NOTICE

Driving with the temperature gauge pointer at the red mark can cause serious damage to your engine.

Your car can overheat for several reasons, such as lack of coolant or a mechanical problem. The only indication may be the temperature gauge climbing to or above the red mark. Or you may see steam or spray coming from under the car or engine cover. In either case, you should take immediate action.

⚠ WARNING

Steam and spray from an overheated engine can seriously scald you.

Do not open the hood or engine compartment if steam is coming out.

1. Safely pull to the side of the road. Put the transmission in Neutral or Park and set the parking brake. Turn off the climate control and all other accessories. Turn on the hazard warning indicators.

2. If you see steam and/or spray coming from under the car or engine cover, turn off the engine.

3. If you do not see steam or spray, leave the engine running and watch the temperature gauge. If the high heat is due to overloading (climbing a long, steep hill on a hot day with the air conditioning running, for example), the engine should start to cool down almost immediately. If it does, wait until the temperature gauge conies down to the white mark then continue driving.

4. If the temperature gauge stays at the red mark, turn off the engine.

5. Wait until you see no more signs of steam or spray, then open the front hood and engine cover.

6. Look for any obvious coolant leaks, such as a split radiator hose. Everything is still extremely hot, so use caution. If you find a leak, it must be repaired before you continue driving (see **Towing** on page 223).

⚠ WARNING

Removing the expansion tank cap while the engine is hot can cause the coolant to spray out, seriously scalding you.

Always let the engine and radiator cool down before removing the expansion tank cap.

7. If you don't find an obvious leak, check the coolant level in the expansion tank (see page 148).

8. If the expansion tank needs coolant, you will have to remove the cap. Before doing that, turn the ignition switch ON (II) and check the temperature gauge. Remove the expansion tank cap **ONLY** if the temperature gauge pointer has come down to normal or below and you do not hear any bubbling or gurgling noises coming from the cooling system.

9. Use a cloth or glove to protect your hand while removing the expansion tank cap. Without pressing it downward, turn the cap one-quarter turn counterclockwise. Stop and wait for any pressure in the expansion tank to escape. Then press down on the cap and turn it counterclockwise to remove it.

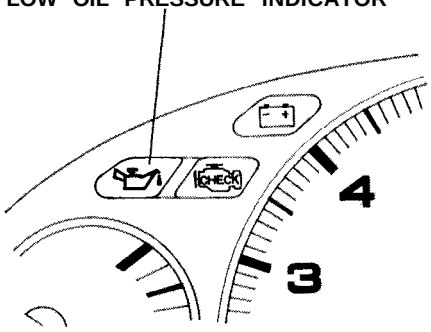
10. Start the engine and set the climate control to FULL AUTO at 90°F (32°C). Add coolant up to the MAX line on the expansion tank. If you do not have the proper coolant mixture available, you can add plain water. Remember to have the cooling system drained and refilled with the proper mixture as soon as you can.

11. Put the expansion tank cap back on tightly. Run the engine and watch the temperature gauge. If it goes back to the red mark, the engine needs repair, (see **Towing** on page 223).

12. If the temperature stays normal, check the coolant level in the expansion tank. If it has gone down, add coolant to the MAX mark. Put the expansion tank cap back on tightly.

Low Oil Pressure

LOW OIL PRESSURE INDICATOR



The oil pressure indicator should never come on when the engine is running. If this light comes on with the engine running, take immediate action.

NOTICE

Running the engine with low oil pressure can cause serious mechanical damage almost immediately. Turn off the engine as soon as you can safely get the car stopped.

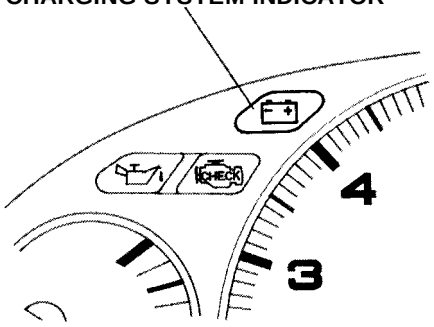
1. Safely pull off the road and shut off the engine.

2. Let the car sit for a minute. Open the engine compartment and check the oil level (see page 109). Although oil level and oil pressure are not directly connected, an engine that is very low on oil can lose pressure during cornering and other driving maneuvers.

3. If necessary, add oil to bring the level back to the full mark on the dipstick (see page 144).

4. Start the engine and watch the oil pressure light. If the light does not go out within ten seconds, turn off the engine. There is a mechanical problem that needs to be repaired before you can continue driving. (See **Towing** on page 223.)

CHARGING SYSTEM INDICATOR



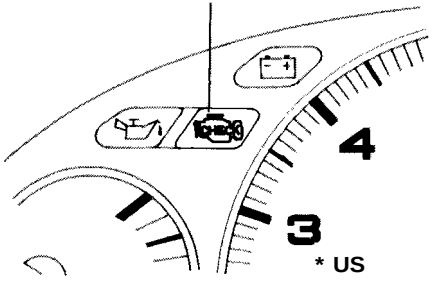
The charging system indicator should go out after the engine starts. If it comes on brightly with the engine running, the alternator is no longer charging the battery.

Immediately turn off all electrical accessories: radio, climate control, rear defogger, cruise control, etc. Try not to use other electrically-operated controls such as the power windows. Keep the engine running and take extra care to not stall it. The starter motor uses lots of current and will discharge the battery rapidly. Check the voltmeter as you drive. If there is a problem in the charging system, the voltage will gradually drop.

By eliminating as much of the electrical load as possible, you can drive several kilometers (miles) before the battery is too discharged to keep the engine running. Drive to a service station or garage where you can get technical assistance.

Malfunction Indicator Lamp/Check Engine Light

MALFUNCTION INDICATOR LAMP /CHECK ENGINE LIGHT*



*** US indicator shown**

If this indicator comes on while driving, there is a problem with your engine or its emission control systems. Even though you may feel no difference in your car's performance, it can reduce your fuel economy and cause your car to put out excessive emissions.

Continued operation may cause serious engine damage.

If this indicator light comes on, safely pull off the road and turn off the engine. Restart the engine and watch the indicator light. If it stays on, have your car checked by the dealer as soon as possible. Drive moderately until the dealer has inspected the problem. Avoid full-throttle acceleration and driving at high speed.

You should also have the dealer inspect your car if the indicator light comes on frequently, even though it goes off when you follow the above procedure.

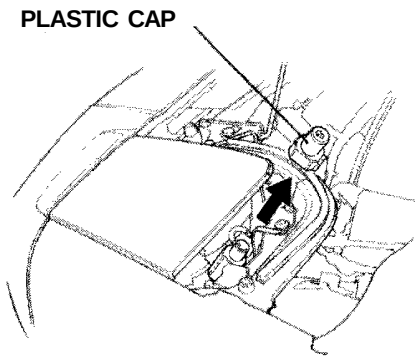
NOTICE

If you keep driving with the malfunction indicator lamp/check engine light on, you can damage your car's emission controls and engine. Those repairs are not covered by your car's warranties.

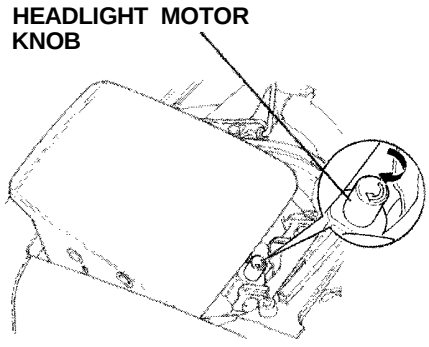
If both headlights don't pop up when you turn them on, try the headlight motor button on the dashboard (see page 39). If one or both headlights are still down, do the following:

1. Check the fuses for the headlight doors in the underhood fuse box (see page 217). If you find a blown fuse, replace it with a spare fuse and try the headlights.

2. If no fuses are blown, or the replacement fuse blows immediately, remove the fuse for the headlight door or doors that won't open. Put the cover back on the fuse box.



3. Remove the plastic cap on top of the headlight motor.

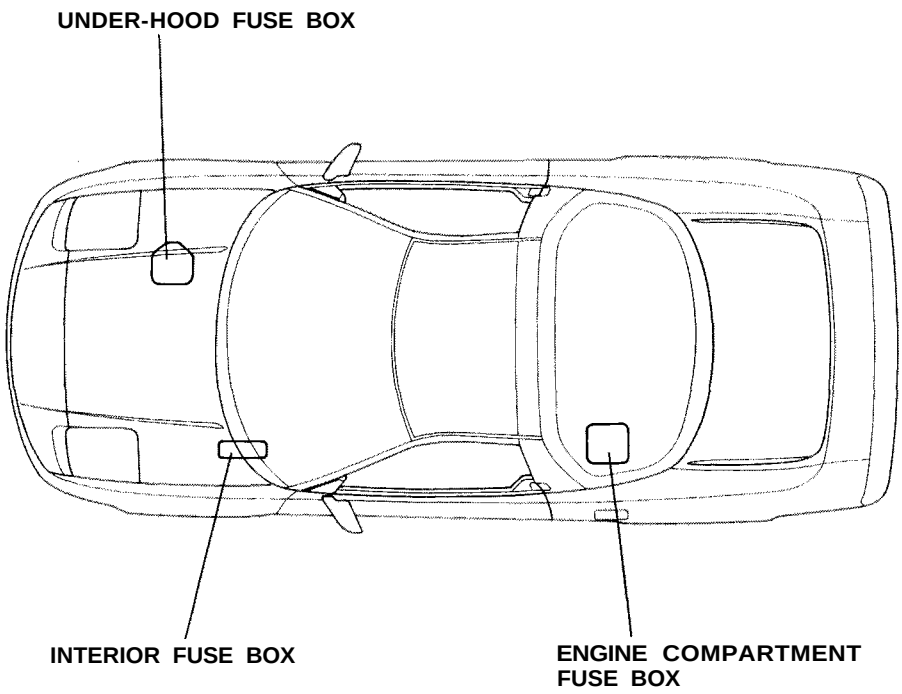


4. Turn the headlight motor knob clockwise. The headlight door will start to rise. Keep turning until the door is fully open.

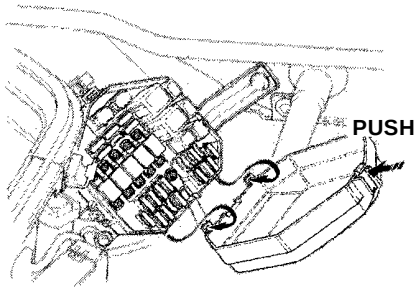
5. Put the plastic cap back on the headlight motor with the arrow facing forward. Do not replace the headlight motor fuse until you can have the car checked by the Acura dealer.

Fuses

All the electrical circuits in your car have fuses to protect them from a short circuit or overload. These fuses are located in three fuse boxes.

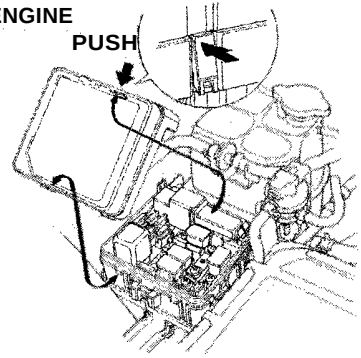


UNDER-HOOD



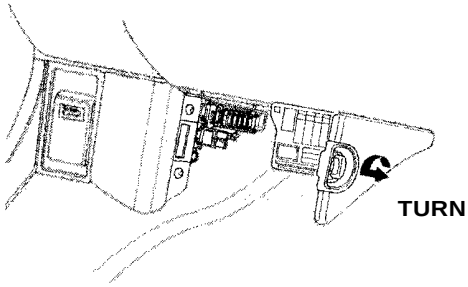
The under-hood fuse box is located on the passenger's side of the front compartment. To open, push the tab as shown.

ENGINE



The engine compartment fuse box is located next to the air cleaner housing. To open, push the tab as shown.

INTERIOR



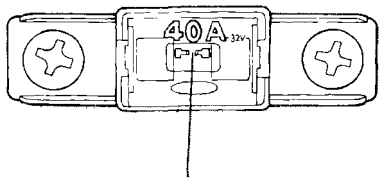
The interior fuse box is underneath the dashboard on the driver's side. To open, turn the knob as shown.

Fuses

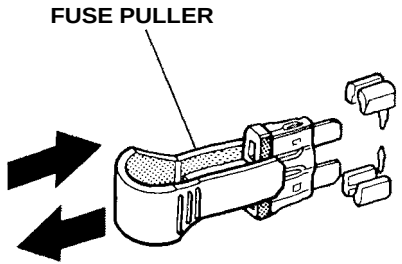
Checking and Replacing Fuses
If something electrical in your car stops working, the first thing you should check for is a blown fuse. Determine from the chart on pages 220 and 221, or the diagram on the fuse box lid, which fuse or fuses control that component. Check those fuses first, but check all the fuses before deciding that is not the cause. Replace any blown fuses and check the component's operation.

1. Turn the ignition switch to LOCK (0). Make sure the headlights and all other accessories are off.

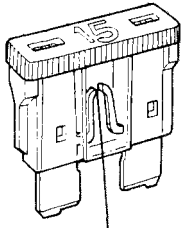
2. Remove the cover from the fuse box.



3. Check each of the large fuses in the under-hood and engine compartment fuse boxes by looking through the top at the wire inside. Removing these fuses requires a Phillips-head screwdriver.



4. Check the smaller fuses by pulling out the fuse with the fuse puller provided in the interior fuse box.



5. Look for a burned wire inside the fuse. If it is burned out, replace it with one of the spare fuses of the same rating or lower.

If you cannot drive the car without fixing the problem, and you do not have a spare fuse, take a fuse of the same rating or a lower rating from one of the other circuits. Make sure you can do without that circuit temporarily (such as the cigarette lighter or radio).

If you replaced the blown fuse with a spare fuse that has a lower rating, it might blow out again.
This does not indicate anything wrong. Replace the fuse with the correct rating as soon as you can.

NOTICE

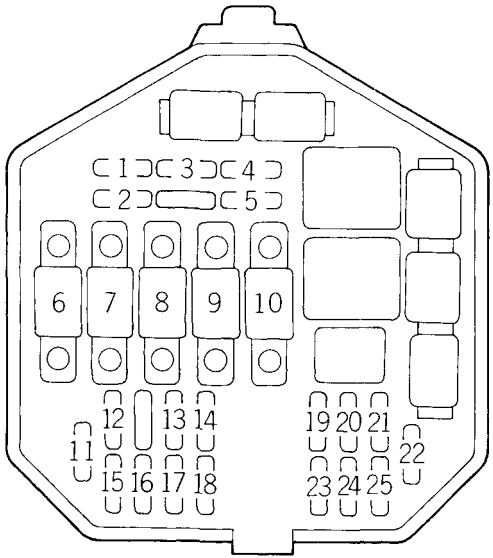
Replacing a fuse with one that has a higher rating greatly increases the chances of damaging the electrical system. If you do not have a replacement fuse with the proper rating for the circuit, install one with a lower rating.

6. If the replacement fuse of the same rating blows in a short time, there is probably a serious electrical problem in your car. Leave the blown fuse in that circuit and have your car checked by a qualified technician.

CONTINUED

Fuses

Under-hood Fuse Box

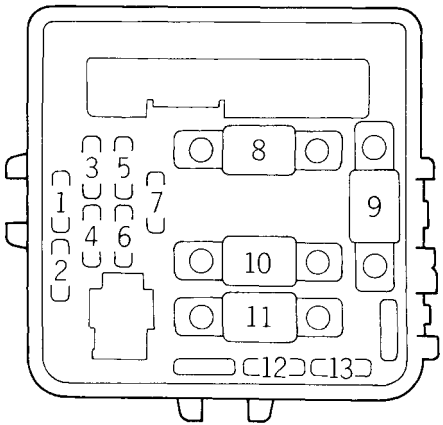


No.	Amps.	Circuits Protected
1	20 A	Driver's Power Window
2	20 A	Passenger's Power Window
3	20 A	Speaker Amplifier
4	20 A	Left Headlights
5	20 A	Right Headlights
6	40 A	Wiper Motor
7	50 A	EPS
8	30 A	Blower Motor
9	50 A	Ignition Switch (A)
10	40 A	ABS
11	30 A	Cooling Fan
12	20 A	ABS 1, 4
13	15 A	Right Retractor Motor

No.	Amps.	Circuits Protected
14	15 A	Left Retractor Motor
15	20 A	ABS 2, 3
16	7.5 A	Digital Clock
17	15 A	Interior Light
18	20 A	Power Door Lock
19	10 A	Daytime Running Lights*
20	20 A	Brake Lights, Horn
21	10 A	Hazard Lights
22	15 A	Left Taillights
23	10 A	Left condenser Fan
24	10 A	Right Condenser Fan
25	15 A	Illumination Lights

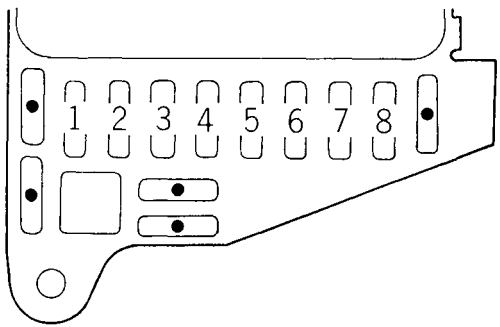
***Canadian model**

Engine Compartment Fuse Box



No.	Amps.	Circuits Protected
1	10 A	Engine Room Fan
2	10 A	HAC Clutch
3	20 A	Passenger's Power Seat Reclining
4	20 A	Driver's Power Seat Redining
5	20 A	Passenger's Power Seat Slide
6	20 A	Driver's Power Seat Slide
7	20 A	ACG (S)
8	120 A	Battery
9	30 A	Ignition Coil
10	40 A	Rear Defroster
11	30 A	Ignition Switch (B)
12	20 A	Throttle Motor
13	20 A	Cigarette Lighter

Interior Fuse Box



No.	Amps.	Circuits Protected
1	10 A	SRS
2	15 A	Alternator, Fuel Pump, Solenoid Valve
3	7.5 A	Daytime Running Lights*
4	15 A	Heater Control, Rear Defroster Relay, Cooling Fan Control
5	15 A	Back-up Lights, Turn Signals
6	7.5 A	Washer
7	7.5 A	Starter Signal
8	10 A	Radio

***Canadian model**

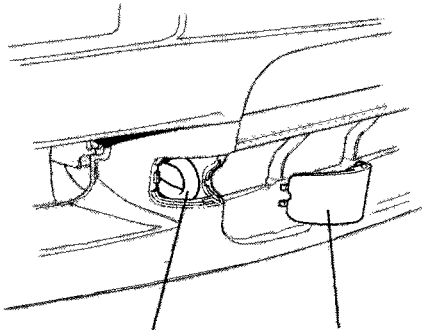
- Spare Fuse

If Your Car Gets Stuck

If your car gets stuck in sand, mud, or snow, call a towing service to pull it out (see page 223).

NOTICE

"Rocking" your car between forward and reverse gear or revving up the engine and allowing the wheels to spin freely at high speeds can damage the automatic transmission. Use a tow service to prevent transmission damage.



For very short distances, such as freeing the car, you can use the tie-down hook on the lower right of the front bumper. Remove the cover to expose the hook. This hook is not for open-road towing (see **Towing,** page 223).

If your car needs to be towed, call a professional towing service or, if you belong to one, an organization that provides roadside assistance. Never now your car behind another car with ust a rope or chain. It is very dangerous.

Emergency Towing
There are three popular methods of owing a car:

Flat-bed Equipment — The operator loads your car on the back of a truck. **This is the only recommended way of transporting your NSX.**

Wheel Lift Equipment — The tow ruck uses two pivoting arms that go under the tires (front or rear) and lift hem off the ground. The other two wheels remain on the ground. This owing method is not recommended. Because of your car's low ground clearance, the body can be damaged going over large bumps or up inclines.

Sling-type Equipment — The tow truck uses metal cables with hooks on the ends. These hooks go around parts of the frame or suspension and the cables lift that end of the car off the ground. Your car's suspension and body can be seriously damaged if this method of towing is attempted.

If your NSX cannot be transported by flat-bed, it should be towed with the rear wheels off the ground. If, due to damage, your car must be towed with the rear wheels on the ground, do the following:

5-speed Manual Transmission
- Release the parking brake.
- Shift the transmission to Neutral.

Automatic Transmission
- Release the parking brake.
- Start the engine.
- Shift to D, then to N.
- Turn off the engine.

NOTICE

Improper towing preparation will damage the transmission. Follow the above procedure exactly. If you cannot shift the transmission or start the engine (automatic transmission), your car must be towed on a flat-bed.

- It is best to tow the car no farther than 80 km (50 miles), and keep the speed below 35 mph (55 km/h).

NOTICE

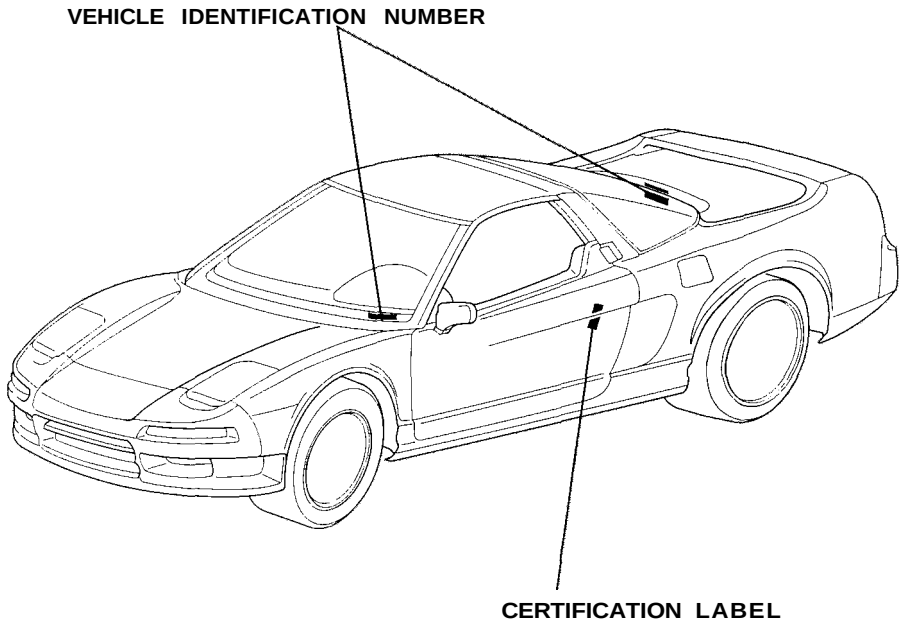
Trying to lift or tow your car by the bumpers will cause serious damage. The bumpers are not designed to support the car's weight.

The diagrams in this section give you the dimensions and capacities of your NSX, and the locations of the identification numbers. The technical explanations of several electronic and mechanical systems on your NSX are for the more technically-oriented owner.

Identification Numbers

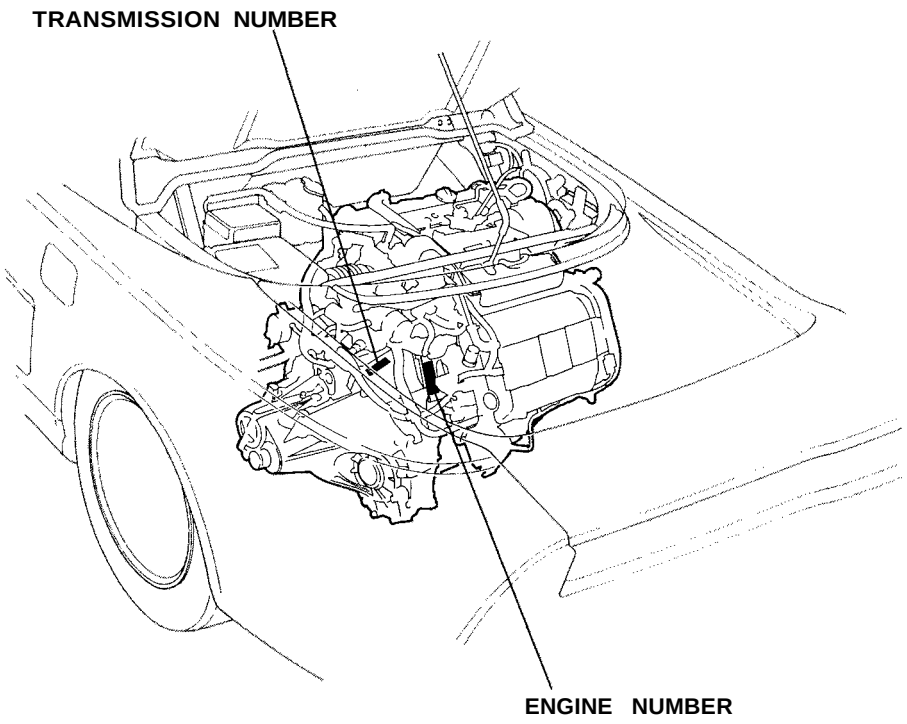
Your car has several identifying numbers located in various places.

The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is the 17-digit number your Acura dealer uses to register your car for warranty purposes. It is also necessary for licensing and insuring your car. The easiest place to find the VIN is on a plate fastened to the top of the dashboard. You can see it by looking through the windshield on the driver's side. It is also on the Certification label attached to the driver's doorjamb, and is stamped on the engine compartment bulkhead behind the engine. The VIN is also provided in bar code on the Certification label.



The Engine Number is stamped on the back left corner of the engine clock, below the rear valve cover.

The Transmission Number is on a label on top of the transmission.



Specifications

Dimensions		
Length		4,425 mm (174.0 in)
Width		1,810 mm (71.3 in)
Height		1,175 mm (46.3 in)
Wheelbase		2,530 mm (99.6 in)
Track	Front	1,510 mm (59.4 in)
	Rear	1,530 mm (60.2 in)

Weights	
Gross vehicle weight rating	See the Certification label attached to the driver's door-jamb.

Air Conditioning	
Refrigerant type	HFC-134a (R-134a)
Charge quantity	800–850 g (28.2–30.0 oz)
Lubricant type	ND-OIL8

Capacities		
Fuel tank		Approx. 70 ℓ (18.5 US gal. 15.4 Imp gal)
Engine coolant	Change*1	12.0 ℓ (12.7 US qt 10.6 Imp qt)
	Total Manual	16.0 ℓ (16.9 US qt 14.1 Imp qt)
	Automatic	16.5 ℓ (17.4 US qt 14.5 Imp qt)
Engine oil	Change*2 Including filter	5.0 ℓ (5.3 US qt 4.4 Imp qt)
	Without filter	4.3 ℓ (4.5 US qt 3.8 Imp qt)
	Total	6.3 ℓ (6.7 US qt 5.5 Imp qt)
Manual transmission oil	Change	2.7 ℓ (2.9 US qt 2.4 Imp qt)
	Total	2.8 ℓ (3.0 US qt 2.5 Imp qt)
Automatic transmission fluid	Change	2.9 ℓ (3.1 US qt 2.6 Imp qt)
	Total	7.0 ℓ (7.4 US qt 6.2 Imp qt)
Windshield washer reservoir	US Cars	2.5 ℓ (2.6 US qt 2.2 Imp qt)
	Canadian Cars	4.0 ℓ (4.2 US qt 3.5 Imp qt)

*1: Including the coolant in the expansion tank (2.1 /2.2 US qt/1.8 Imp qt) and that remaining in the engine.

*2: Excluding the oil remaining in the engine.

Lights

Headlights	High	12V – 65W (HB3) 12V – 60W (HB3)
	Low	12V – 55W (HB4) 12V – 51W (HB4)
Daytime Running Lights		12V – 32CP
Front turn signal lights		12V – 45CP (SAE 3497)
Front Parking lights		12V – 6CP (SAE 3652)
Rear turn signal lights		12V – 45CP (SAE 3497)
Stop/Taillights		12V – 32/2CP (SAE 2057)
Taillights		12V – 2CP (SAE 194)
Side marker lights	Front	12V – 3CP (SAE 168)
	Rear	12V – 3CP (SAE 168)
Back-up lights		12V – 32CP (SAE 1156)
License plate lights		12V – 8W
Interior light		12V – 5W
Trunk light		12V – 3.4W
Door courtesy lights		12V – 3.4W

Battery

Capacity	Manual transmission	12V – 52AH/5HR
	Automatic transmission	12V – 55AH/5HR

Fuses

Front compartment	See page 220 or the fuse box cover.
Interior	See page 221 or the fuse label attached to the inside of the fuse box door under the dashboard.
Engine compartment	See page 221 or the fuse box cover.

Engine

Type	Water cooled 4-stroke DOHC VTEC V-6 gasoline engine
Bore × Stroke	90.0 × 78.0 mm (3.54 × 3.07 in)
Displacement	2,977 cm³ (182 cu in)
Compression ratio	10.2 : 1
Spark plugs	See spark plug maintenance section page 163.

Alignment

Toe	Front	out 3.5 mm (0.14 in.)
	Rear	in 4.0 mm (0.24 in)
Camber	Front	–0° 20'
	Rear	–1° 30'
Caster	Front	8°

Tires

Size	Front	215/45 ZR 16
	Rear	245/40 ZR 17
	Folding Spare Tire	165/80 D 15
Pressure	Front	230 kPa (2.3 kg/cm², 33 psi)
	Rear	275 kPa (2.8 kg/cm², 40 psi)
	Folding Spare Tire	Front: 180 kPa (1.8 kg/cm², 26 psi) Rear: 220 kPa (2.2 kg/cm², 32 psi)

Anti-lock Brake System

The Anti-lock Brake System (ABS) works by measuring how fast the wheels are turning during braking and comparing their speed. If any wheel is rotating much slower than the others (on the verge of locking up and skidding), the system reduces hydraulic pressure to that wheel's brake caliper. When that wheel's speed matches the other wheels, the system applies normal hydraulic-pressure. This can take place several times per second at each wheel. You feel the ABS working as rapid pulsations in the brake pedal.

Each wheel has a wheel speed sensor assembly. As the wheel rotates, the sensor sends electrical pulses to the ABS control unit. The pulse frequency varies with the wheel speed.

The electrical output of the ABS control unit is connected to the modulator/solenoid unit. During braking, the ABS control unit monitors the pulse frequencies from the four wheels. When the control unit detects a wheel locking up, it energizes the appropriate solenoid in the modulator/solenoid unit. There are four solenoids: one for each wheel. The energized solenoid reduces hydraulic pressure to one side of a modulator valve. This, in turn, reduces hydraulic pressure in the brake line going to the affected wheel. When that wheel speeds up because of the reduced braking effort, the control unit de-energizes the solenoid. This builds hydraulic pressure on the modulator valve. The pressure increases in the hydraulic line to the wheel.

For the system to react quickly, the modulator/solenoid unit must have brake fluid under high pressure. This is supplied by an accumulator that is pressurized by an electric pump. A pressure-sensing switch on the accumulator controls this pump.

The control unit also contains error detection circuitry. It monitors the operation of the wheel sensors, solenoids, pump, and electronics. If the control unit detects any faults, it shuts off power to the pump motor and solenoids. The light on the instrument panel comes on.
The brakes then work like a conventional system without anti-lock capabilities.

The TCS works on the same speed-sensing principles as the ABS. The TCS monitors the speed of the wheels during acceleration. If one drive wheel starts to spin faster than the other, or both drive wheels spin faster than the front wheels, the TCS reduces engine power to minimize wheelspin.

The TCS uses the same wheel speed sensor assemblies used by the ABS. An additional sensor measures steering-wheel-angle. This senses how far the front wheels are turned, if at all. The TCS control unit receives the signals from these sensors.

When the TCS senses wheelspin, the control unit determines how much slippage to allow based on the difference in wheel speeds and the steering angle. It then controls the throttle and signals the engine's ECM to regulate ignition timing and fuel flow. This reduces available engine power.

The control unit monitors the TCS circuitry while driving. If it senses a problem, the TCS indicator light on the instrument panel goes on. The system will then be turned off.

Tire Information

Tire Size Designation

A tire's sidewall is marked with a tire size designation. You will need this information when selecting replacement tires for your car. The following explains what the letters and numbers in the tire size designation mean.

(Example tire size designation)
215/45ZR16

215 — Tire width in millimeters.

45 — Aspect ratio. The tire's section height as a percentage of its width.

Z — Speed Rating Symbol. See the speed rating chart in this section for additional information.

R — Tire construction code (Radial).

16 — Rim diameter in inches.

Wheel Size Designation

Wheels are also marked with important information that you need if you ever have to replace one. The following explains what the letters and numbers in the wheel size designation mean.

(Example wheel size designation)
16 x 7 JJ

16 — Rim diameter in inches.

7 — Rim width in inches.

JJ — Rim contour designation.

Tire Speed Ratings

The chart below shows many of the different speed ratings currently being used for passenger car tires. The speed rating symbol is part of the tire size designation on the sidewall of the tire. This symbol corresponds to that tire's designed maximum safe operating speed.

Speed Rating Symbol	Maximum Speed
S	180 km/h (112 mph)
T	190 km/h (118 mph)
H	210 km/h (130 mph)
V	240 km/h (149 mph)
Z	Above 240 km/h (149 mph)

DOT Tire Quality Grading
(U.S. Cars)
The tires on your car meet all U.S. Federal Safety Requirements. All tires are also graded for treadwear, traction, and temperature performance according to Department of Transportation (DOT) standards. The following explains those grades.

Treadwear
The treadwear grade is a comparative rating based on the wear rate of the tire when tested under controlled conditions on a specified government test course. For example, a tire graded 150 would wear one and one half (1-1/2) times as well on the government course as a tire graded 100. The relative performance of tires depends upon the actual conditions of their use, however, and may depart significantly from the norm due to variations in driving habits, service practices and differences in road characteristics and climate.

Traction
The traction grades, from highest to lowest, are A, B, and C, and they represent the tire's ability to stop on wet pavement as measured under controlled conditions on specified government test surfaces of asphalt and concrete. A tire marked C may have poor traction performance.

Warning: The traction grade assigned to this tire is based on braking (straight ahead) traction tests and does not include cornering (turning) traction.

Temperature

The temperature grades are A (the highest), B, and C, representing the tire's resistance to the generation of heat and its ability to dissipate heat when tested under controlled conditions on a specified indoor laboratory test wheel. Sustained high temperature can cause the material of the tire to degenerate and reduce tire life, and excessive temperature can lead to sudden tire failure. The grade C corresponds to a level of performance which all passenger car tires must meet under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 109. Grades B and A represent higher levels of performance on the laboratory test wheel than the minimum required by law.

Warning: The temperature grade for this tire is established for a tire that is properly inflated and not overloaded. Excessive speed, underinflation, or excessive loading, either separately or in combination, can cause heat build-up and possible tire failure.

The burning of gasoline in your car's engine produces several byproducts. Some of these are carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and hydrocarbons (HC). Gasoline evapo--ating from the tank also produces hydrocarbons. Controlling the production of NOx, CO, and HC is important to the environment. Under certain conditions of sunlight and climate, NOx and HC react to form photochemical "smog." Carbon monoxide does not contribute to smog creation, but it is a poisonous gas.

The Clean Air Act

The United States Clean Air Act* sets standards for automobile emissions. It also requires that automobile manufacturers explain to owners how their emission controls work and what to do to maintain them. This section summarizes how the emission controls work. Scheduled maintenance is on page 138.

* In Canada, Acura vehicles comply with the Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (CMVSS) on Emissions valid at the time they are manufactured.

Crankcase Emission Control System

Your car has a Positive Crankcase Ventilation System. This keeps gasses that build up in the engine's crankcase from going into the atmosphere. The Positive Crankcase Ventilation valve routes them from the crankcase back to the intake manifold. They are then drawn into the engine and burned.

Evaporative Emission Control System

As gasoline evaporates in the fuel tank, a canister filled with charcoal adsorbs the vapor. It is stored in this canister while the engine is off. After the engine is started and warmed up, the vapor is drawn into the engine and burned during driving.

Emission Controls

Exhaust Emission Controls
The exhaust emission controls include four systems: PGM-FI, Ignition Timing Control, Exhaust Gas Recirculation, and Three Way Catalytic Converter. These four systems work together to control the engine's combustion and minimize the amount of HC, CO, and NOx that comes out the tailpipe. The exhaust emission control systems are separate from the crankcase and evaporative emission control systems.

PGM-FI System
The PGM-F1 System uses sequential multiport fuel injection. It has three subsystems: Air Intake, Engine Control, and Fuel Control. The Engine Control Module (ECM) uses various sensors to determine how much air is going into the engine. It then controls how much fuel to inject under all operating conditions.

Ignition Timing Control System
This system constantly adjusts the ignition timing, reducing the amount of HC and NOx produced.

Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) System
The Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) system takes some of the exhaust gas and routes it back into the intake manifold. Adding exhaust gas to the air/fuel mixture reduces the amount of NOx produced when the fuel is burned.

Three Way Catalytic Converter
The three way catalytic converter is in the exhaust system. Through chemical reactions, it converts HC, CO, and NOx in the engine's exhaust to carbon dioxide (CO_2), dinitrogen (N_2), and water vapor.

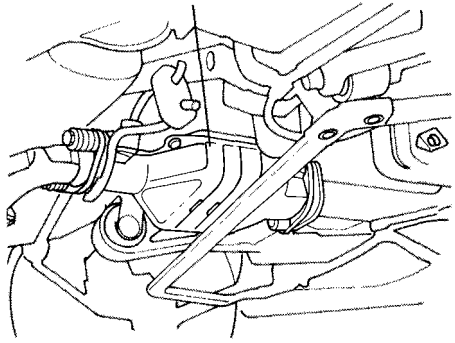
Replacement Parts
The emission control systems are designed and certified to work together in reducing emissions to levels that comply with the Clean Air Act. To make sure the emissions remain low, you should use only new Genuine Acura replacement parts or their equivalent for repairs. Using lower quality parts may increase the emissions from your car.

The emissions control systems are covered by warranties separate from the rest of your car. Read your warranty manual for more information.

The three way catalytic converter contains precious metals that serve as catalysts, promoting chemical reactions to convert the exhaust gasses without affecting the metals. The catalytic converter is referred to as a three-way catalyst, since it acts on HC, CO, and NOx. A replacement unit must be an original Acura part or its equivalent.

The three way catalytic converter must operate at a high temperature for the chemical reactions to take place. It can set on fire any combustible materials that come near it. Park your car away from high grass, dry leaves, or other flammables.

THREE WAY CATALYTIC CONVERTER



A defective three way catalytic converter contributes to air pollution, and can impair your engine's performance. Follow these guidelines to protect your car's three way catalytic converter.

- Always use unleaded gasoline. Even a small amount of leaded gasoline can contaminate the catalyst metals, making the three way converter ineffective.
- Keep the engine tuned-up.
- Have your car diagnosed and repaired if it is misfiring, backfiring, stalling, or otherwise not running properly.

Warranty and Customer Relations

Warranty Coverages

U.S. Cars
Your new Acura is covered by these warranties:

New Car Limited Warranty — covers your new car, except for the battery, emissions control systems and accessories, against defects in materials and workmanship.

Emissions Control Systems Defects Warranty and Emissions Performance Warranty — these two warranties cover your car's emissions control systems. Time, mileage, and coverage are conditional. Please read the warranty manual for exact information.

Original Equipment Battery Limited Warranty — this warranty gives up to 100% credit toward a replacement battery.

Seat Belt Limited Warranty — a seat belt that fails to function properly is covered for the useful life of the car.

Rust Perforation Limited Warranty — all exterior body panels are covered for rust-through from the inside for the specified time period with no mileage limit.

Accessory Limited Warranty — Genuine Acura Accessories are covered under this warranty. Time and mileage limits depend on the type of accessory and other factors. Please read your warranty manual for details.

Replacement Parts Limited Warranty — covers all Genuine Acura replacement parts against defects in materials and workmanship.

Replacement Battery Limited Warranty — provides prorated coverage for a replacement battery purchased from an Acura dealer.

Replacement Muffler Lifetime Limited Warranty — provides coverage for as long as the purchaser of the muffler owns the car.

Restrictions and exclusions apply to all these warranties. Please read the 1995 Acura Warranties booklet that came with your car for precise information on warranty coverages. Your Acura's original tires are covered by their manufacturer. Tire warranty information is in a separate booklet.

Canada Cars
Please refer to the 1995 Warranty and Maintenance Guide that came with your car.

Acura dealership personnel are trained professionals. They should be able to answer all your questions. If you encounter a problem that your dealer does not solve to your satisfaction, please discuss it with the dealership's management. The Service Manager or General Manager can help. Almost all problems are solved in this way.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by the dealership's management, contact the Acura Customer Relations Office.

U.S. Owners:

Acura Automobile Division
Customer Relations Office
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
1919 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90501-2746

or telephone:

(800) 382-2238

Canadian Owners:
Refer to the Canadian Zone Office Map on the next page.

When you call or write, please give us this information:

- Vehicle Identification Number (see page 226)
- Name and address of the dealer who services your car
- Date of purchase
- Mileage on your car
- Your name, address, and telephone number
- A detailed description of the problem
- Name of the dealer who sold the car to you

Canada Zone Office Man

Western Zone
Honda Canada Inc.
13240 Worster Court
Richmond, B.C.
V6V 2B8
(604) 278-6504

Central Zone
Honda Canada Inc.
126 Milner Avenue
Scarborough, Ontario
M1S 3R2
(416) 299-3400

Quebec Zone
Honda Canada Inc.
1750 rue Eiffel
Boucherville, Quebec
J4B 7W1
(514) 655-6161

Atlantic Zone
Honda Canada Inc.
800 Windmill Road
Dartmouth, N.S.
B3B 1L1
(902) 468-4416

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying Acura Automobile Division, American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, NHTSA cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or Acura Automobile Division, American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Auto Safety Hotline toll-free at 1-800-424-9393 (or 366-0123 in Washington D.C. area) or write to: NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Hotline.

Purchasing Factory Authorized Manuals (U.S.only)

The following publications covering the operation and servicing of your vehicle can be obtained from Helm Incorporated, either by filling out the attached form or, for credit card holders, calling the toll-free phone number on the form. For manuals prior to the year shown below, contact Helm Incorporated, P.O. Box 07280, Detroit, Michigan 48207, or call 1-800-782-4356.

Publication From Number	From Description	Price Each*
61SL004	1995 Acura NSX / NSX-T Service Manual	$70.00
61SL004EL	1995 Acura NSX / NSX-T Electrical Troubleshooting Manual	$32.00
61SL032	1995 Acura NSX / NSX-T Body Repair Manual	$34.00
31SL0640	1995 Acura NSX Owner's Manual	$30.00
ACU-R	Order Form for Previous Years- Indicate Year and Model Desired	FREE

* Prices are subject to change without notice and without incurring obligation.

Valid only for sales within U.S. Canadian owners should contact their authorized Acura dealer.

ORDER TOLL FREE: 1-800-782-4356
(NOTE: For Credit Card Holder Orders Only)
Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. EST

MINIMUM CREDIT CARD PURCHASE $10.00

OR

By completing this form you can order the materials desired. You can pay by check or money order, or charge to your credit card. Mail to Helm Incorporated at the address shown on the back of the order form.

1995 ACU	PUBLICATION NUMBER	VEHICLE MODEL Name	VEHICLE MODEL Year	Qty	Price Each*	Total Price

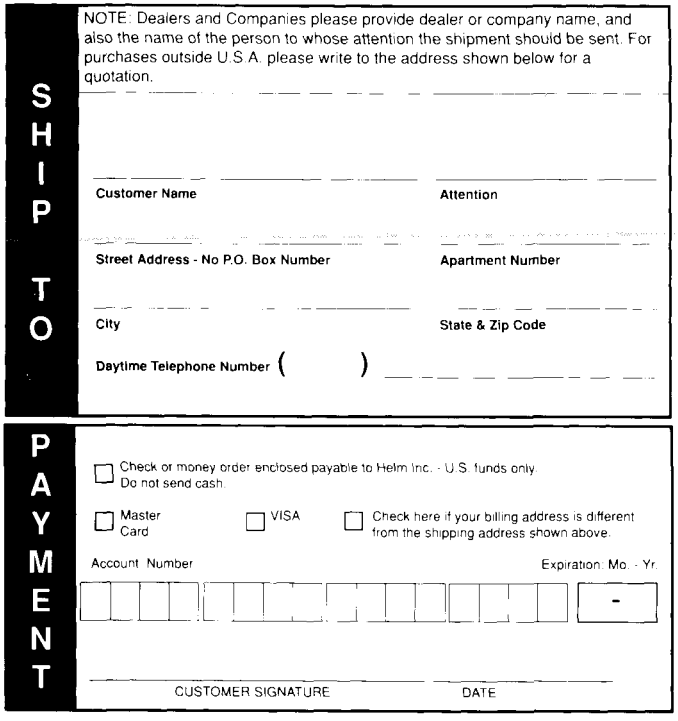
* Prices are subject to change without notice and without incurring obligation.

Orders are mailed within 10 days. Please allow adequate time for delivery.

TOTAL MATERIAL	
Mich. Purchases Add 4% Sales Tax	
HANDLING CHARGE	$4.00
GRAND TOTAL	

CONTINUED

Authorized Manuals



SHIP TO

NOTE: Dealers and Companies please provide dealer or company name, and also the name of the person to whose attention the shipment should be sent. For purchases outside U.S.A. please write to the address shown below for a quotation.

Customer Name

Attention

Street Address - No P.O. Box Number

Apartment Number

City

State & Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number ( )

PAYMENT

☐ Check or money order enclosed payable to Helm Inc. - U.S. funds only. Do not send cash.

☐ Master Card ☐ VISA ☐ Check here if your billing address is different from the shipping address shown above.

Account Number

Expiration: Mo. - Yr.

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE

DATE

These Publications cannot be returned tor credit without receiving advance authorization within 14 days of delivery. On returns, a restocking tee may be applied against the original order

HELM P.O. BOX 07280 • DETOROIT, MICHIGAN 48207 • 1-800-782-4356

Service Manual:
This manual covers maintenance and recommended procedures for repair to engine and chassis components. It is written for the Journeyman mechanic, but is simple enough for most mechanically-inclined owners to understand.

Electrical Troubleshooting Manual:
This manual complements the Service Manual by providing in-depth troubleshooting information for each electrical circuit in your car.

Body Repair Manual:
This manual describes the procedures involved in the replacement of damaged body parts.

A

B

CONTINUED

C

D

E

CONTINUED

CONTINUED

Index

CONTINUED

T

Gas Station Information

Gasoline:
Premium UNLEADED gasoline
Pump octane number of 91 or higher

Fuel Tank Capacity:
70 ℓ (18.5 US gal. 15.4 Imp gal)

Recommended Engine Oil:
API SG or SH grade
"Energy Conserving II" oil
SAE 10 W — 30 viscosity

Engine Oil Capacity:
including filter 5.0 ℓ
(5.3 US qt. 4.4 Imp qt)
without filter 4.3 ℓ
(4.5 US qt. 3.8 Imp qt)

Tire Pressure (measured cold):
Front: 230 kPa (2.3 kg/cm^2, 33 psi)
Rear: 275 kPa (2.8 kg/cm^2, 40 psi)

Folding Spare Tire Pressure:
If used as a spare for either front tires:
180 kPa (1.8 kg/cm^2, 26 psi)
rear tires:
220 kPa (2.2 kg/cm^2, 32 psi)

Tire Size:
Front: 215/45 ZR16
Rear: 245/40 ZR17
Folding Spare Tire: 165/80D15

Other Tire Information:
See label on the driver's doorjamb.

5-Speed Manual Transmission Oil:
SAE 10 W — 30 or 10 W — 40 viscosity
API SF or SG grade recommended

Capacity (including differential):
2.7 ℓ (2.9 US qt. 2.4 Imp qt)

Automatic Transmission Fluid:
Honda Premium Formula Automatic Transmission Fluid or an equivalent DEXRON" II type Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF)

Capacity (including differential):
2.9 ℓ (3.1 US qt. 2.6 Imp qt)