

Automatic Transmission

Neutral (N) — Use Neutral if you need to restart a stalled engine, or if it is necessary to stop briefly with the engine idling. Shift to Park position if you need to leave the car for any reason. Press on the brake pedal when you are moving the shift lever from Neutral to another gear.

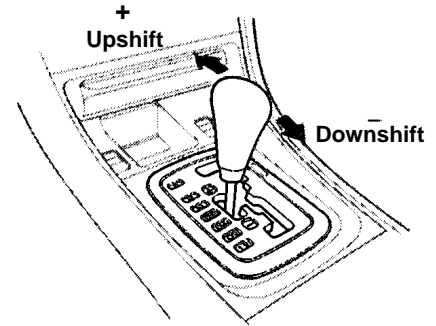
Drive (D5) — Use this position for your normal driving. The transmission automatically selects a suitable gear for your speed and acceleration. You may notice the transmission shifting up at higher speeds when the engine is cold. This helps the engine warm up faster.

Sequential SportShift Mode — With the shift lever in "D5" position, you can select the Sequential SportShift mode to shift gears; much like a manual transmission, but without a clutch pedal.

To enter the Sequential SportShift mode, move the shift lever to the left. To return to "D5", move the shift lever to the right.

When you move the shift lever from "D5" to the Sequential SportShift mode, the display shows the selected gear.

In the Sequential SportShift mode, each time you push forward on the shift lever, the transmission shifts to a higher gear. Pull back on the lever to downshift. The number of the gear selected is displayed next to the "D5" indicator (see page [166](#)).



Even with the Sequential SportShift Mode selected, the transmission will automatically upshift and downshift between first and second gear.

CONTINUED

Automatic Transmission

When you accelerate away from a stop, the transmission will start in first gear and then automatically upshift to second gear. You have to manually upshift between second and fifth gears. Make sure you upshift before the engine speed reaches the tachometer's red zone.

The transmission remains in the selected gear (5, 4, 3). There is no automatic downshift when you push the accelerator pedal to the floor.

The transmission may automatically downshift from the higher gear to the lower gear under the following conditions:

Driving on level roads and downhill

To shift from	Speed range
4 → 3	under 18 mph (29 km/h)
5 → 4	under 34 mph (55 km/h)

Driving uphill

To shift from	Speed range
4 → 3	under 34 mph (55 km/h)
5 → 4	under 47 mph (75 km/h)

Downshifting gives you more power when climbing or provides engine braking when going down a steep hill.

The transmission will also shift automatically as the vehicle comes to a complete stop. It will downshift to first gear when the vehicle speed is under 9 mph (15 km/h).

If you try to manually downshift at a speed that would cause the engine to exceed the redline in a lower gear, the transmission will not downshift.

The gear indicator will flash the number of the lower gear several times, then return to the higher gear.

If the car speed slows to below the redline of the selected lower gear position while the indicator is flashing, the transmission will downshift and the display will show the selected lower gear.

If the transmission temperature is below 14 °F (-10 °C), you may not SportShift mode.

The table shows the speed ranges for upshifting and downshifting.

To shift from	Speed range
2 → 3	over 9 mph (15 km/h)
3 → 4	over 18 mph (29 km/h)
4 → 5	over 34 mph (55 km/h)

To shift from	Speed range
3 → 2	under 60 mph (96 km/h)
4 → 3	under 93 mph (150 km/h)
5 → 4	under 125 mph (200 km/h)

CONTINUED

Automatic Transmission

Drive (D4, D3) — These positions are similar to D5, except when you select the D4 position, only the first four gears are selected. When you select D3, only the first three gears are selected. D4 can also keep the transmission from cycling between fourth and fifth gears in stop-and-go driving, and D3 can keep the transmission from cycling between third and fourth gears.

Use D3 when towing a trailer in hilly terrain, or to provide engine braking when going down a steep hill. D3 gives you more power and increased engine braking.

For faster acceleration when in D3, D4 or D5, you can get the transmission to automatically downshift by pushing the accelerator pedal to the floor. The transmission will shift down one or two gears, depending on your speed.

Second (2) — This position locks the transmission in second gear. It does not downshift to first gear when you come to a stop. Second gives you more power when climbing, and increased engine braking when going down steep hills. Use second gear when starting out on a slippery surface or in deep snow. It will help reduce wheelspin.

First (1) - With the lever in this position, the transmission locks in First gear.

If you shift into First position when the vehicle speed is above 31 mph (50 km/h), the transmission shifts into Second gear first to avoid sudden engine braking.

Engine Speed Limiter

If you exceed the maximum speed for the gear you are in, the engine speed will enter into the tachometer's red zone. If this occurs, you may feel the engine cut in and out. This is caused by a limiter in the engine's computer controls. The engine will run normally when you reduce the RPM below the red zone.

Shift Lock Release

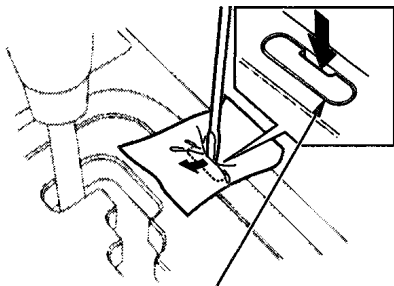
This allows you to move the shift lever out of Park if the normal method of pushing on the brake pedal does not work. This procedure also releases the Reverse Lockout.

1. Set the Parking brake.
2. Make sure the ignition switch is in the OFF (0) position.

To release the Reverse Lockout, make sure the ignition switch is in the ACCESSORY (I) position.

CONTINUED

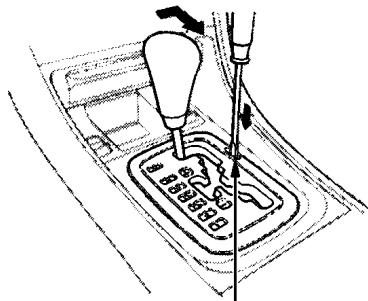
Automatic Transmission



COVER

3. Put a cloth on the edge of the Shift Lock Release slot cover next to the shift lever.

Use a small flat-tipped screwdriver or small metal plate (neither are included in the tool kit) to remove the cover. Carefully pry off the edge of the cover.



SHIFT LOCK RELEASE SLOT

4. Insert a screwdriver in the Shift Lock Release slot.
5. Push down on the screwdriver and move the shift lever out of Park to Neutral.

To release the Reverse Lockout, move the shift lever from Neutral to Reverse, then Park.

6. Remove the screwdriver from the Shift Lock Release slot, then reinstall the cover. Make sure the notch on the cover is on the right side. Depress the brake pedal and restart the engine.

If you need to use the Shift Lock Release, it means your car is developing a problem. Have the car checked by your Acura dealer.