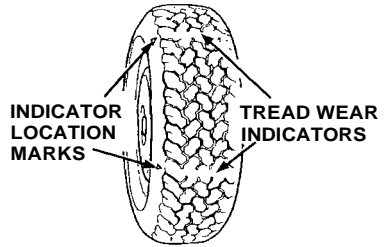

Tire Replacement

Acura recommends that you replace tires in sets of four, or in pairs, front or rear. If you need to replace only one tire, mount the new tire opposite the tire showing the least amount of wear.

For instance, if the left front tire shows the least amount of wear, mount the new tire on the front right side.

The original tires on your car have tread wear indicators to indicate when they should be replaced. The indicators appear as bands about 12.7 mm (1/2 in) wide when the tire tread depth is less than 1.6 mm (1/16 in). When indicators appear across two or more grooves in a row, you should replace the tire.



▲ WARNING

Driving on worn-out tires is very hazardous, and will reduce braking effectiveness, steering accuracy and traction.

When replacing tires, use only the recommended tire size. Wheel rim widths and offsets must meet those recommended by the Acura Automobile Division. Contact the Acura Automobile Division Customer Relations Office at the address shown on the Warranty Service page.

▲ WARNING

Tires and wheels other than those recommended may be unsafe. Do not mix radial and bias ply tires on the same car.

Tire Balancing

▲ WARNING

Unbalanced tires may affect handling and tire wear. A tire should always be rebalanced after it has been dismantled from the wheel.

Your original tires were properly balanced before the car left the factory, but may need rebalancing at some time during the life of the tire. Tire balancing for the COMPACT spare is not necessary.

CAUTION:

Use only Genuine Acura aluminum wheel weights if your car is equipped with aluminum wheels. Non-genuine Acura wheel weights may corrode and damage the aluminum wheel.

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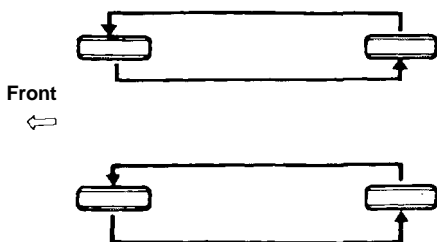
Tires (cont'd)

Tire Rotation

Tires may wear unevenly when used for a long time in the same position on the car. To avoid this, rotate the tires every 7,500 miles (12,000 km). If abnormal or uneven wear develops between rotations, the cause should be found and corrected as soon as possible. The illustration shows how the tires can be rotated. The COMPACT spare tire must not be included in tire rotation.

NOTE:

Brake pads should be inspected for wear whenever the tires are rotated.



Tire Traction

▲ WARNING

Worn tires or slippery road surfaces can reduce driving, cornering and braking traction. To reduce the possibility of losing traction, slow down when the road gets slippery, replace tires when wear indicators are visible, and **KEEP TIRES PROPERLY INFLATED.**

Air Conditioning Care

Condenser and Radiator

Check the engine radiator and the air conditioning condenser (in front of the radiator) for accumulated dirt, insects or leaves. Carefully brush or hose them off to assure maximum cooling performance.

CAUTION:

Radiator and condenser fins are very thin and easily damaged; do not bend them with the high water pressure or brush.

Compressor Drive Belt

Check the compressor belt tension monthly, during periods when you use the air conditioning a lot.

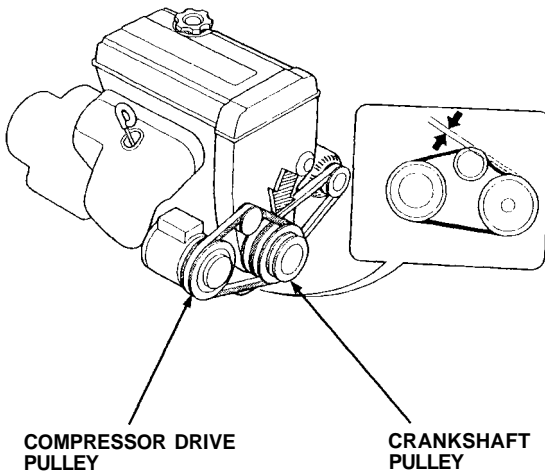
▲ WARNING

If the engine has been running, some engine components may be hot enough to burn you.

When pushed with 98 N (22 lb) of force midway between the compressor drive pulley and the engine crankshaft pulley, the belt should deflect about:

7.0 — 9.0 mm (0.28 — 0.35 in)

Have the belt adjusted whenever necessary.



(cont'd)

Air Conditioning Care (cont'd)

System Maintenance

Run your air conditioning at least once a week for about ten minutes, even during the off season, to lubricate the seals and the inside of the compressor and, to verify that the system is functional.

If the air conditioning is not cooling properly, it may indicate an undercharged system. Have your dealer check the system for leaks, then evacuate and charge the system with refrigerant 12 (R-12).

Charging quantity:

900 — 950 g (32 — 34 oz)

CAUTION:

Prolonged use of an undercharged system may damage the compressor.

Interior Trim

Remove dust and loose dirt with a vacuum cleaner.

Wipe the vinyl with a clean, damp cloth or sponge. Stains can be removed with a commercially available vinyl cleaner.

▲ WARNING

Do not use thinner, gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, or other solvents on the interior. They are toxic, flammable, and hazardous and could damage the material you're cleaning.

Leather Upholstery (optional on the GS model)

Clean the leather upholstery with a mild soap and lukewarm water; wipe with a damp cloth, then dry with a soft cloth. Never use varnish or furniture polish on the interior.

Windows

A 10 to 1 mix of water and white vinegar, or a commercially available glass cleaner may be used to clean windows and to remove the dust film sometimes caused by the ingredients used in interior vinyls and plastics.

NOTE:

Do not put this solution in the windshield washer reservoir, it will damage the windshield washer pump.

Be careful not to scratch or damage the defogger wires when cleaning the inside of the rear window; wipe the window horizontally along the wires, not up and down.

Dry the windows with a lint-free cloth or paper towel. Keep all the windows clean for maximum visibility.

Exterior Care

Washing

Rinse all loose dirt off the car by spraying it with lukewarm or cold water. Do not use hot water.

Wash using a soft-bristle brush, sponge, or cloth with water containing a mild detergent such as a liquid dishwashing detergent.

Remove oil, tar, tree sap, etc., with tar remover or turpentine. Remove road salt, insects, etc., with mild detergent and lukewarm water. Any of these substances may damage the finish if left on painted surfaces.

Rinse the car well. Promptly wipe with a chamois or soft towel to prevent water-spotting. Do not let water or soap air-dry on painted surfaces.

During wiping, inspect the surface for stone chips and scratches; paint them with touch-up paint so they won't rust (touch-up paint is available through your Acura dealer).

For further instructions on corrosion protection, refer to the Rust Prevention section on the next pages.

(cont'd)

Appearance Care (cont'd)

Waxing

Wax the car when water will no longer "bead" on the paint.

Always wash and dry the car before you wax it.

Use a good quality liquid or paste wax, and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Wax all the metal trim to keep its luster.

NOTE:

Removing oil, tar, etc., with a spot remover will usually strip the wax from the surrounding finish. Be sure to re-wax these areas even if the rest of the car does not yet need waxing.

Aluminum Alloy Wheels (GS)

CAUTION:

- **Acura aluminum wheels are treated with a protective finish. Wash them with a low-phosphate detergent and sponge. Do not use abrasive cleaners or stiff brushes.**
- **Always install aluminum wheels in sets of four. If mixed with other types, the car's handling may be affected.**
- **Wash the wheels after driving on snowy or icy roads where salt has been applied.**
- **Avoid off-road driving. Brush, rocks, dirt, and severe impact may damage the wheels.**
- **Install tire chains carefully. Improperly installed chains can cause damage to the wheels.**

Rust Prevention

Rusting is likely to occur in parts of the car where water is trapped or where there is continual dampness.

- Water will collect inside doors and body panels if drain holes become clogged.
- Water which seeps under or soaks floor mats will subject floor sections to prolonged wetness or dampness.
- Road dirt or sand, which collects and fills recesses on the underside of the car, retains moisture long after the rest of the car has dried.

The removal of paint and undercoating by stones, gravel, and minor accidents immediately exposes metal to air and moisture.

Rusting is increased by high humidity and by the presence of corrosive substances in the air or on the roads.

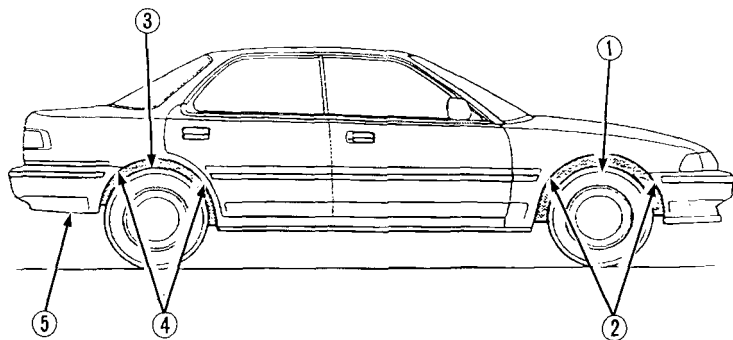
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- Salt used for road de-icing will coat the bottom of the car and hasten rusting.
 - Localities with high humidity have greater potential for rust problems, especially where salt is also present on the road or in moist sea air.
 - Industrial pollution will accelerate the deterioration of paint finishes and promote rusting.

Preventive Service

Check all drain holes in the doors and body panels for clogging and clear if necessary. When washing your car, also clean the underside of the car by using high pressure water; ① above subframe, ② inside front fender, ③ rear suspension, ④ inside rear wheel housing, and ⑤ under rear bumper.

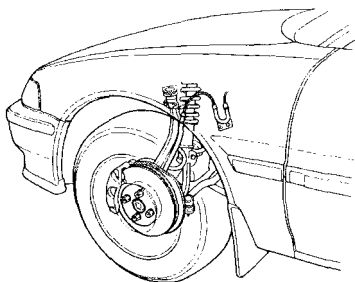
After washing your car or after heavy rain, check for leaks. Dry any wet areas of your car's interior. Have leaks repaired as soon as possible.

After driving your car, wipe off any road dirt or salt on the radio antenna, with it fully extended.



CAUTION:

Cars with ABS have a speed detection device mounted at each wheel. Care should be taken when clearing mud, snow, etc., from the wheels not to damage the detectors.



Body Repair

Replacement Body and Fender Parts

If your vehicle incurs body damage and requires replacement parts, we encourage you to use only Genuine Honda sheet metal body and fender parts. Many insurance companies are specifying imitation sheet metal parts for collision repairs in an effort to reduce claim costs; however, if imitation parts are used the following conditions may apply:

- There is no assurance that imitation parts will equal the fit and finish of Genuine Honda sheet metal parts; and in our experience they often do not.
- There is no assurance that imitation parts will resist corrosion as well as Genuine Honda sheet metal parts.
- Imitation sheet metal parts are not covered by the Acura Limited Warranty.

To ensure your continued satisfaction with your Acura vehicle in the event of an accident, contact your insurance adjuster and insist on Genuine Honda parts in the repair of your vehicle.

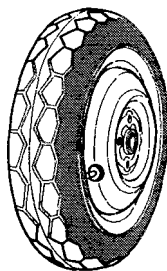
COMPACT Spare Tire

Your car is supplied with a COMPACT spare tire and wheel for temporary use only in the event of a flat tire. Use the COMPACT spare only when you have to, and only to go as far as the next garage or dealer to have the regular tire repaired and reinstalled.

Because you will rarely use the COMPACT spare, be sure to regularly check its condition and air pressure (415 kPa, 60 psi), so it will be ready when you need it. This type of tire holds less air at higher pressure than a regular tire, so it will inflate (or deflate if there is a leak) more rapidly; check its pressure often and add air gradually if it needs any.

▲ WARNING

- The COMPACT spare tire has a different tire size, air pressure requirement, tread life and maximum speed rating than the four regular tires on your car. Disregarding these warnings may result in tire failure, loss of vehicle control and possible injury to vehicle occupants.
- Do not exceed 50 mph (80 km/h) under any circumstances when using the COMPACT spare.
- Do not mount snow chains on the COMPACT spare. They will not fit properly and will damage the tire and possibly your car. If you must use the COMPACT spare when driving on roads covered with snow or ice, use it as one of the rear tires and mount chains only on the front two regular tires.



(cont'd)

Spare Tire (cont'd)

▲ WARNING

- The COMPACT spare tire has a much shorter tread life than regular tires. Replace the tire as soon as tread wear indicators appear as solid bands across the tread. Replace with a tire of exactly the same size and construction.
- The COMPACT spare tire and wheel set was designed especially for your car; do not use it on any other vehicle; do not install any other tire on this wheel which is not identical to the original in size and construction, and do not use the COMPACT spare tire on any other wheel.
- Because the COMPACT spare is smaller in size and higher in air pressure than a regular tire, it will ride more harshly with less ground clearance and may have less traction on some road surfaces. Drive cautiously.

