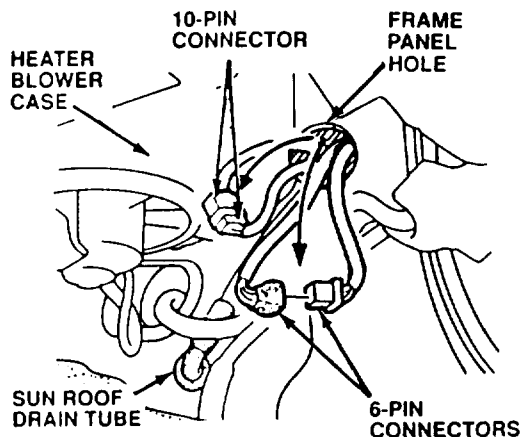


# HONDA ServiceNews February 9

## Save Time, Use the Right Instructions!

If the accessory installation instructions you're about to use don't specifically list the year and model of car you're working on, *don't use them!* Go get the right instructions. Cars change from year to year (even in the same model series), and so do the accessories. Though the changes may be minor, you'll waste a lot of time if you try to install certain accessories the same way you did the year before. For example:

→ *Prelude Security System:* If you're looking for the e-P connector that powers the door locks behind the right kick panel (like on a '92), you won't find it. On a '93 model, the connector is behind the sheet metal below the A-pillar, accessible through a hole. If you had used the '93 instructions, you would have found it. (Those of you that didn't have been calling Tech Line.)



→ *Civic Security System:* On a '93 Civic 4-door with power door locks, you don't have to install a sub-harness in the door like on a '92 model (the door is prewired). But you wouldn't know that without reading the right instructions. In fact, we wouldn't be surprised if some people have tried to install the 2-door sub-harness that's included in the '93 kit.

→ *Accord Security System:* You'll spend a lot of extra time trying to get a security system working on a '93 SE model if you don't have the latest instructions. The SE has some different connectors than other Accords, requiring an extra sub-harness and a dummy connector. The latest instructions also work on '90 - '92 models, but the opposite is not true.

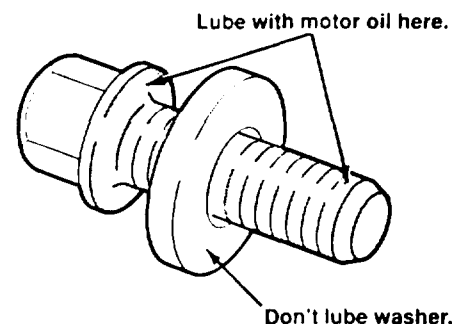
*Our recommendation:* Get some more Accessory Installation Instruction Binders (Y0284) and keep a binder for each year. That way they'll be easy to refer to now and for years to come.

## Remove Stubborn Crank Pulley Bolts

Although our crankshaft pulley bolts are high quality they may stick to the crankshaft threads when properly torqued. In fact, a properly torqued pulley bolt may require up to two or three times the installation torque to remove! (Now there's a job for the proverbial two men and a boy!) Here's how we remove these stubborn pulley bolts:

1. Insert the appropriate crank pulley holder into the pulley. (See S/B 92-040, "Crankshaft Pulley Holder," filed under Special Tools.)
2. Support the crank pulley holder handle with a jack stand or transmission jack to get the weight of the car working for you.
3. Use a high-strength, long-handled, breaker bar with an impact socket to remove the bolt (which has right-hand threads). Try a 36-inch breaker bar if you have one (though there may be times when a bar 48 - 60 inches long would be nice).

When you reinstall the bolt, lubricate the threads and flange with motor oil, but don't lube the washer or pulley. Retorque the bolt to the specs in the appropriate S/M. The torque is critical; don't skimp just because you had a hard time removing the bolt.



## Civic Cruise Actuator Test

Step 4 of the Cruise Control Actuator Assembly Test in the '91 - '93 Civic S/Ms contains a small error. As you do in step 4 is power the magnetic clutch and listen for it to click. Cross-out the last sentence: "You should be able to hear the motor." (You'll check the motor in step 6 of this procedure.) Here are the page references:

- '91 S/M - page 23-202
- '92 S/M - page 23-263
- '93 S/M - page 23-299

## Engine Won't Start? Watch the MIL

The Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) or the Check Engine light should be the first diagnostic tool you use on a fuel-injected car that won't start. Turn the ignition switch OFF, then back ON (but not to START) while watching the light. The light will either:

- Not come on at all
- Come on for two seconds, then go off
- Come on and stay on

The Fuel and Emissions sections in all our S/Ms have ECM or ECU troubleshooting for the first and third scenarios.

The '92 Civic S/M, '92 Prelude S/M, and all '93 S/Ms have troubleshooting for the second scenario ("Engine Will Not Start"). And the flowchart in the '93 Accord S/M works on '90-92 Accords, too. On other models, check for fuel pressure and spark.

If you call Tech Line for assistance on a car that won't start, be sure you can tell them how the indicator light behaves.

## Civic VIN Correction

Some of the vehicle grade numbers for the '93 Civic Hatchback are wrong in the VIN breakdown on page 1-2 of the '93 Civic S/M. Change your S/M to read:

### Vehicle Grade

- 5: CX (EH2)
- 6: DX (EH2)
- 7: VX (EH2)
- 8: Si (EH3) (This one's OK.)

## S/N Survey: It's Not Too Late

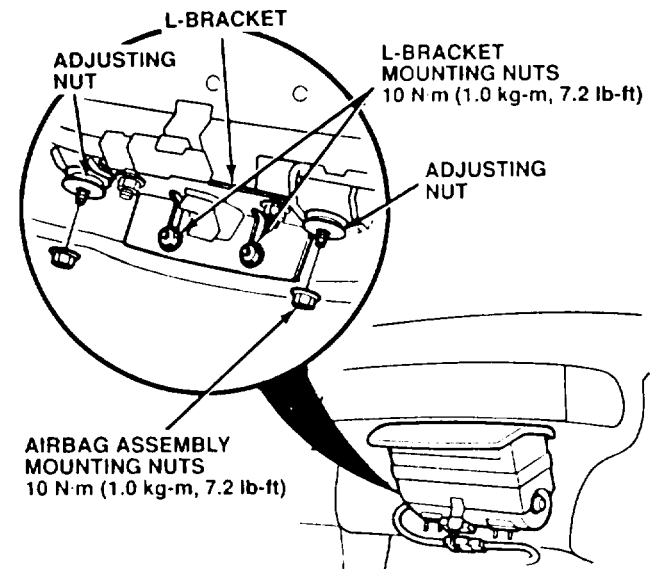
A big THANKS to everyone who returned a '92 ServiceNews Survey. It's interesting to see which articles were especially helpful (or not), and we've received a lot of good comments and constructive criticism.

Based on your input, we'll be making some changes. But we'd really like to hear from the rest of you before we act. Tear that survey off your December '92 issue, fill it out, and send it in now. We'll tally the results and let you know what's happening in next month's issue.

## Prelude Passenger Airbag Adjustment *C-0-0-E*

A Prelude passenger airbag that doesn't fit quite flush with the dashboard can usually be adjusted. The adjustment range is limited, however, so you may not get a perfect fit every time.

1. Check how the airbag top cover aligns with the dashboard. Note which side sits high.
2. Remove the glove box as described in the service manual.
3. Loosen the two outer airbag mounting nuts (the ones that secure the adjusting nuts) and the two L-bracket mounting nuts.



4. Back-off the airbag adjusting nut on the side of the airbag that sits too high.
5. Press down on the high side of the airbag, then turn the adjusting nut until it contacts the bottom of the airbag. Retighten the two airbag mounting nuts.
6. Retighten the two L-bracket mounting nuts.
7. Reinstall the glove box.

### ServiceNews

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