Hood Latch and Hinges
Lubricate the hood latch assembly and hood hinge assembly as follows:

1. Wipe off any accumulation of dirt or contamination on the latch parts.
2. Apply multipurpose-type grease (NLGI No. 1 or 2) to the hood latch pin cam.
3. Apply light engine oil to all pivot points in the release mechanism.
4. Lubricate hood hinges with multipurpose-type grease (NLGI No. 1 or 2).
5. Check the hood hinges and latch mechanism to assure they are working correctly.

Air Conditioning
Periodically have your Honda dealer check your air conditioning system to be sure there has been no loss in cooling output. See your Honda dealer if you suspect that the system is not performing as it should.

Body Lubrication
Normal use of a vehicle causes metal-to-metal movement at certain points in the body. Noise, wear and improper operation at these points will result when a protective film of lubricant is not provided.

For exposed surfaces such as door checks, door lock bolts, lock striker plates, etc., apply a thin film of light engine oil.

Any lubricant should be used sparingly. After application, all excess lubricant should be carefully wiped off.

The seat adjusters and seat track should be lubricated with water-resistant EP chassis lubricant.

There are other points on the vehicle body which may occasionally require lubrication. Window regulators and controls are confined in the space between the upholstery and the outside door panel. Easy access to the working parts may be made by removing the trim. Door weatherstrips and rubber hood bumpers should be lightly coated with a rubber lubricant.
Front (4WD Only) and Rear Propeller Shaft

Lubricate the sliding yoke with EP chassis grease. Lubricate universal joints with grease containing MoS2 (molybdenum disulfide-type grease) at the intervals shown in the Maintenance Schedule. Also check the propeller shaft flange-to-pinion bolts for proper torque of 64 N.m (46.3 lb-ft).

Most lubrication recommendations and procedures for four-wheel drive-equipped vehicles are the same for the corresponding components in conventional drive vehicles.

Exhaust System

Check the complete exhaust system and nearby body areas for damaged, missing, or mispositioned parts, open seams, holes, loose connections, or other deterioration that could allow exhaust fumes to seep into the passenger compartment or cause heat build-up in the floor pan. Any necessary corrections should be made immediately. For continued safety, exhaust system pipes and resonators rearward of the muffler must be replaced whenever a new muffler is installed.

Fuel Line and Fuel Tank/Cap

Inspect the fuel tank, cap and lines for damage that could cause leakage. Inspect the fuel cap and gasket for correct sealing ability and indications of physical damage. Replace any damaged or malfunctioning parts.

Drive Belt

Check the belt driving the alternator, power steering pump, and air conditioning compressor. Look for cracks, fraying, and wear. Replace as necessary.

Timing Belt

The timing belt should normally be replaced at the intervals shown in the Maintenance Schedule.

Valve Clearance

Incorrect valve clearance will result in increased engine noise and lower engine output, thereby adversely affecting engine performance.
Spark Plugs
Replace the spark plugs with the type specified in the "Technical Data" section.

Clutch
Check the clutch play at the pedal. Lubricate the clutch pedal bushing and clevis pin, at the intervals shown in the Maintenance Schedule, with water-resistant chassis lubricant. If you hear a squeaking noise coming from the area of the bushing or clevis pin at the clutch pedal arm when the clutch pedal is depressed, lubricate it with water-resistant EP chassis grease.

Check the fluid level in the clutch reservoir at the interval shown in the Maintenance Schedule. If the fluid is low in the reservoir, it should be filled to the maximum level line with DOT-3 or DOT-4 fluid.

Fluid or Lubricant Levels
Check the fluid or lubricant level in the brake master cylinder, clutch master cylinder, power steering reservoir, rear axle, engine and transmission, windshield washer reservoir and engine coolant at specified intervals.

Power Steering
Check the fluid level in the power steering fluid reservoir as recommended in the Maintenance Schedule. The fluid level should be between the "MIN" and "MAX" marks on the reservoir.

Use only automatic transmission fluid labeled DEXRON III.
Wheel Alignment

Proper wheel alignment improves tire mileage. Your vehicle's suspension parts should be inspected often and aligned when needed (see the "Technical Data" section). Improper alignment will cause the front tires to roll at an angle that will result in faster tire wear.

Proper tire balancing provides the best riding comfort and helps reduce tire tread wear. Out-of-balance tires can cause annoying vibration and uneven tire wear such as cupping and flat spots.

Washing Your Vehicle

The best way to preserve your vehicle's finish is to keep it clean by frequent washings. Wash the vehicle with lukewarm or cold water.

Do not use hot water or wash in direct sunlight. Do not use strong soap or chemical detergents. All cleaning agents should be promptly flushed from the surface and not allowed to dry on the finish.

Polishing and Waxing Your Vehicle

Polishing is recommended to remove accumulated residue and eliminate any "weathered" appearance.

Your Honda dealer offers several polishes and cleaners that have proven to maintain the original finish appearance and durability.

Protection of Exterior

Bright Metal Parts

Bright metal parts should be cleaned regularly to keep their luster. Washing with water is all that is usually needed. However, chrome polish may be used on chrome or stainless steel trim, if necessary. A coating of wax, rubbed to a high polish, is recommended for all bright metal parts.

Care of Aluminum Wheels

Aluminum wheels have a clear-coat finish similar to paint. Use a chamois skin, sponge or other soft material when washing the wheels.

Foreign Material Deposits

Calcium chloride and other salts, ice melting agents, road oil and tar, tree sap, bird droppings,
chemicals from industrial chimneys, and other foreign matter may damage your vehicle's finish if allowed to remain on painted surfaces.

Prompt washing may not completely remove all of these deposits. Additional cleaners may be needed. When using chemical cleaners developed for this purpose, be certain they are safe for use on painted surfaces.

Finish Damage
Any stone chips, fractures or deep scratches in the finish should be repaired promptly. Exposed metal will corrode quickly and may develop into a major repair expense. Minor chips and scratches can be repaired using touch-up materials available from your Honda dealer.

Corrosion Protection
Your vehicle has been designed and built to resist corrosion. Special materials and protective finishes were applied to most parts of your vehicle when it was built to help maintain its good looks, strength and reliable operation. However, some parts that are normally not visible (such as certain parts under the vehicle and under the hood) are strong enough so that surface rust will not affect their reliability. So corrosion protection is not needed or used on these parts. By omitting unneeded rust protection on such parts and applying extra protection where it is needed most, the best value is assured for the vehicle buyer.

Sheet Metal Damage
If your vehicle is damaged and requires sheet metal repair or replacement, make sure the body repair shop applies anti-corrosion material to the parts repaired or replaced so that corrosion protection is restored. (Also see "Finish Damage."

Underbody Maintenance
Corrosive materials used for ice and snow removal and dust control can collect on the underbody. If these materials are not removed, accelerated corrosion (rust) can occur on underbody parts such as fuel lines, frame, floor pan, and exhaust system even though they have