

Transmission Oil/Fluid Check

Transmission oil/fluid must be checked with the engine off and the car on level ground.

▲ WARNING

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

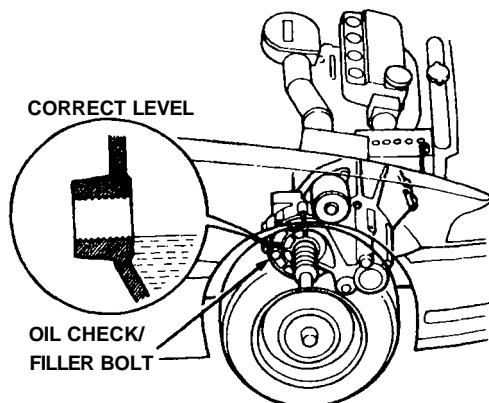
CAUTION:

If the oil/fluid level is low, check for possible leaks before adding oil. Do not overfill.

Since the transmission and differential are in the same housing, you are actually checking both oil/fluid levels in one procedure. Change transmission oil/fluid according to the Maintenance Schedule on page 70.

Manual

Remove the oil filler bolt (beside the right axle). Feel inside the bolt hole with your finger. If the oil is up to the bottom edge of the hole, the oil level is correct. If it is not, slowly add oil until it runs out of the hole, then reinstall the bolt and tighten it securely with a wrench.

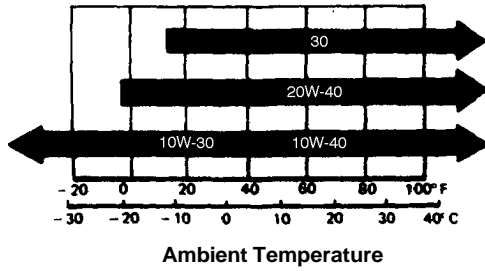


MANUAL TRANSMISSION

OIL CHANGE CAPACITY: 1.8 ℓ (1.9 US qt, 1.6 Imp qt)

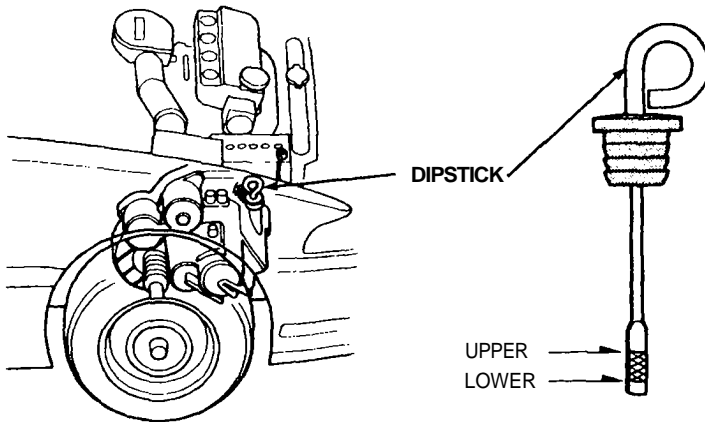
Use only SF or SG grade motor oil when adding or changing transmission oil.

Use the proper viscosity oil for the climate in which you drive:



Automatic

The automatic transmission fluid level is checked (with the engine off and the car on level ground) using the dipstick on the passenger side of the transmission housing. Remove the dipstick and wipe it



Insert the dipstick and remove it. The fluid level should be between the upper and lower marks.

If necessary, add fluid and recheck. Use only DEXRON® II Automatic Transmission Fluid (A.T.F.) when adding or changing fluid. After checking the fluid level, push the dipstick in securely

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

FLUID CHANGE CAPACITY: 2.4 ℓ (2.5 US qt, 2.1 Imp qt)

Cooling System

The engine in your Honda contains a number of aluminum parts. Therefore, it requires an antifreeze/coolant specifically formulated to protect the aluminum parts from corrosion. Failure to use a suitable antifreeze/coolant may seriously shorten the life of the engine as the result of rapid corrosion damage. Some antifreeze/coolants, although labelled for use in engines containing aluminum, may not provide adequate protection for your engine.

Therefore, use only a Honda **RECOMMENDED** antifreeze/coolant. CHECK WITH YOUR AUTHORIZED HONDA DEALER.

For best corrosion protection, the mixture of coolant and water must be maintained year-round at 50/50. Concentrations less than 50% coolant may not provide sufficient protection against corrosion and freezing. Concentrations of greater than 60% coolant will impair cooling efficiency and are not recommended. Low-mineral drinking water or distilled water should be mixed with the antifreeze/coolant. Coolant loss should be replenished by a mixture containing the proper concentration of antifreeze and water.

Do not mix different antifreeze/coolants.

Do not use additional rust inhibitors or anti-rust products, as they may not be compatible with the radiator coolant.

ENGINE DAMAGE CAUSED BY IMPROPER COOLANT USAGE IS NOT COVERED BY THE NEW CAR WARRANTY.

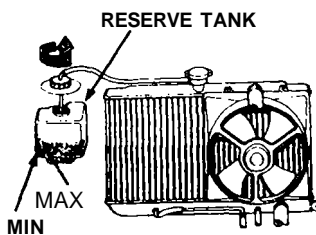
Checking Coolant

Check the coolant level in the reserve tank when the engine is at normal operating temperature.

▲ WARNING

Do not remove the radiator cap when the engine is hot; the coolant is under pressure and could severely scald you.

- If the level is below the MAX mark, but still visible, add a 50/50 solution of antifreeze and water to bring it up to MAX.
- If there is no coolant in the reserve tank, the cooling system should be checked for leaks and repaired if necessary. Coolant must then be added to the radiator.



CAUTION:

Radiator coolant will damage paint. Quickly rinse any spilled coolant from painted surfaces.

Wait until the engine is cool, then turn the radiator cap counterclockwise until it stops. **DO NOT PRESS DOWN WHILE TURNING THE CAP.** After any remaining pressure has been relieved, remove the cap by pressing down and again turning it counterclockwise. Add enough coolant to fill the radiator, and reinstall the cap. Be sure to tighten it securely. Fill the reserve tank up to the MAX mark with the engine cold.

Maintenance

1. Check the freeze protection level of the coolant with a hydrometer.
2. Keep the front of the radiator free of dirt and debris.
3. Check hoses and hose clamps regularly.

Replacing Coolant

Replace coolant at 36 months or 45,000 miles (72,000 km), whichever comes first. Thereafter, replace every 2 years or 30,000 miles (48,000 km), whichever comes first.

RADIATOR COOLANT

REFILL CAPACITY:

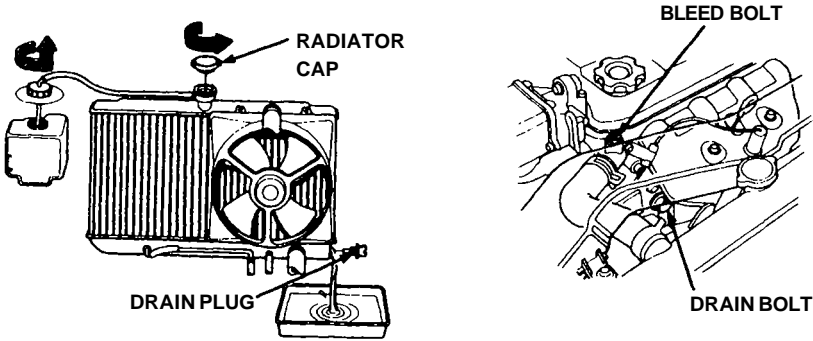
(excluding reserve tank)	0.4 ℓ (0.11 US gal, 0.09 Imp gal)
Manual transmission	4.0 ℓ (1.06 US gal, 0.88 Imp gal)
	4.1 ℓ (1.08 US gal, 0.90 Imp gal)*
Automatic transmission	4.0 ℓ (1.06 US gal, 0.88 Imp gal)*
	4.5 ℓ (1.19 US gal, 0.99 Imp gal)

* : DX Hatchback and DX/LX Sedan

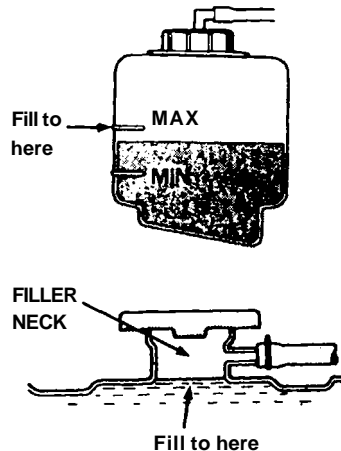
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Cooling System (cont'd)

1. Set the heater temperature control dial to maximum heat.
2. Remove the radiator cap, splash shield and drain plug when the radiator is cool, and drain the radiator.



3. Remove the drain bolt from the front side of the cylinder block, and drain the engine and heater.
4. Apply non-hardening sealant to the drain bolt threads, then reinstall the bolt threads, then reinstall the bolt and tighten it securely.
5. Tighten the radiator drain plug securely.
6. Mix the recommended antifreeze with an equal amount of low-mineral or distilled water and fill the reservoir to maximum, as illustrated.

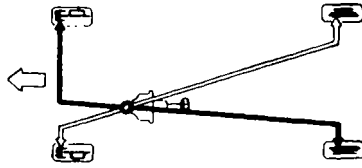


7. Loosen the air bleed bolt in the thermostat housing, then fill the radiator to the filler neck with the coolant mixture. Tighten the bleed bolt as soon as coolant starts to run out in a steady stream without bubbles.
8. With the radiator cap off, start the engine and let it run until warmed up (fan goes on at least twice). Then, if necessary, add more coolant mix to bring the level back up to the filler neck.
9. Put the radiator cap on, then run the engine again and check for leaks.

Brake System Design

The diagonally-separated dual service brake system is designed so half the system will still provide braking action if the other half fails.

Stopping the car after losing the brake fluid from half the system will require more pedal pressure and pedal travel than normal. Also, the distance required to stop will be longer using only half the brake system. If the brakes fail suddenly, downshift to a lower gear for increased engine braking, and pull off the road as soon as possible.



⚠ WARNING

- It is dangerous to drive your car with a problem in either the brake electrical or hydraulic system; have your dealer check both systems if you suspect brake trouble.
- Driving through deep water may affect the brakes. Check their effectiveness by pressing the brake pedal gently. If the car does not slow down at the normal rate, continue gently applying the brakes, while maintaining a safe speed, until they dry out and normal performance returns.
- Do not ride the brakes. In other words, don't put your foot on the brake pedal unless you intend to brake. This causes excessive brake wear and can damage, or lead to loss of braking effectiveness through overheating. Your brake lights may also confuse drivers behind you.

Brake Wear

Both front and rear brakes should be inspected for wear at the intervals shown in the Maintenance Schedule on page 70.

When the brakes require maintenance, use only genuine Honda replacement parts or their equivalent.

(cont'd)

Brakes (cont'd)

Front Brake Wear Indicators

Your car is equipped with audible front brake wear indicators. When the brake pads wear to point that they should be replaced, they will make a "screeching" sound when the wheels are rolling and when the brakes are applied.

NOTE:

Due to some driving habits or climates, brakes may "squeal" when you first apply them or when you have them partially applied; this is normal, and does not indicate excessive wear. The wear indicator makes a "screeching" sound while the brakes are applied.

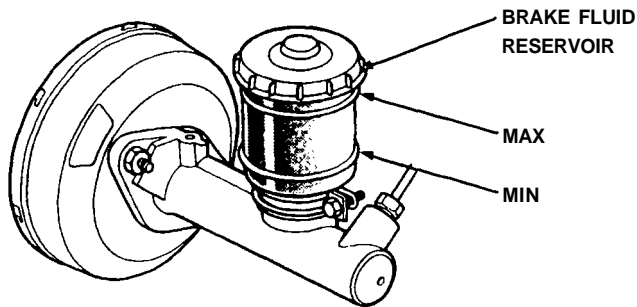
Brake Fluid

Check the fluid level in the brake reservoir periodically; it should be between the MAX and MIN marks on the reservoir.

If the level is near the MIN mark, add fluid to raise it to the MAX mark. Do not overfill. Use only brake fluid manufactured to DOT 3 or DOT 4 specifications (see reservoir cap) from a sealed container. Follow the manufacturer's instructions printed on the can.

NOTE:

A low brake fluid level may be an indication of brake pad wear or of brake fluid leakage. You should have your brakes checked if the brake fluid level in the reservoir is low before re-filling it.



CAUTION:

The arrow on the reservoir cap must be pointing forward after the cap is installed. Make sure the brake warning switch wiring doesn't get caught between the cap and top edge of the reservoir.

Power Steering

The Sedan (except DX with manual transmission) and DX Hatchback with automatic transmission are equipped with power steering. The power steering on your car provides easy handling while parking and maneuvering in traffic, without loss of road "feel" at highway speeds. An engine-driven hydraulic pump provides full power assist at low speeds and decreasing assist as the car goes faster.

CAUTION:

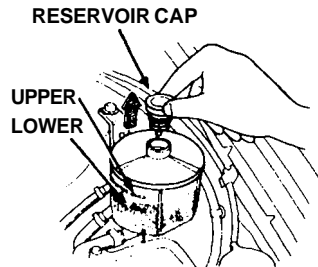
If the power steering system should fail, or if the engine should stall, the car can still be steered. However, much greater effort will be required, particularly in sharp turns at low speed.

NOTE:

You may feel a slight clunk or knock when turning the wheel with the engine off. This is a normal condition due to the design of the system.

Power Steering Fluid

Check the power steering fluid level with the engine cold and the car parked on level ground. Make sure the fluid level is between the upper and lower marks on the reservoir. If the level has dropped close to or below the lower mark, check for leaks before adding fluid to the upper mark. Do not overfill.



CAUTION:

Use only genuine Honda power steering fluid. The use of other fluids such as A.T.F. or other manufacturer's power steering fluid will damage the system.

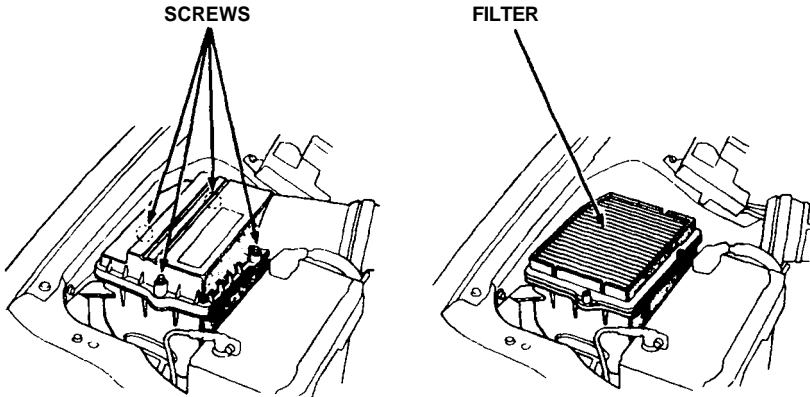
Air and Fuel Filters

Air Filter

Replace the air filter every 24 months or 30,000 miles (48,000 km), whichever comes first (more often in extremely dusty conditions).

Replacement

Remove the four screws holding the air filter cover halves together. Remove the top half of the air filter cover. Replace the filter. Reinstall the cover and screws securely.



Fuel Filters

The fuel filter is located in the engine compartment, on the right center of the lower dashboard. It should be replaced at 60,000 miles (96,000 km) or 48 months whichever comes first, or any time you suspect contaminated gas may have clogged it.

CAUTION:

Because the fuel system is under pressure, the filter should be replaced only by a qualified Honda technician.

Spark Plugs

Spark plugs should be replaced every 24 months or 30,000 miles (48,000 km), whichever comes first.

Recommended spark plugs:

For all normal driving	BCPR6E—11 (NGK) BCPR6EY—N11 (NGK) Q20PR—U11 (ND) RC9YCN4 (CHAMPION)
For hot climates or continuous high speed driving	BCPR7E—11 (NGK) BCPR7EY—N11 (NGK) Q22PR—U11 (ND)

CAUTION:

Never use spark plugs with an improper heat range; they will adversely affect engine performance and durability.

Spark Plug Replacement

Replace plugs one at a time, so you don't get the wires mixed up.

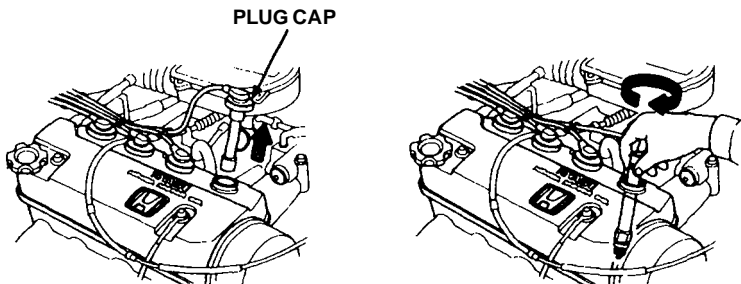
1. Clean any dirt from around the spark plug base.
2. Disconnect the plug cap, then remove and discard the old plug.
3. Check the gap of the new spark plug before installation.

Plug gap should be:

- 1.1 mm (0.04 in)
4. Thread the new spark plug in by hand to prevent cross-threading.
5. After the plug seats against the cylinder head, tighten 1/2 turn with a spark plug wrench to compress the washer.
6. Reinstall the spark plug cap.

CAUTION:

The spark plugs must be securely tightened, but not overtightened. A plug that's too loose can get very hot and possibly damage the engine; one that's too tight could damage the threads in the cylinder head.

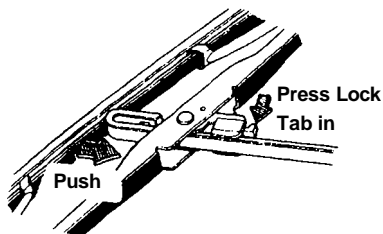


Wiper Blades

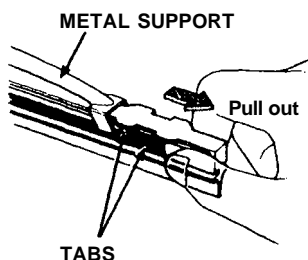
For maximum visibility, replace worn or cracked wiper blades when you notice they do not wipe the windshield cleanly or smoothly.

To Replace Worn-out Blades

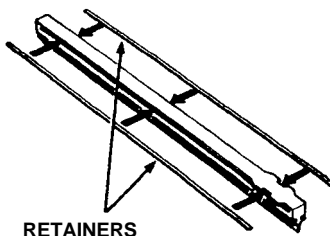
1. Detach the blade assembly from the arm by pressing the lock tab in, then pushing the blade toward the base of the arm.



2. Firmly grasp the end of the blade rubber and pull until the tabs are free of the metal support.



3. Remove the metal retainers from the worn-out blade rubber and put them in a new blade rubber.

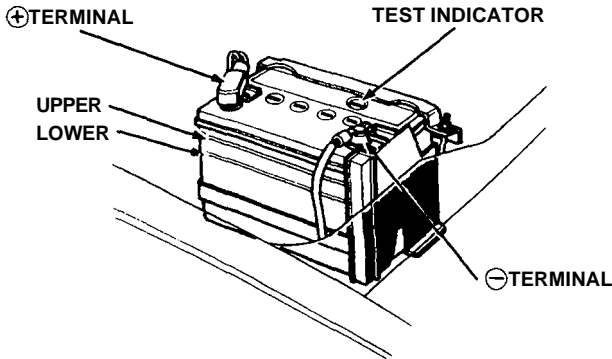


4. Insert the new blade rubber from the opposite side of the blade tabs and position the tabs in the metal support.

Battery

The condition of the battery can be determined by checking the test indicator. Service as required according to the label on the battery.

Any corrosion around the positive and negative terminals should be washed off with a solution of baking soda and warm water. Dry the terminals and then coat them with grease.



▲ WARNING

- The battery gives off explosive gases; keep sparks, flames and cigarettes away. Provide adequate ventilation when charging or using the battery in an enclosed space.
- The battery contains sulfuric acid (electrolyte). Contact with skin or eyes may cause severe burns. Wear protective clothing and a face shield.
 - If electrolyte gets on your skin, flush with water.
 - If electrolyte gets in your eyes, flush with water for at least 15 minutes and call a physician immediately.
- Electrolyte is poisonous.
 - If swallowed, drink large quantities of water or milk and follow with milk of magnesia or vegetable oil and get immediate medical assistance.

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.