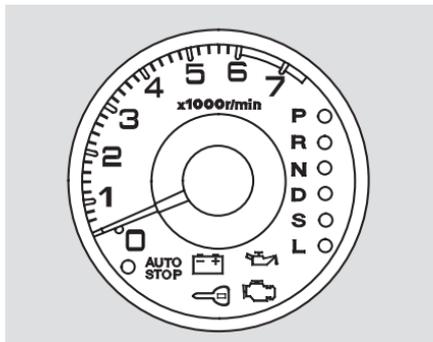


Automatic Transmission (CVT)

Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT)

Honda's Continuously Variable automatic transmission's unique design provides a smooth, constant flow of power. It is electronically controlled for more precise operation and better fuel economy.

Shift Lever Position Indicator

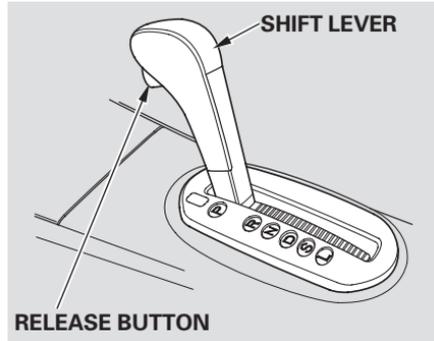


This indicator on the instrument panel shows which position the shift lever is in.

The “D” indicator comes on for a few seconds when you turn the ignition switch ON (II). If it flashes while driving (in any shift position), it indicates a possible problem in the transmission. Avoid rapid acceleration and have the transmission checked by an authorized Honda dealer as soon as possible.

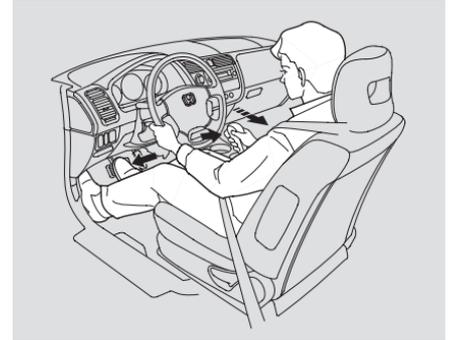
The malfunction indicator lamp may come on along with the “D” indicator if there is a problem in the continuously variable transmission control system.

Shift Lever Positions



The shift lever has six positions. It must be in Park or Neutral to start the engine. When you are stopped in D, S, L, N or R, press firmly on the brake pedal and keep your foot off the accelerator pedal.

To shift from:	Do this:
P to R	Press the brake pedal and press the release button.
R to P N to R S to L	Press the release button.
L to S S to D D to N D to S N to D R to N	Move the lever.



Park (P) – This position mechanically locks the transmission. Use Park whenever you are turning off or starting the engine. To shift out of Park, you must press on the brake pedal and have your foot off the accelerator pedal. Press the release button on the front of the shift lever to move it.

CONTINUED

Automatic Transmission (CVT)

If you have done all of the above and still cannot move the lever out of Park, see Shift Lock Release on page 170.

You must also press the release button to shift into Park. To avoid transmission damage, come to a complete stop before shifting into Park. The shift lever must be in Park before you can remove the key from the ignition switch.

Reverse (R) – To shift to Reverse from Park, see the explanation under Park. To shift to Reverse from Neutral, come to a complete stop and then shift. Press the release button before shifting into Reverse from Neutral.

Neutral (N) – Use Neutral if you need to restart a stalled engine, or if it is necessary to stop briefly with the engine idling. Always 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 position.

Drive (D) – Use this position for your normal driving. The transmission automatically adjusts to keep the engine at the best speed for driving conditions. To help the engine warm up faster, the transmission will select ratios that allow the engine to run at higher speeds when it is cold.

Second (S) – Selecting Second shifts the transmission into a lower range of ratios for better acceleration and increased engine braking. Use Second when you are going down a steep hill, or in stop-and-go driving.

Low (L) – To shift to Low, press the release button on the front of the shift lever. Use Low to get more power when climbing, and for maximum engine braking when going down steep hills.

For faster acceleration when in D, S or L, the transmission will automatically “kick down” to a lower range of ratios by pushing the accelerator pedal to the floor.

Engine Speed Limiter

The CVT shifts automatically to maintain proper engine speed in any shift position.

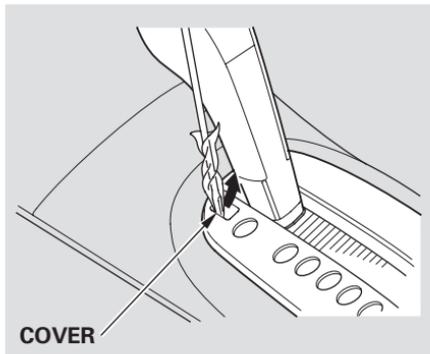
When the vehicle reaches the maximum speed in any shift position, you may feel the engine cut in and out. This is caused by a limiter (112 mph, 180 km/h) in the engine’s computer controls. The engine will run normally when you reduce the speed to below the maximum.

Automatic Transmission (CVT)

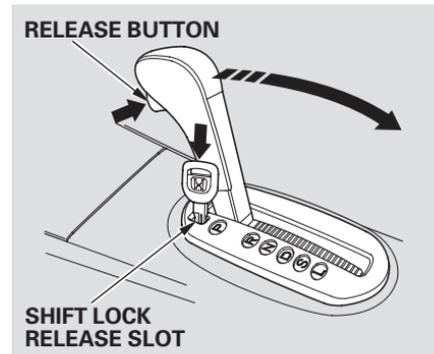
Shift Lock Release

This allows you to move the shift lever out of Park if the normal method of pushing on the brake pedal and pressing the release button does not work.

1. Set the Parking brake.
2. Remove the key from the ignition switch.
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 on the edge of the cover.



4. Insert the key in the Shift Lock Release slot.
5. Push down on the key while you press the release button on the shift lever and move the shift lever out of Park to Neutral.



6. Remove the key from the Shift Lock Release slot, then reinstall the cover. Make sure the notch on the cover is on the left side. Return the key to the ignition switch, 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 Honda dealer.

Auto Idle Stop

To maximize fuel economy, your Civic Hybrid has an Auto Idle Stop function. Under certain conditions, the engine will shut off when you come to a stop. Those conditions are:

- The engine coolant is nearly up to normal operating temperature.
- The shift lever is in D or N.
- You are not pressing on the accelerator pedal.
- The IMA battery is charged enough to operate the system.
- The ECON mode is selected, and the outside temperature is above 41°F (5°C), or the fan speed control dial is off (see page 111).

- There is adequate vacuum reserve for the power brakes.

When these conditions are met after the vehicle speed has exceeded 10 mph (16 km/h), the engine will shut off as you are braking to a stop and the vehicle speed goes below 5 mph (8 km/h).

The engine will start again when you release the brake pedal. It will also restart, even if you are still pressing the brake pedal, under these conditions:

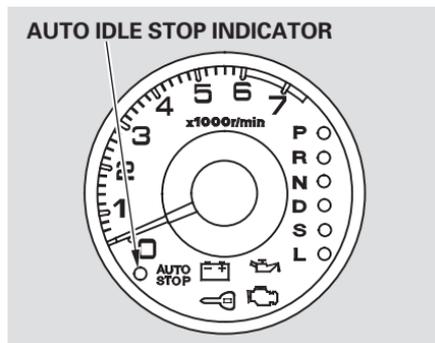
- You move the shift lever from D or N to R or L.
- You press the accelerator pedal.
- You are on an incline, and the vehicle begins rolling.

During Auto Idle Stop, the IMA charge and power brake vacuum reserve is monitored by the system. If the vacuum reserve drops below an optimal level, the engine will restart to replenish the vacuum supply. If the IMA charge drops below an optimal level and the shift lever is in Neutral or Park (P), the engine will restart to recharge the IMA battery.

The Auto Idle Stop function may not activate when starting the engine or if the IMA battery temperature is too hot or too cold.

Automatic Transmission (CVT)

Auto Idle Stop Indicator



The indicator blinks as a reminder that the engine has stopped because of the Auto Idle Stop function. You cannot restart the engine with the ignition switch when this light is blinking.

If you open the driver's door when Auto Stop is active, the indicator will blink and you will hear a continuous beep. The beep will stop when you close the door.

With the driver's door open, you will hear a continuous beep even if the Auto Idle Stop function is deactivated and the engine restarts.

Always turn the ignition switch to LOCK (0) and remove the key if you are getting out of the car.