

## Break-in Period, Gasoline Type

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### Break-in Period

Help assure your vehicle's future reliability and performance by paying extra attention to how you drive during the first 600 miles (1,000 km). During this period:

- Avoid full-throttle starts and rapid acceleration.
- Avoid hard braking for the first 200 miles (300 km).
- Do not change the oil until the multi-information display indicates it is needed.

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

### Gasoline Type

Your Acura is designed to operate on unleaded gasoline with a pump octane number of 91 or higher. Use of a lower octane gasoline can

cause occasional metallic knocking noises in the engine and will result in decreased engine performance.

#### *On TL with manual transmission*

You may hear a knocking noise from the engine if you drive the vehicle at low engine speed (below about 1,000 rpm) in a higher gear. To stop this, raise engine speed by shifting to a lower gear.

We recommend gasolines containing detergent additives that help prevent fuel system and engine deposits. In addition, in order to maintain good performance, fuel economy, and emissions control, we strongly recommend, in areas where it is available, the use of gasoline that does NOT contain manganese-based fuel additives such as MMT.

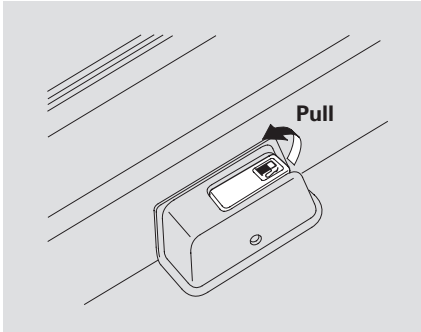
Use of gasoline with these additives may adversely affect performance, and cause the Malfunction Indicator Lamp on your instrument panel to come on. If this happens, contact your authorized Acura dealer for service.

For further important fuel-related information, please refer to your Quick Start Guide.

Some gasoline today is blended with oxygenates such as ethanol or MTBE. Your vehicle is designed to operate on oxygenated gasoline containing up to 10 percent ethanol by volume and up to 15 percent MTBE by volume. Do not use gasoline containing methanol.

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

### Fueling



1. Park with the driver's side closest to the service station pump.
2. Open the fuel fill door by pulling on the handle to the left of the driver's seat.

### **⚠ 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 flames away.
  - Handle fuel only outdoors.
  - Wipe up spills immediately.
3. Remove the fuel fill cap slowly. You may hear a hissing sound as pressure inside the tank escapes. Place the knob on the cap in the notch on the fuel fill door.
  4. Stop filling the tank after the fuel nozzle automatically clicks off. Do not try to "top off" the tank. Leave some room for the fuel to expand with temperature changes.

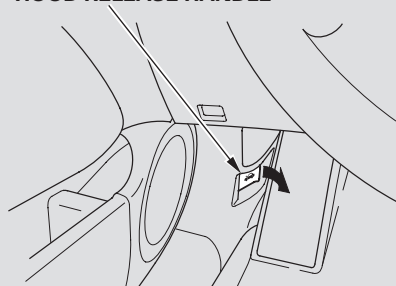
*If the fuel nozzle keeps clicking off even though the tank is not full, there may be a problem with your vehicle's fuel vapor recovery system. The system helps keep fuel vapors from going into the atmosphere. Consult your dealer.*

5. Screw the fuel fill cap back on until it clicks at least three times. If you do not properly tighten the cap, the Malfunction Indicator Lamp may come on (see page [243](#)).
6. Push the fuel fill door closed until it latches.

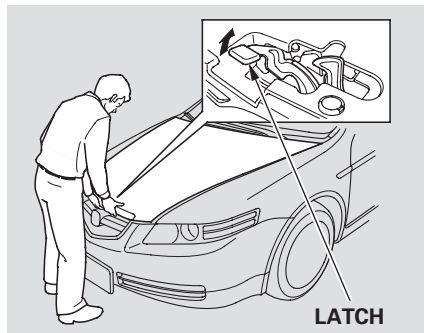
## Service Station Procedures

### Opening the Hood

#### HOOD RELEASE HANDLE



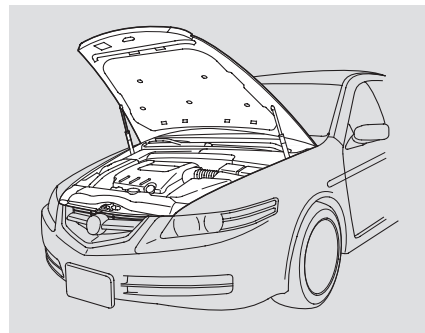
1. Park the vehicle, and set the parking brake. Pull the hood release handle located under the lower left corner of the dashboard. The hood will pop up slightly.
2. Put your fingers between the front edge of the hood and the front grille to locate the hood latch handle. Push this handle up until it releases the hood. Lift the hood.



If the hood latch handle moves stiffly, or if you can open the hood without lifting the handle, the mechanism should be cleaned and lubricated.

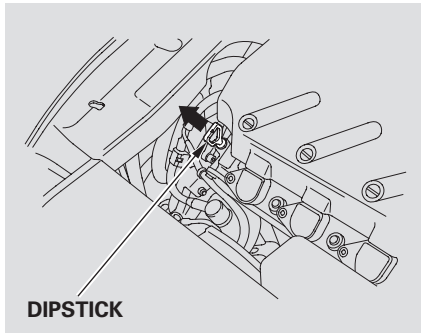
3. Lift the hood up most of the way. The hydraulic supports will lift it up the rest of the way and hold it up.

### To Close the Hood



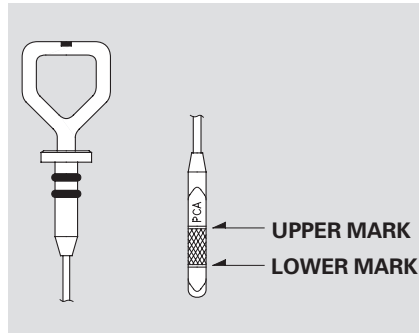
Lower the hood to about a foot (30 cm) above the fender, then press down firmly with your hands. Make sure it is securely latched.

### Oil Check



Wait a few minutes after turning the engine off before you check the oil.

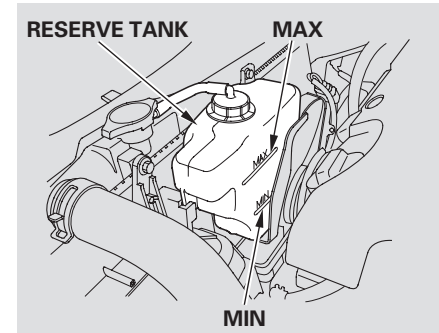
1. Remove the dipstick (orange loop).
2. Wipe off the dipstick with a clean cloth or paper towel.
3. Insert it all the way back in its tube.



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

If it is near or below the lower mark, see [Adding Oil](#) on page [204](#).

### Engine Coolant Check



Look at the coolant level in the radiator reserve tank. Make sure it is between the MAX and MIN lines. If it is below the MIN line, see [Adding Engine Coolant](#) on page [207](#) for information on adding the proper coolant.

Refer to [Owner's Maintenance Checks](#) on page [198](#) for information about checking other items on your Acura.

## Fuel Economy

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### Improving Fuel Economy

- Always maintain your vehicle according to the maintenance messages given by the multi-information display. See **Owner's Maintenance Checks** on page [198](#).

*For example*, an underinflated tire causes more “rolling resistance,” which uses fuel.

The build-up of snow or mud on your vehicle's underside adds weight and rolling resistance. Frequent cleaning helps your fuel mileage and reduces the chance of corrosion.

- Drive moderately. Rapid acceleration, abrupt cornering, and hard braking use more fuel.
- Always drive in the highest gear possible.

- Try to maintain a constant speed. Every time you slow down and speed up, your vehicle uses extra fuel. Use the cruise control when appropriate.
- Combine several short trips into one.
- The air conditioning puts an extra load on the engine which makes it use more fuel. Use the fresh-air ventilation when possible.

Modifying your vehicle, or installing some non-Acura accessories, can make it unsafe. Before you make any modifications or add any accessories, be sure to read the following information.

### Accessories

Your dealer has Acura accessories that allow you to personalize your vehicle. These accessories have been designed and approved for your vehicle, and are covered by warranty.

Although aftermarket accessories may fit on your vehicle, they may not meet factory specifications, and could adversely affect your vehicle's handling and stability (see page 170).

### **⚠ WARNING**

Improper accessories or modifications can affect your vehicle's handling, stability, and performance, and cause a crash in which you can be hurt or killed.

Follow all instructions in this owner's manual regarding accessories and modifications.

When properly installed, cellular phones, alarms, two-way radios, and low-powered audio systems should not interfere with your vehicle's computer controlled systems, such as the SRS and the anti-lock brake system.

Before installing any accessory:

- Make sure the accessory does not obscure any lights, or interfere with proper vehicle operation or performance.
- Be sure electronic accessories do not overload electrical circuits (see page 245) or interfere with proper operation.
- Have the installer contact your Acura dealer for assistance before installing any electronic accessory.

## Accessories and Modifications

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### Modifying Your Vehicle

Removing parts from your vehicle, or replacing components with non-Acura (aftermarket) components could seriously affect your vehicle's handling, stability, and reliability.

Some examples are:

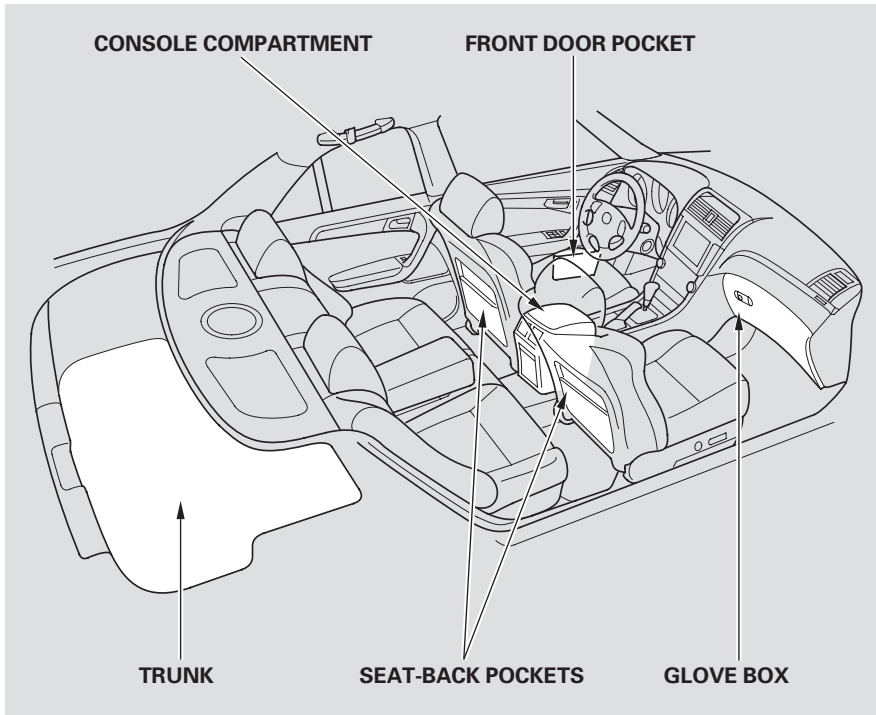
- Lowering your vehicle with an aftermarket suspension kit that significantly reduces ground clearance can allow the undercarriage to hit speed bumps or other raised objects, which could cause the airbags to deploy.
- Raising your vehicle with an aftermarket suspension kit can affect the handling and stability.
- Aftermarket wheels, because they are a universal design, can cause excessive stress on suspension components.

- Larger or smaller wheels and tires can interfere with the operation of your vehicle's anti-lock brakes and other systems.

Do not modify your steering wheel or any other part of your Supplemental Restraint System. Modifications could make the system ineffective. See the safety precautions on page [28](#).

If you plan to modify your vehicle, consult your Acura dealer.

## Carrying Cargo



Your vehicle has several convenient storage areas:

- Glove box
- Front door and seat-back pockets
- Console compartment
- Trunk
- Roof-rack (if installed)

In addition, the trunk pass-through allows you to carry longer items. However, carrying too much cargo, or improperly storing it, can affect your vehicle's handling, stability, stopping distance, and tires, and make it unsafe. Before carrying any type of cargo, be sure to read the following pages.

## Carrying Cargo

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The maximum load for your vehicle is 850 lbs (395 kg). This figure includes total weight of all occupants, cargo, and accessories.

To determine the correct cargo and luggage load limit:

1. Locate the statement, “the combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed 850 lbs (395 kg)” on your vehicle’s placard (on the driver’s doorjamb).
2. Determine the combined weight of the driver and passengers that will be riding in the vehicle. (Five is the seating capacity of your vehicle.)
3. Subtract the combined weight of the driver and passengers from 850 lbs (395 kg).
4. The resulting figure equals the available load capacity.

For example, if there will be four 150 lbs (70 kg) occupants in your vehicle, the amount of available cargo and luggage load capacity is 250 lbs (115 kg).

$$4 \times 150 \text{ lbs (70 kg)} = 600 \text{ lbs (280 kg)}$$

$$850 \text{ lbs (395 kg)} - 600 \text{ lbs (280 kg)} = 250 \text{ lbs (115 kg)}$$

5. Determine the combined weight of accessories, luggage, and cargo being loaded in the vehicle. The weight may not safely exceed the available cargo and luggage load capacity calculated in step 4.

### **WARNING**

Overloading or improper loading can affect handling and stability and cause a crash in which you can be hurt or killed.

Follow all load limits and other loading guidelines in this manual.

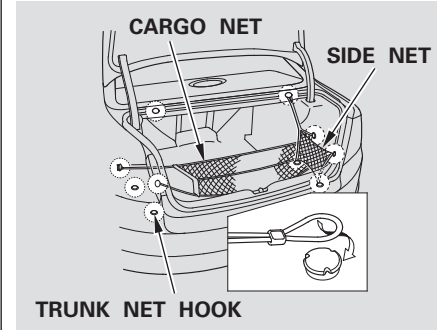
### Carrying Items in the Passenger Compartment

- Store or secure all items that could be thrown around and hurt someone during a crash.
- Do not put any items on top of the trunk panel. They can block your view and be thrown around the vehicle during a crash.
- Be sure items placed on the floor behind the front seats cannot roll under the seats and interfere with the pedals or seat operation.
- Keep the glove box closed while driving. If it is open, a passenger could injure their knees during a crash or sudden stop.

### Carrying Cargo in the Trunk or on a Roof Rack

- Distribute cargo evenly on the floor of the trunk, placing the heaviest items on the bottom and as far forward as possible.
- If you carry large items that prevent you from closing the trunk lid, exhaust gas can enter the passenger area. To avoid the possibility of **carbon monoxide poisoning**, follow the instructions on page 46.
- If you carry any items on a roof rack, be sure the total weight of the rack and the items does not exceed the maximum allowable weight. Please contact your Acura dealer for further information.

### Cargo Nets



The cargo net can be used to help hold down items stored in the trunk. To use the cargo net, hook it to the buttons on the floor and sides of the trunk. You can use the cargo net in several configurations by hooking it to different buttons. There is also a side net that can be used on either side of the trunk.

When you are not using the cargo net, store it in the pocket in the spare tire tool case.

