Vehicle Stability Assist (VSA) System

The vehicle stability assist (VSA) system helps to stabilize the vehicle during cornering if the vehicle turns more or less than desired. It also assists you in maintaining traction while accelerating on loose or slippery road surfaces. It does this by regulating the engine's output and by selectively applying the brakes.

When VSA activates, you may notice that the engine does not respond to the accelerator in the same way it does at other times. There may also be some unusual noise from the modulator. You will also see the VSA activation indicator blink.

The VSA system cannot enhance the vehicle's driving stability in all situations and does not control your vehicle's entire braking system. It is still your responsibility to drive and corner at reasonable speeds and to leave a sufficient margin of safety.

VSA Activation Indicator

When VSA activates, you will see the VSA activation indicator blink (see page 67).

Vehicle Stability Assist (VSA) System Indicator

If this indicator comes on while driving, pull to the side of the road when it is safe, and turn off the engine. Reset the system by restarting the engine. If the VSA system indicator stays on, or comes back on while driving, have the VSA system inspected by your dealer.

If the indicator does not come on when the ignition switch is turned to the ON (II) position, there may be a problem with the VSA system. Have your dealer inspect your vehicle as soon as possible.

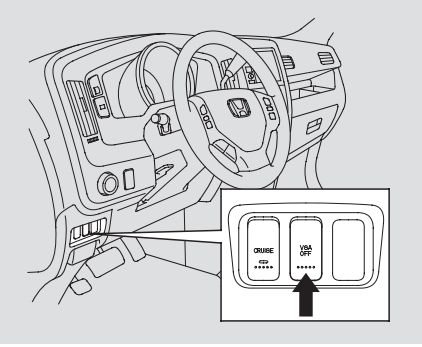
If the low tire pressure indicator comes on (see page 204), the VSA system automatically turns on even if you turn it off with the VSA OFF button.

Without VSA, your vehicle will have normal braking and cornering ability, but it will not have VSA traction and stability enhancement.

VSA Off Switch

In certain unusual conditions when your vehicle gets stuck in shallow mud or fresh snow, it may be easier to free it with the VSA temporarily switched off. When the VSA system is off, the traction control system is also off. You should only attempt to free your vehicle with the VSA off if you are not able to free it when the VSA is on.

Immediately after freeing your vehicle, be sure to switch the VSA on again. We do not recommend driving your vehicle with the VSA and traction control systems switched off.



This switch is above the parking brake release handle. Press it to turn the VSA system on and off.

When VSA is off, the VSA activation indicator comes on as a reminder.

VSA is turned on every time you start the engine, even if you turned it off the last time you drove the vehicle.

VSA and Tire Sizes

Driving with varying tire or wheel sizes may cause the VSA to malfunction. When replacing tires, make sure they are of the same size and type as your original tires (see page 269).

If you install winter tires, make sure they are the same size as those that were originally supplied with your vehicle. Exercise the same caution during winter driving as you would if your vehicle was not equipped with VSA.

Towing Weight Limits

Your vehicle has been designed to tow a trailer, as well as carrying passengers and their cargo. To safety tow a trailer, you should carefully observe the load limits (see page 187), use the proper equipment, and follow the guidelines in this section.

Be sure to read the **Off-Highway Driving Guidelines** section on page 227 if you plan to tow off paved surfaces.

⚠ WARNING

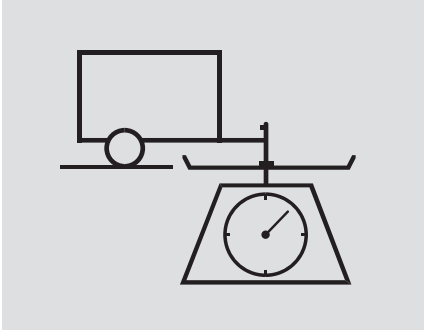
Exceeding any load limit or improperly loading your vehicle and trailer can cause a crash in which you can be seriously hurt or killed.

Check the loading of your vehicle and trailer carefully before starting to drive.

Load Limits

Total Trailer Weight
The maximum weight of the trailer and everything in or on it depends on the number of occupants in your vehicle and the type of trailer being towed (see page 214).

Towing a load that is too heavy can seriously affect your vehicle's handling and performance.



Tongue Load
The weight that the tongue of a fully-loaded trailer puts on the hitch should follow the recommended load guidelines (see page 214). Too much tongue load reduces front-tire traction and steering control. Too little tongue load can make the trailer unstable and cause it to sway.

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) — The maximum allowable weight of the vehicle, all occupants, all accessories, all cargo, and the tongue load is 6,050 lbs (2,745 kg).

Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) — The maximum allowable weight on the vehicle axles is 3,105 lbs (1,410 kg) on the front axle, and 3,245 lbs (1,475 kg) on the rear axle.

Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR) — The maximum allowable weight of the fully loaded vehicle and trailer is 10,088 lbs (4,575 kg) with the proper hitch.

The GCWR must be reduced 2 percent for every 1,000 feet (305 meters) of elevation.

Estimating Loads

The best way to confirm that all loads are within limits is to check them at a public scale (see page 212).

To help ensure a safe drive to a scale, or if you cannot get to a public scale, we recommend that you estimate your total trailer weight and tongue load as described.

To Estimate the Total Trailer Weight

Add the weight of your trailer (as quoted by the manufacturer) with everything in or on the trailer. Then check the tables on page 214 to make sure you do not exceed the limit for your conditions.

Towing Weight Guidelines

Total Trailer Weight and Tongue Load Guidelines:

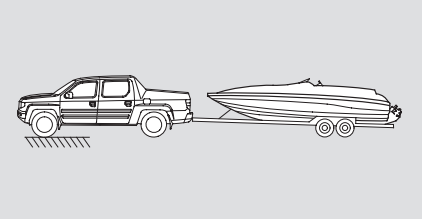
Number of Occupants*	Max. Trailer Weight	Max. Tongue Load**
2	5000 lbs (2268 kg)	600 lbs (272 kg)
3	4750 lbs (2155 kg)	600 lbs (272 kg)
4	4750 lbs (2155 kg)	570 lbs (258 kg)
5	4500 lbs (2041 kg)	516 lbs (234 kg)

* The corresponding weight limits assume occupants fill seats from the front of the vehicle to the back, each occupant weighs 150 lbs (70 kg), and each has 15 lbs (7 kg) of cargo in the cab, pickup bed, or In-Bed Trunk. Any additional weight, including cargo or accessories, reduces the maximum trailer weight and maximum tongue load. Never exceed the gross axle weight ratings (see page 213).

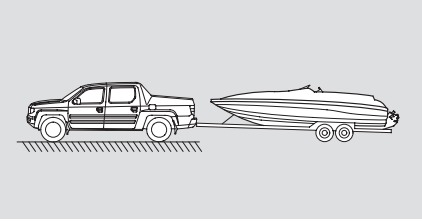
** Recommended tongue load should be 5—15% of the total trailer weight for boat trailers, and 10—15% of the total trailer weight for all other trailers.

Checking Loads

To accurately check your loads at the public scale, the vehicle and trailer should be fully loaded, and all occupants should stay in the vehicle while the attendant watches the scale.



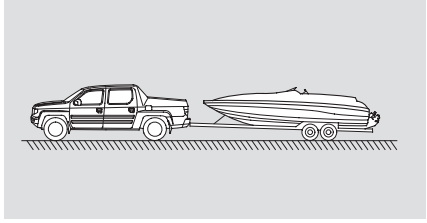
1. Check the front gross axle weight.
   Limit: 3,105 lbs (1,410 kg)



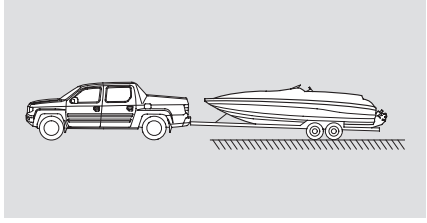
2. Check the gross vehicle weight.
   Limit: 6,050 lbs (2,745 kg)

3. Check the rear gross axle weight.
   Limit: 3,252 lbs (1,475 kg)

4. If you cannot weigh the rear axle directly, you can calculate the rear gross axle weight by subtracting the weight in step 1 from the weight in step 2.
   Limit: 2,945 lbs (1,335 kg)



5. Check the gross combined weight.
   Limit: 10,088 lbs (4,575 kg)
   Remember, maximum gross combined weight should be decreased 2 % for every 1,000 feet (305 meters) of elevation.



6. Check the weight of the hitched trailer. Write this number down.