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

- Brake fluid reservoir
- ABS reservoir

The brake fluid in the brake and antilock brake systems should be replaced according to the time and distance recommendations in the maintenance schedule. Always use Genuine Honda DOT 3 brake fluid. If it is not available, you should use only DOT 3 or DOT 4 fluid, from a sealed container, as a temporary replacement. However, the use of any non-Honda brake fluid can cause corrosion and decrease the life of the system. Have the brake fluid replaced with Honda DOT 3 brake fluid as soon as possible.

Brake fluid marked DOT 5 is not compatible with your car's braking system and can cause extensive damage.

Brake System



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

Anti-lock Brake System



The fluid should be between the MIN and MAX marks on the side of the reservoir. If it is at or below the MIN mark, it indicates a possible problem in the ABS. Have the dealer inspect the system as soon as possible.

Power Steering

UPPER LEVEL



Check the level when the engine is cold. Look at the side of the reservoir. The fluid should be between the UPPER LEVEL and LOWER LEVEL. If it is below the LOWER LEVEL, add power steering fluid to the UPPER LEVEL. Always use Genuine Honda Power Steering Fluid. If it is not available, you may use another power steering fluid as an emergency replacement. However, continued use can cause increased wear and poor steering in cold weather. Have the power steering system drained and refilled with Honda PSF as soon as possible.

A low power steering fluid level can indicate a leak in the system. Check the fluid level frequently and have the system inspected as soon as possible.

NOTICE

Turning the steering wheel to full left or right lock and holding it there can damage the power steering pump. The air cleaner element should be cleaned or replaced according to the time and distance recommendations in the maintenance schedule.

Cleaning (Severe Conditions)

Clean the air cleaner element by blowing compressed air through it in the opposite direction to normal air flow. If you do not have access to compressed air (such as *a* service station), ask your Honda dealer to do this service.

Follow the replacement procedure for removal and reinstallation.

Replacement



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

- 1. Remove the two pins holding the air intake cover by pulling the head on each pin. Remove the air intake cover.
- 2. Remove the air duct from the air cleaner housing cover.



- 3. Loosen the four bolts and remove the air cleaner housing cover. Remove the maintenance hole cap so you can reach the right front bolt through the hole.
- Remove the old air cleaner element. Clean the inside of the air cleaner housing with a damp rag.



- 5. Place the new air cleaner element in the air cleaner housing.
- 6. Reinstall the air cleaner housing cover, tighten the four bolts.
- 7. Reinstall the air intake cover. Reinstall the two pins and secure them by pushing on the heads until they lock.

8. Reinstall the air duct on the air cleaner housing cover. Reinstall the maintenance hole cap. The spark plugs in your car need to be replaced every 2 years or 30,000 miles (48,000 km), whichever comes first.

Replacement



- 1. Clean up any dirt and oil around the spark plug caps.
- 2. Remove the spark plug cap by pulling it straight out.
- 3. Remove the spark plug with a five-eighths inch (16 mm) spark plug socket.



4. Put the new spark plug into the socket; then screw it into the hole. Screw it in by hand so you do not crossthread it.



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.

- 6. Install the spark plug cap.
- 7. Repeat this procedure for the other three spark plugs.

Specifications:

NGK: ZFR5F-11 Nippondenso: KJ16CR-L11

Spark Plug Gap: 0,043in ⁺⁰/_{-0.004 in} (1.1mm ⁺⁰/_{-0.1 mm})

5. Torque the spark plug. (If you do not have a torque wrench, tighten the spark plug two-thirds of a turn after it contacts the cylinder head.) Tightening torque:
13 lbf.ft (1.8 kgf.m, 18 N.m)

Check the condition of your car's battery monthly. You should check the color of the test indicator window, and for corrosion on the terminals.



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

The label on the battery explains the test indicator's colors.

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. If you need to connect the battery to a charger, disconnect both cables to prevent damage to the car's electrical system.

A 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.

On the U.S. EX model

If your car's battery is disconnected or goes dead, the audio system will disable itself. The next time you turn on the radio you will see "Code" in the frequency display. Use the Preset buttons to enter the five-digit code (see page 106).

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.