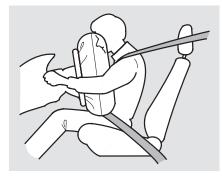
SRS Components

Your Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) includes:

- Two front airbags. The driver's airbag is stored in the center of the steering wheel; the front passenger's airbag is stored in the dashboard. Both are marked "SRS AIRBAG."
- Automatic seat belt tensioners (see page 46).
- Sensors that can detect a moderate to severe frontal collision.

- A sophisticated electronic system that continually monitors and records information about the sensors, the control unit, the airbag activators, and driver and passenger seat belt use when the ignition is ON (II).
- An indicator light on the instrument panel that alerts you to a possible problem with the system (see page 51).
- Emergency backup power in case your car's electrical system is disconnected in a crash.

How Your Front Airbags Work

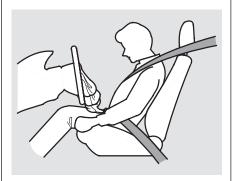


If you ever have a moderate to severe frontal collision, the sensors will detect the vehicle's rapid deceleration. If the rate of deceleration is high enough, the control unit will instantly inflate the front airbags.

During a frontal crash, your seat belts help restrain your lower body and torso. Your airbag provides a cushion to help restrain and protect your head and chest.

Since both airbags use the same sensors, both airbags normally inflate at the same time. However, it is possible for only one airbag to inflate.

This can occur when the severity of a collision is at the margin, or threshold, that determines whether or not the airbags will deploy. In such cases, the seat belt will provide sufficient protection, and the supplemental protection offered by the airbag would be minimal.



After inflating, the front airbags immediately deflate, so they won't interfere with the driver's visibility, or the ability to steer or operate other controls.

The total time for inflation and deflation is approximately one-tenth of a second, so fast that most occupants are not aware that the airbags deployed until they see them lying in their laps.

After a crash, you may see what looks like smoke. This is actually powder from the airbag's surface. Although the powder is not harmful, people with respiratory problems may experience some temporary discomfort. If this occurs, get out of the car as soon as it is safe to do so.

CONTINUED

U.S. Owners:

For additional information on how your airbags work, see the booklet titled *SRS: What You Need to Know About Airbags* that came with your owner's manual.

Canadian Owners:

For additional information on how your airbags work, ask your dealer for a copy of the booklet titled *SRS:* What You Need to Know About Airbags.

How Your Side Airbags Work Only on U.S. models equipped with side airbags.



Your car is equipped with side airbags for the driver and a front seat passenger. The airbags are stored in the outer edges of the front seat-backs, and both are marked "SIDE AIRBAG."

If you ever have a moderate to severe side impact, the sensors will detect rapid deceleration and signal the control unit to instantly inflate either the driver's or the passenger's side airbag.

Only one airbag will deploy during a side impact. If the impact is on the passenger's side, the passenger's side airbag will deploy even if there is no passenger.

To get the best protection from the side airbags, front seat occupants should wear their seat belts and sit upright and well back in their seats.

How the SRS Indicator Light Works

SRS

The SRS indicator light alerts you to a potential

problem with your front airbags and automatic seat belt tensioners.

On models with side airbags, this light will also alert you to a potential problem with your side airbags or passenger's side airbag automatic cut-off system (see page 52).

When you turn the ignition ON (II), this indicator will light briefly then go out. This tells you that the system is working properly.

If the light comes on at any other time, or does not come on at all, you should have the system checked by your dealer. For example:

- If the SRS indicator light does not come on after you turn the ignition ON (II).
- If the light stays on after the engine starts.
- If the light comes on or flashes on and off while you drive.

If you see any of these indications, your front or side airbags may not deploy, your passenger's side airbag automatic cut-off system may not work properly, or your seat belt tensioners may not work when you need them. See your Honda dealer as soon as possible.

AWARNING

Ignoring the SRS indicator light can result in serious injury or death if the airbags, cut-off system, or tensioners do not work properly.

Have your vehicle checked by a dealer as soon as possible if the SRS light alerts you to a potential problem.

How the Side Airbag Cut-off **Indicator Light Works**

Only on U.S. models equipped with side airbags



This light alerts you that the passenger's side airbag has been automatically shut off.

If does not mean there is a problem with your side airbags. It means that the side airbag cut-off system has activated to prevent the side airbag from deploying.

To reduce the risk of injury from an inflating side airbag, your car has an automatic cut-off system for the passenger's side airbag.

Although Honda does not encourage children to ride in the front, this system is designed to shut off the side airbag if a child leans sideways and the child's head is in the side airbag deployment path.

If a small-statured adult leans sideways, or larger adult slouches and leans sideways into the deployment path of the side airbag. the system may also shut off the side airbag.

If the side airbag cut-off indicator light comes on, you should have the passenger sit upright. Once the passenger is out of the deployment path of the side airbag, the system will turn the airbag back on and the light will go out.

A front seat passenger should not use a cushion or other object as a backrest. It may prevent the cut-off system from working properly.

When you turn the ignition ON (II), the indicator should light briefly and go out (see page 61). If it doesn't light, stays on, or comes on while driving without a passenger in the front seat, have the system checked.

Airbag Service

Your front and side airbag systems (if equipped) are virtually maintenance-free, and there are no parts you can safely service. However, you must have your car serviced if:

- Your airbags ever inflate. Any airbag that has deployed must be replaced along with the control unit, automatic seat belt tensioners, and other related parts. Do not try to remove or replace any airbag by yourself. This must be done by a Honda dealer or a knowledgeable body shop.
- The SRS indicator light alerts you to a problem. Take your car to an authorized Honda dealer as soon as possible. If you ignore this indication, the airbags might not inflate when you need them.

Additional Safety Precautions

- *Do not attempt to deactivate your airbags.* Together, airbags and seat belts provide the best protection.
- Do not tamper with airbag components or wiring for any reason. Tampering could cause the airbags to deploy, possibly causing very serious injury.
- *Do not expose the front seat-backs to water.* If rain or spilled water soaks into a seat-back, it can prevent the side airbag system from working properly.

• Do not cover or replace front seatback covers without consulting a Honda dealer. Improperly replacing or covering front seatback covers can prevent your side airbags from inflating during a collision.

See page 172 for further information and precautions relating to your airbags.