

2001 STEERING

Steering Columns

DESCRIPTION

All models use a 2-piece safety steering column with a slip joint flange connection. The steering column is supported by a column tube.

WARNING: All models are equipped with Supplemental Restraint System (SRS). All SRS wiring is color coded Yellow. Before performing any repairs on steering column, disable air bag system. See DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM .

DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM

DISABLING SYSTEM

WARNING: Wait at least 5 minutes after deactivating air bag system. System maintains voltage for about 5 minutes after battery is disconnected. Servicing air bag system before 5 minutes may cause accidental air bag deployment and possible personal injury.

CAUTION: Radio has a coded theft protection circuit. Before disconnecting battery cables, obtain radio anti-theft code number from customer. After reconnecting power, turn radio on. Word CODE will be displayed. Enter customer 5-digit code to restore radio operation.

Driver-Side Air Bag (Except 3.5RL)

1. Turn ignition off. Disconnect both battery cables. Remove access panel from steering wheel. See Fig. 1 .
2. Disconnect air bag connector from cable reel connector. Driver's air bag is now disabled. Disable passenger-side air bag.

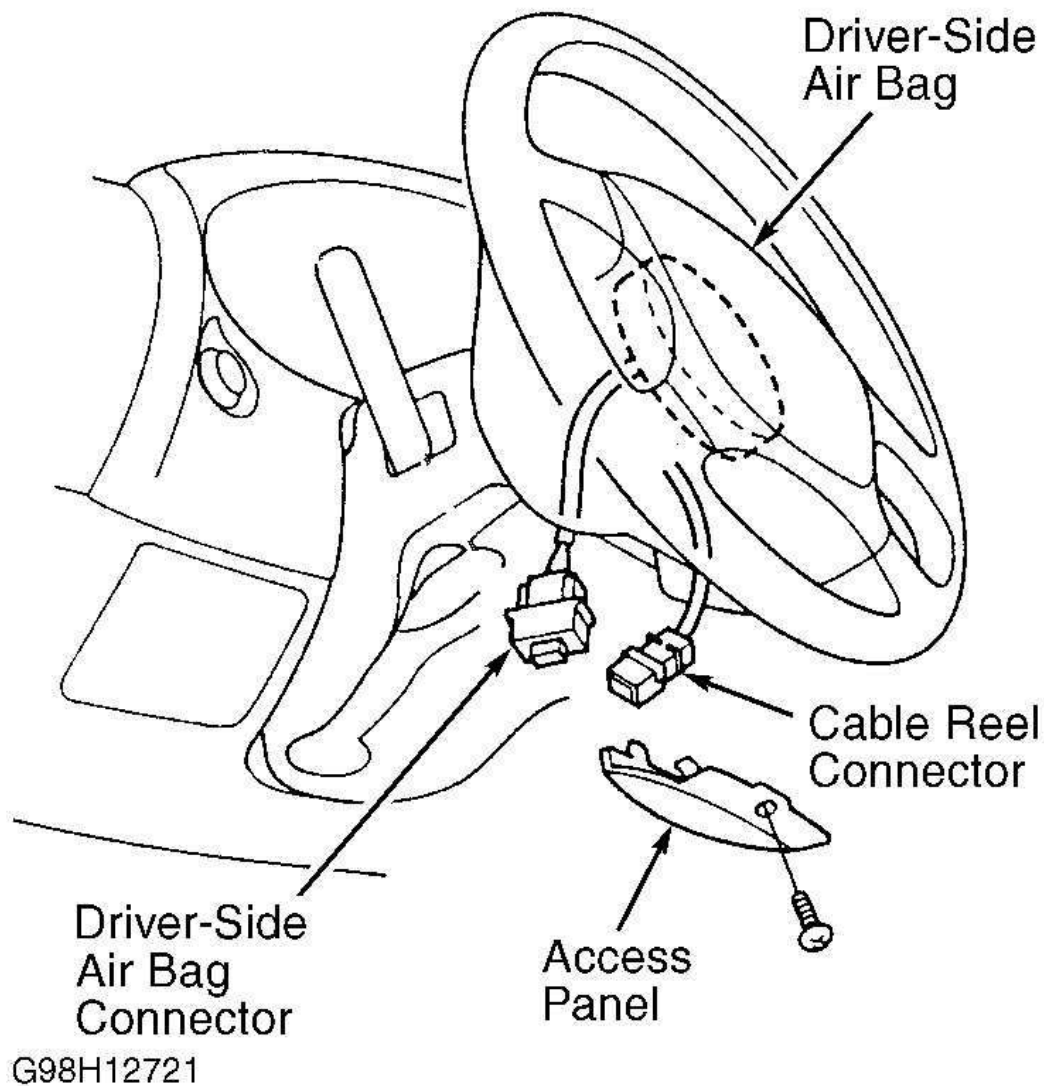


Fig. 1: Locating Driver-Side SRS Maintenance Lid & Connector (Typical)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

Passenger-Side Air Bag (Except 3.5RL)

Remove glove box. Disconnect harness connector from passenger-side air bag connector. See **Fig. 2** .
Passenger's air bag is now disabled.

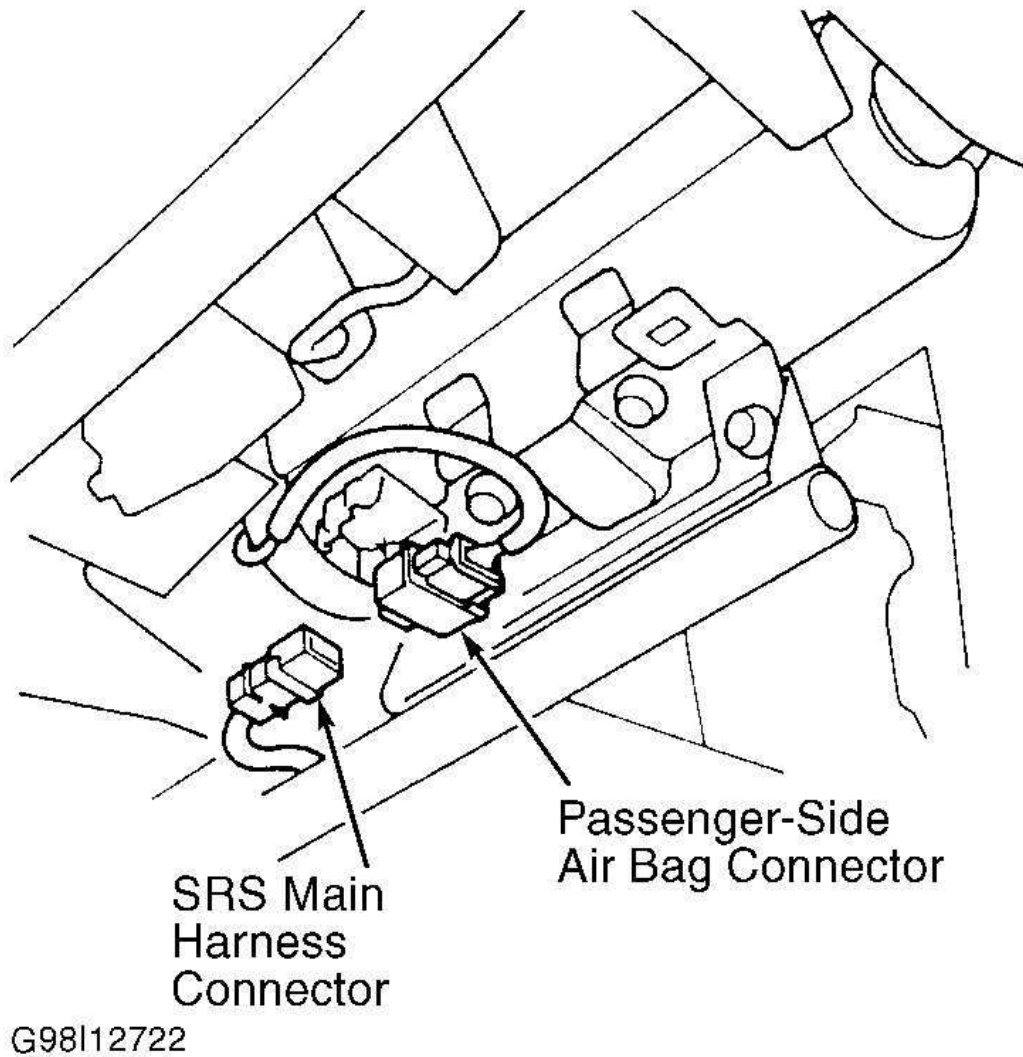


Fig. 2: Locating Passenger-Side SRS Harness Connector (Typical; Except 3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

Seat Belt Pretensioner (3.5RL)

Remove lower seat belt anchor bolt and quarter trim panels. Disconnect seat belt tension reducer 2-pin connector and seat belt pretensioner 2-pin connector from right and left seat belt pretensioners. See **Fig. 3**.

2001 Acura MDX

2001 STEERING Steering Columns

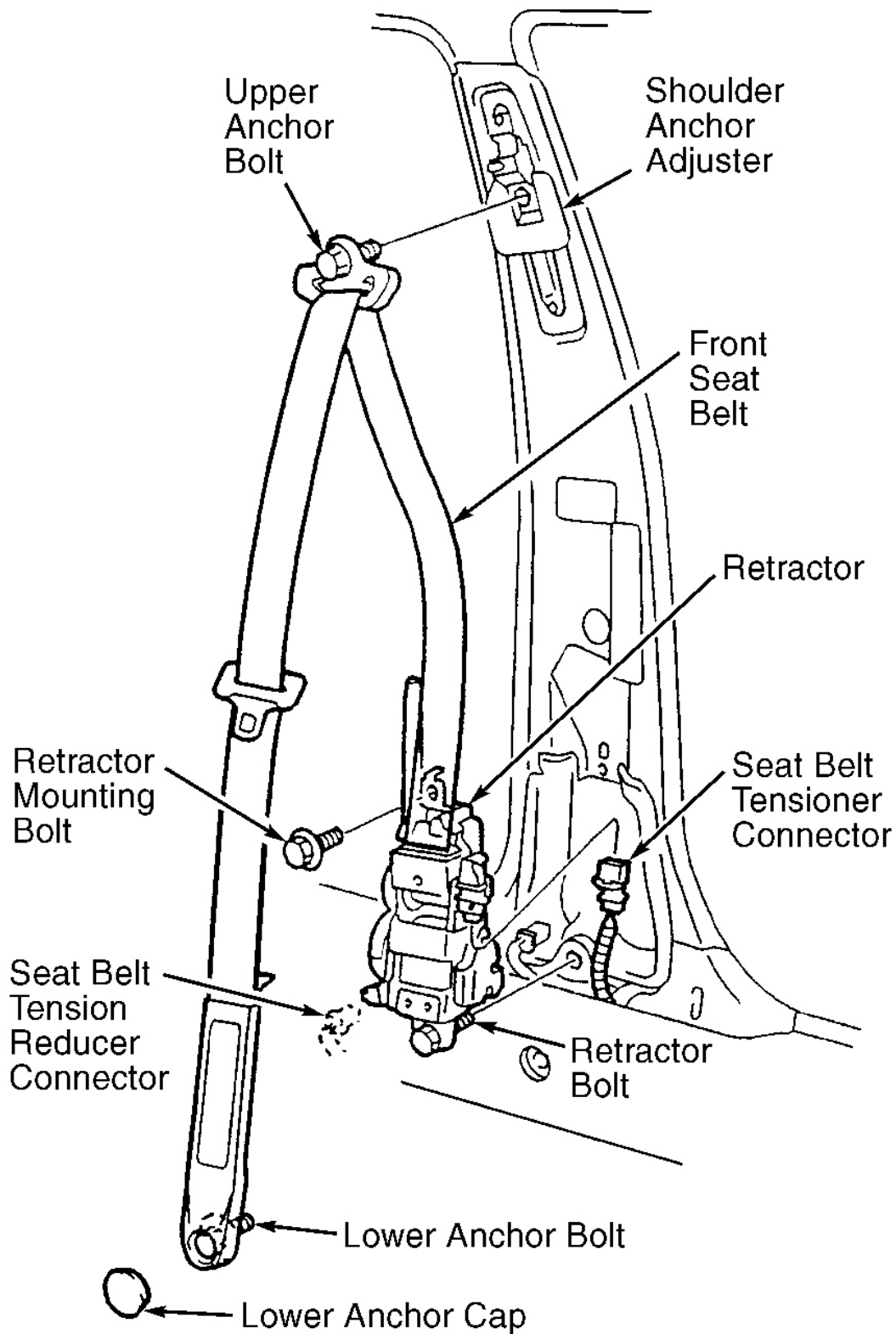


Fig. 3: Locating Seat Belt Pretensioner Connector (3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

Driver-Side Air Bag (3.5RL)

Turn ignition off. Disconnect battery cables. Wait at least 5 minutes to allow capacitor in back-up circuit to discharge. Remove access panel below driver's air bag on steering wheel. See **Fig. 1** . Disconnect driver-side air bag 2-pin connector from cable reel 2-pin connector.

Passenger-Side Air Bag (3.5RL)

Remove glove box. Unplug connector between passenger-side air bag and SRS main harness. See **Fig. 4** .

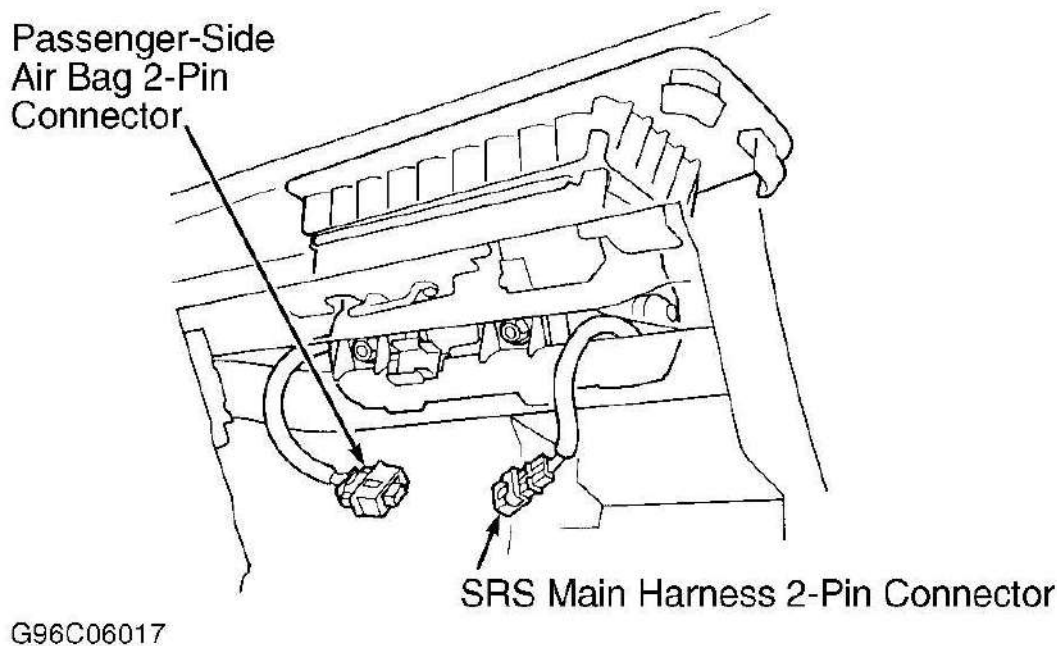


Fig. 4: Locating Passenger-Side Air Bag 2-Pin Connector (3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

ACTIVATING SYSTEM

Except 3.5RL

1. Ensure ignition switch is off and battery cables are disconnected. Reconnect air bag harness connectors.
2. Install access panel to steering wheel. Install glove box. Reconnect battery cables.
3. Turn ignition on. Observe SRS indicator light to verify system is functioning properly. SRS indicator light should come on for about 6 seconds and then go off. While vehicle is driven, SRS light should not

come on or flash. If SRS indicator light does not operate as indicated, system must be inspected/repaired as soon as possible. See appropriate article in AIR BAG SERVICE & REPAIR.

3.5RL

1. Reconnect seat belt tension reducer 2-pin connector and seat belt pretensioner 2-pin connector to right and left seat belt pretensioners. Reinstall quarter trim panel and lower seat belt anchor bolt.
2. Reconnect passenger-side air bag 2-pin connector to SRS main harness 2-pin connector. Reinstall glove box.
3. Reconnect driver's air bag 2-pin connector to cable reel 2-pin connector. Reinstall access panel under driver's air bag. Reconnect battery. Check SRS indicator light to verify system functions properly.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING WHEEL & HORN PAD

WARNING: Never store air bag upside down. Accidental deployment could cause serious injury. Store air bag with pad surface up and away from work area. DO NOT disassemble or tamper with air bag assembly.

Removal

1. Deactivate air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Position front wheels straight-ahead. Remove left side maintenance lid and cruise control switch lid. Note position of all connectors. Disconnect cruise control, horn and radio switch, if equipped. Remove Torx bolts and discard. Remove air bag assembly. See **Fig. 5**.
2. Mark steering wheel and shaft for installation reference. Remove steering wheel shaft bolt/nut. On Integra, remove steering wheel by rocking slightly while pulling steadily with both hands. On all other models, use suitable puller to remove steering wheel.

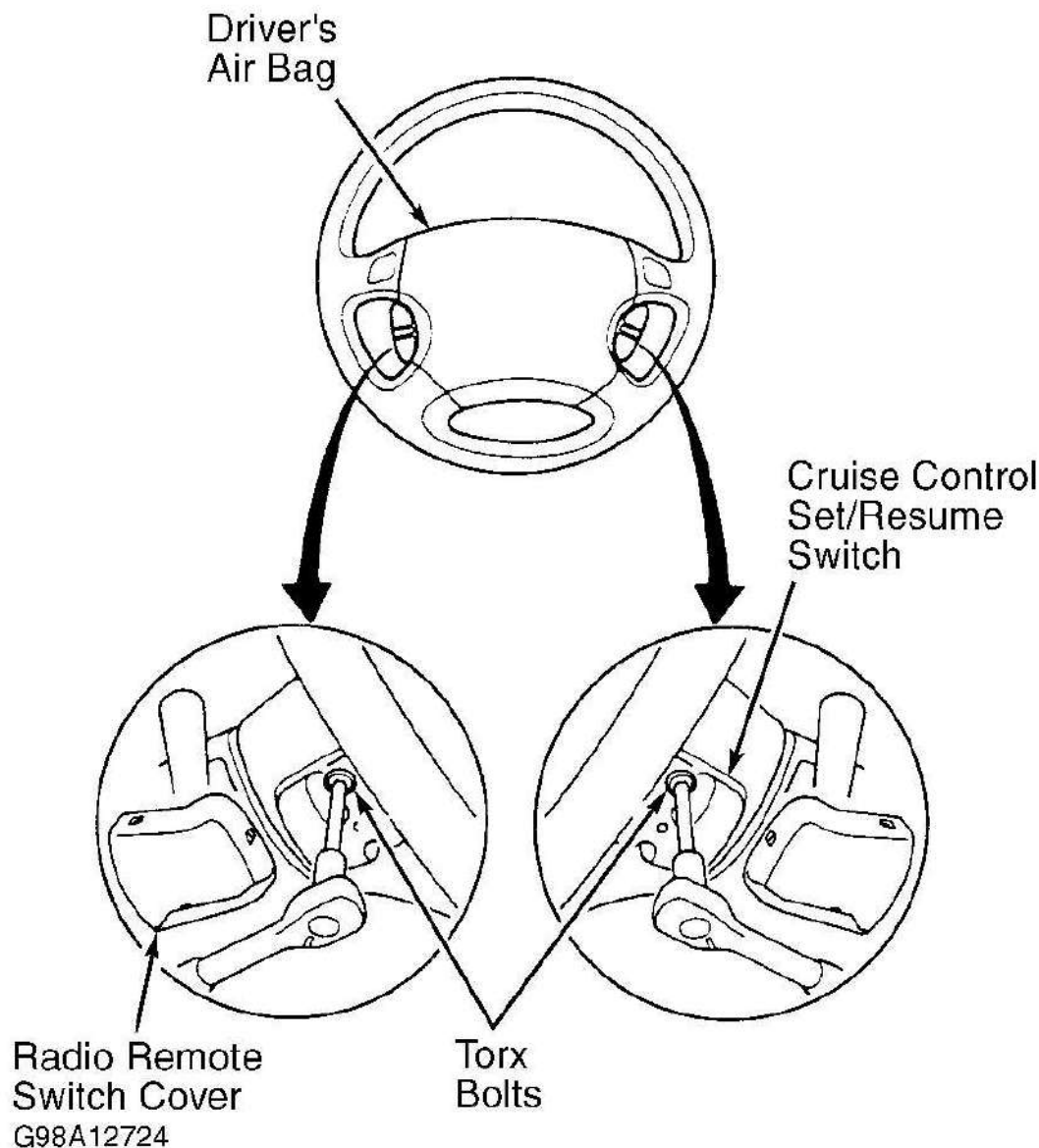


Fig. 5: Removing Driver-Side Air Bag Assembly (All Models)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

Installation

1. Align reference marks. Center cable reel by rotating cable reel clockwise until it stops. Rotate cable reel counterclockwise about 2 turns.
2. Arrow mark on cable reel should point straight up. See **Fig. 6** . Install steering wheel, ensure steering wheel shaft engages cable reel and canceling sleeve. To complete installation, reverse removal procedure. Install air bag. Install new Torx bolts and tighten to 88 INCH lbs. (10 N.m). Reactivate air bag system.

See **ACTIVATING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM.

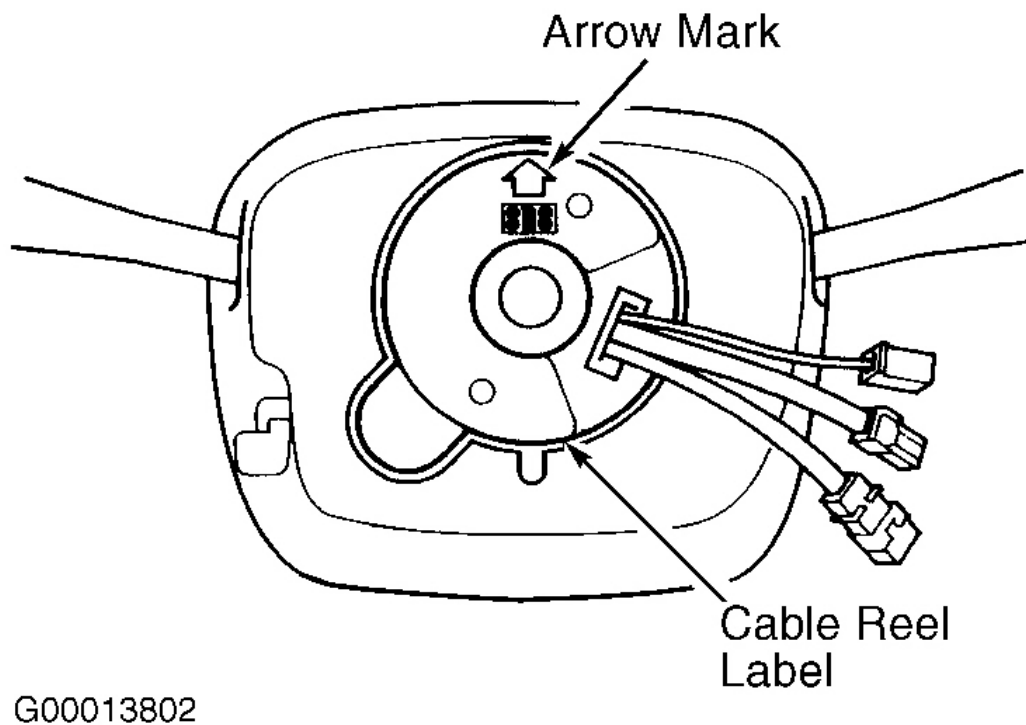


Fig. 6: Centering Cable Reel

Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

COMBINATION SWITCH

Removal & Installation

Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove upper and lower steering column covers. Remove lower dashboard panel and knee bolster, if equipped. Unplug combination switch connectors and remove turn signal canceling sleeve. Remove combination switch mounting screws and switch. To install, reverse removal procedure.

CAUTION: On vehicles with TCS, DO NOT remove steering angle sensor from the combination switch.

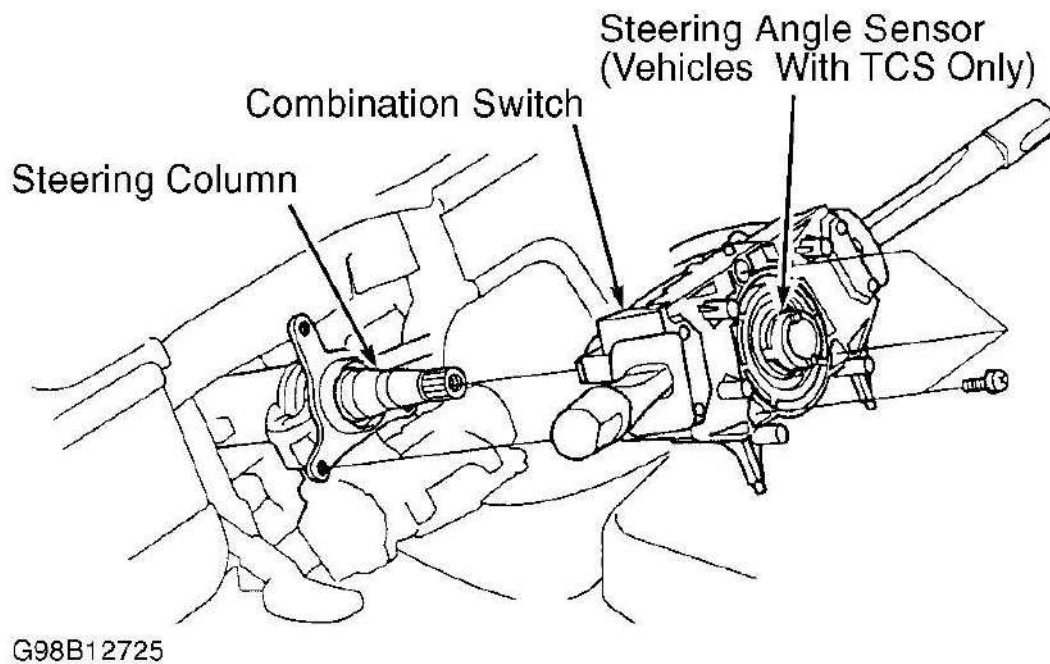


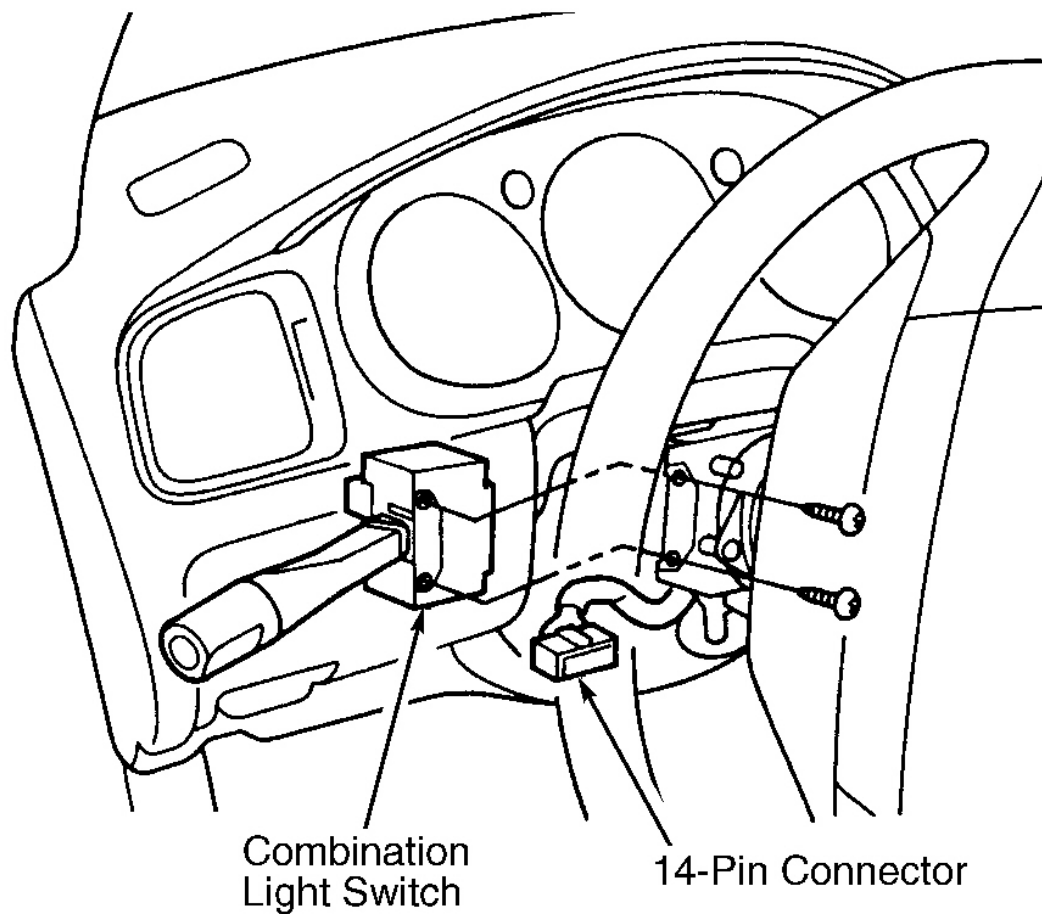
Fig. 7: Removing Combination Switch

Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

TURN SIGNAL/HEADLIGHT SWITCH

Removal & Installation

Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove dashboard lower panel, steering column upper and lower covers, and knee bolster, if equipped. Unplug harness connector. Remove mounting screws and turn signal/headlight switch. See **Fig. 8**. To install, reverse removal procedure.



G00008387

Fig. 8: Removing/Installing Turn Signal/Headlight Switch
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

WIPER/WASHER SWITCH

Removal & Installation

Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove upper and lower steering column covers, dashboard lower panel and knee bolster, if equipped. Unplug wiper/washer harness connectors. Remove 2 screws and wiper/washer switch. To install, reverse removal procedure.

IGNITION SWITCH

Removal & Installation

Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove steering wheel. Remove upper and lower steering column covers. Remove lower dashboard panel and left knee bolster, if equipped. On Integra, unplug 5-pin connector from underdash fuse block and 7-pin connector from main wire harness. On all other models, unplug connector from ignition switch or underdash fuse block. Set ignition switch to "O" position. Remove 2 screws and ignition switch. To install, reverse removal procedure.

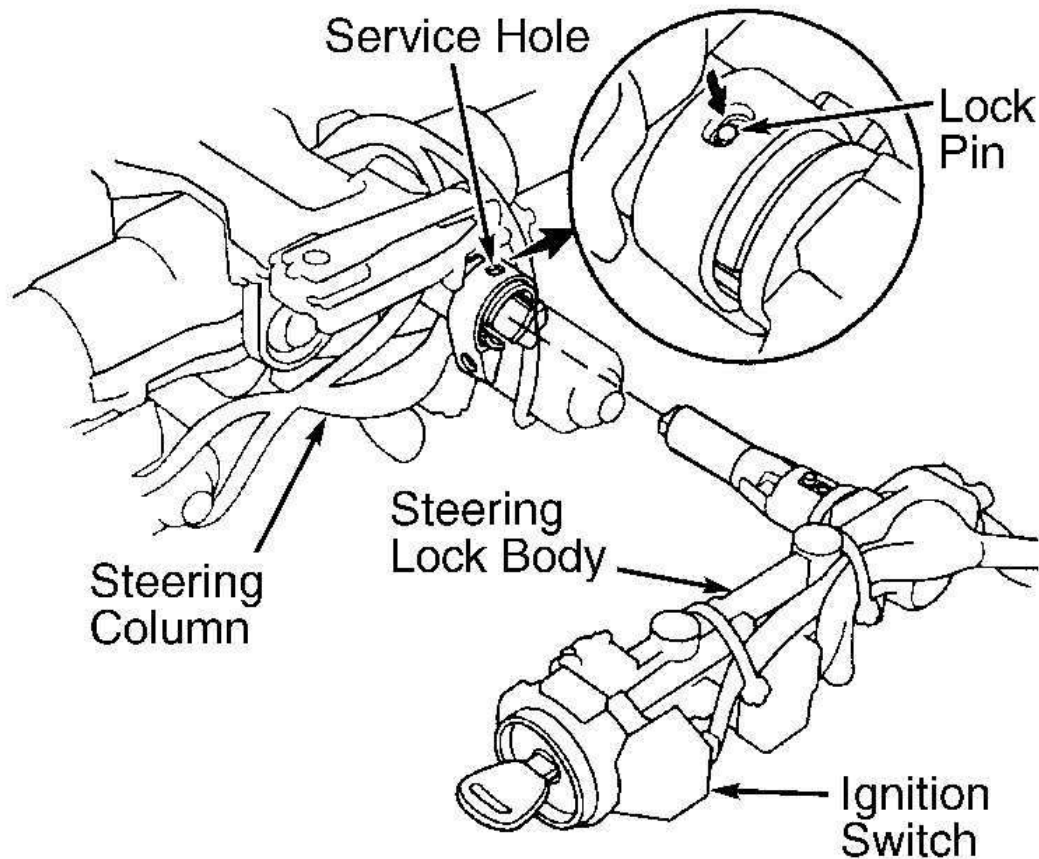
STEERING LOCK ASSEMBLY

Removal & Installation (Except 3.5RL)

1. Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove upper and lower steering column covers. Remove lower dashboard panel and left knee bolster, if equipped. On Integra, unplug 5-pin connector from underdash fuse block and 7-pin connector from main wiring harness. On all other models, unplug connector from ignition switch or underdash fuse block.
2. Remove steering column mounting bolts/nuts. Lower steering column. Center-punch both shear bolts. Using a 3/16" bit, drill heads from bolts. Remove shear bolts and steering lock assembly.
3. Install new switch without key inserted. Finger-tighten new shear bolts. Insert key. Check for proper operation. Tighten shear bolts until heads break off. To complete installation, reverse removal procedure.

3.5RL

1. Disable air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove steering column. See **STEERING COLUMN ASSEMBLY** . File notch into shear bolt head. Set tip of chisel in notch and loosen bolt by tapping on chisel. Remove shear bolt from switch body. Insert ignition key and turn to "ACC" (1) position. Push lock pin down and pull out steering lock body from steering column. See **Fig. 9** .
2. Insert ignition key into new steering lock body and turn to "ACC" (1) position. Push lock pin down and insert steering lock into steering column until it clicks into place. See **Fig. 9** . Loosely install new shear bolt. Ensure steering wheel lock operates smoothly and ignition key turns freely. Tighten shear bolt until hex head twists off.



G00008399

Fig. 9: Removing & Installing Steering Lock (3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

STEERING COLUMN ASSEMBLY

Removal

1. Deactivate air bag system. See **DISABLING SYSTEM** under DISABLING & ACTIVATING AIR BAG SYSTEM. Remove steering wheel. See **STEERING WHEEL & HORN PAD**. Remove left and right lower covers from instrument panel. Remove front console. Remove left knee bolster from steering hanger.
2. Remove steering joint cover. Remove steering shaft joint pinch bolts. Mark steering joint and pinion shaft for installation reference. Disengage steering joint from pinion shaft by moving steering joint toward steering column.
3. Remove upper and lower steering column covers. Unplug all wiring harness connectors. Remove air bag wiring harness from connector holder under steering column. Remove turn signal canceling sleeve and

combination switch. Remove steering column mounting bolts. Remove steering column assembly.

Installation

Position steering column assembly into hole in floorboard. Align reference marks, and install steering joint onto pinion shaft. Install and tighten steering joint pinch bolts. See **TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS** . Install steering joint cover. Install steering column to underside of dashboard. To complete installation, reverse removal procedure.

OVERHAUL

NOTE: For overhaul procedure, refer to exploded view of steering column. See **Fig. 10** or **Fig. 11** .

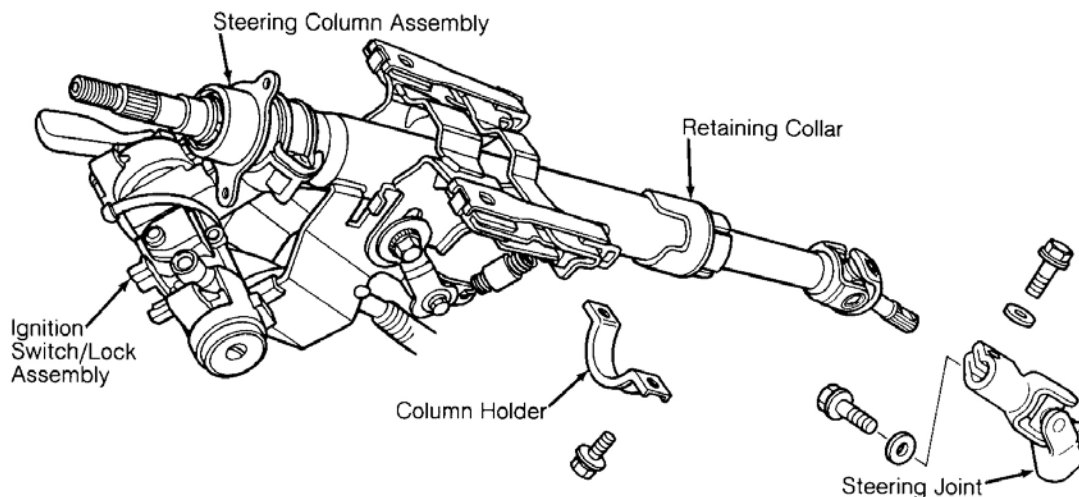
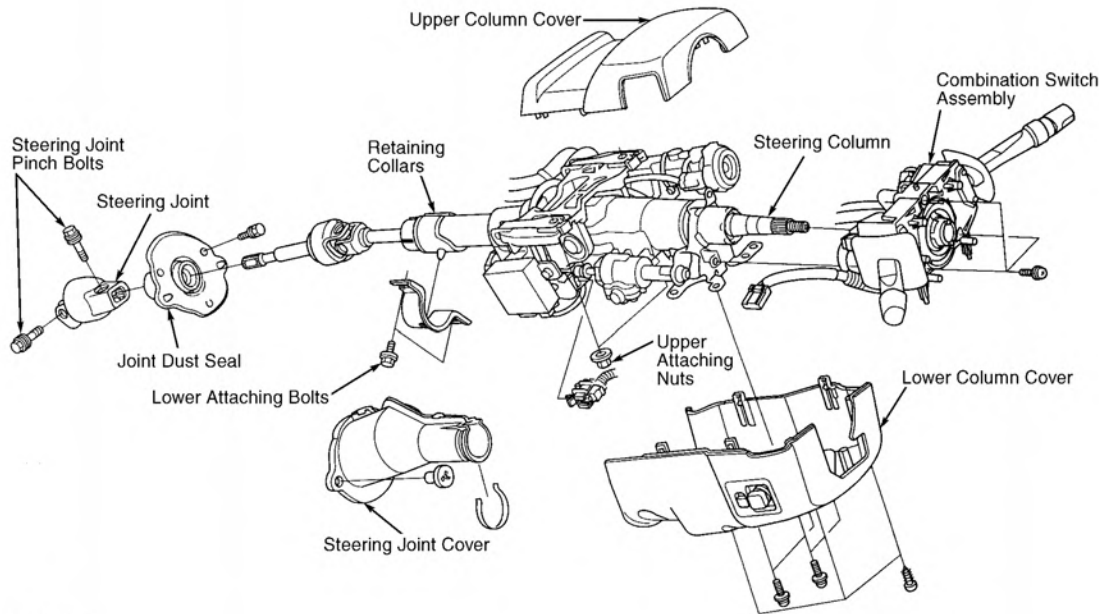


Fig. 10: Exploded View Of Steering Column Assembly (Typical; Except 3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

2001 Acura MDX

2001 STEERING Steering Columns



G96G18651

Fig. 11: Exploded View Of Steering Column Assembly (3.5RL)
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (N.m)
Column Holder Bolts/Nuts	16 (22)
Seat Belt Pretensioner Lower Mounting Bolt	24 (32)
Shoulder Harness Upper & Lower Anchor Bolts	24 (32)
Steering Joint Pinch Bolt	16 (22)
Steering Wheel Bolt	28 (38)
Steering Wheel Nut	37 (50)
Upper Column Mounting Bolts/Nuts	
Except Integra	12 (16)
Integra	10 (13)
INCH Lbs. (N.m)	
Air Bag Torx Bolts (Driver & Passenger Side)	88 (10)
SRS Unit Torx Bolts	88 (10)