2003-06 ACCESSORIES & EQUIPMENT

Tailgate - MDX

ADJUSTMENT

1. Remove the support strut from each side (see **TAILGATE SUPPORT STRUT REPLACEMENT**).
2. Slightly loosen each bolt and nut.
3. Adjust the tailgate alignment in the following sequence.
   - Pull down the rear portion of the headliner (see **HEADLINER REMOVAL/INSTALLATION**). Take care not to bend the headliner excessively. Adjust the tailgate hinges (A) right and left, as well as forward and rearward, using the elongated holes.
   - Turn the tailgate edge cushions (B), in or out as necessary, to make the tailgate (C) fit flush with the body at the side edges.
   - Adjust the fit between the tailgate and tailgate opening by moving the striker (D).

cardiagn.com

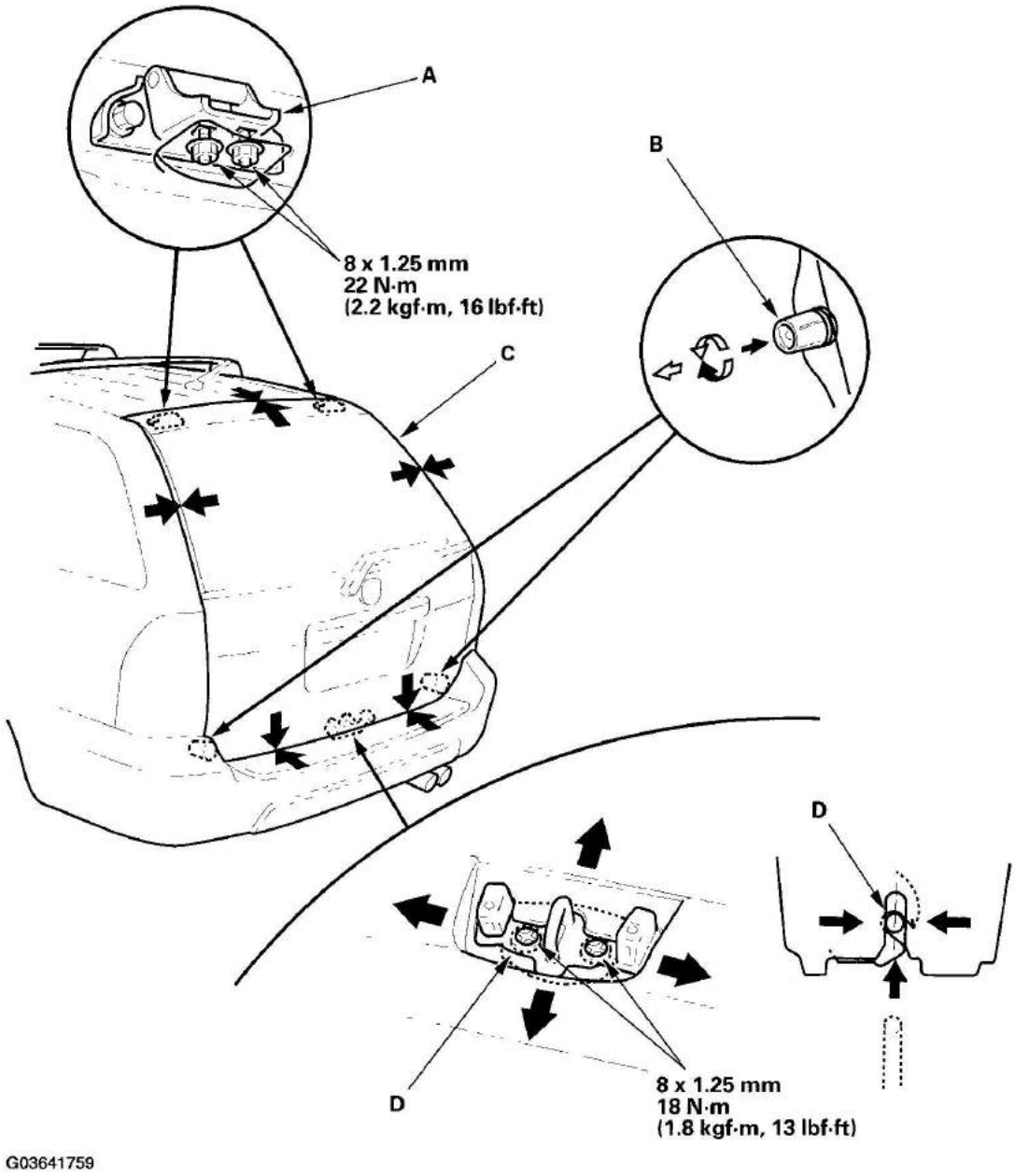

Fig. 1: Adjusting Tailgate Alignment
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

4. Tighten each bolt and nut securely.
5. Check that the tailgate opens properly and locks securely.
6. Reinstall the support struts securely.
7. Apply touch-up paint to the hinge mounting nuts and around the hinges.
8. Apply multipurpose grease to the pivot portion of the tailgate hinges (A) as indicated by the arrows

cardiagn.com

shown in **Fig. 2** .

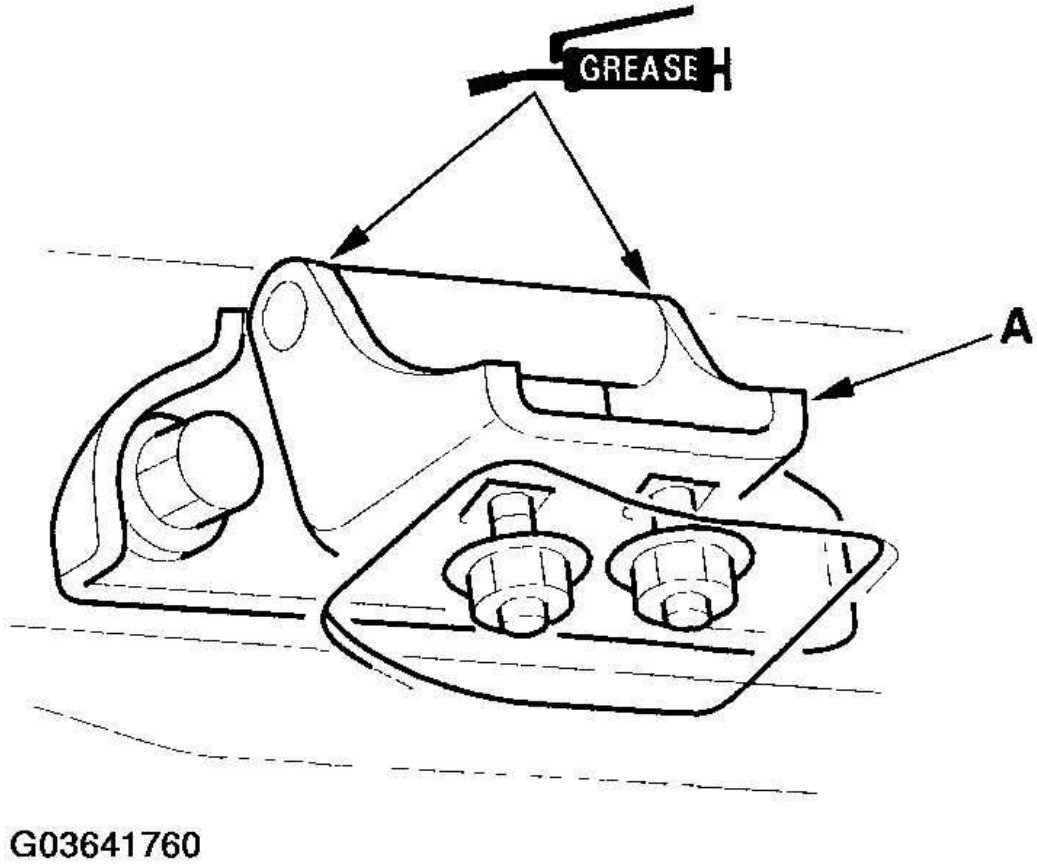

Fig. 2: Applying Multipurpose Grease To Pivot Portion Of Tailgate Hinges
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

TAILGATE SUPPORT STRUT REPLACEMENT

1. With the help of an assistant, use a flat-tip screwdriver (A) to pry the support strut clips (B) from each end of the support strut (C) at the tailgate and body, then release the support strut from the pivot bolts (D). Do not remove the clips from the support strut.

cardiagn.com

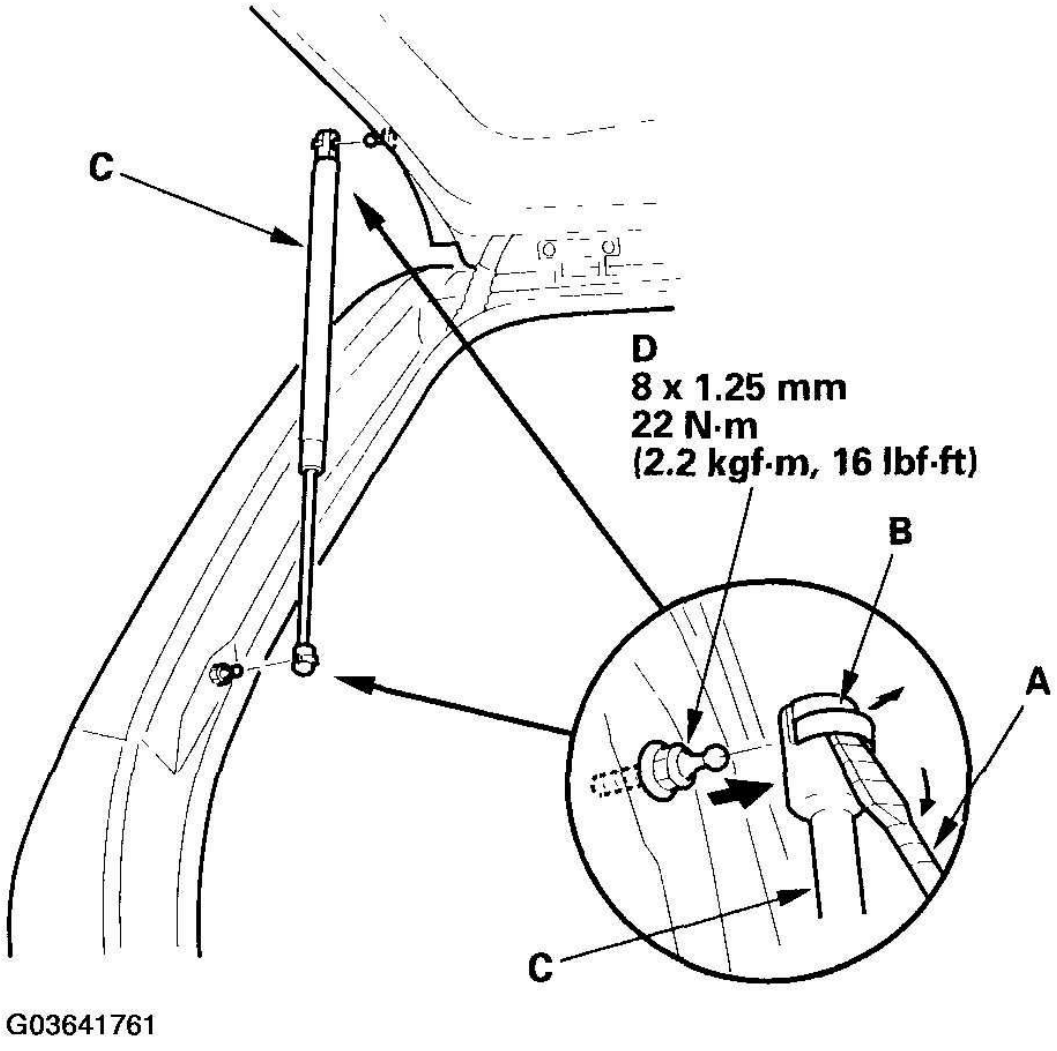

Fig. 3: Prying Support Strut Clips
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

2. Set the clips (A) to the original position, then reattach the support strut (B) on the pivot bolts (C) by pushing on the support strut.

cardiagn.com

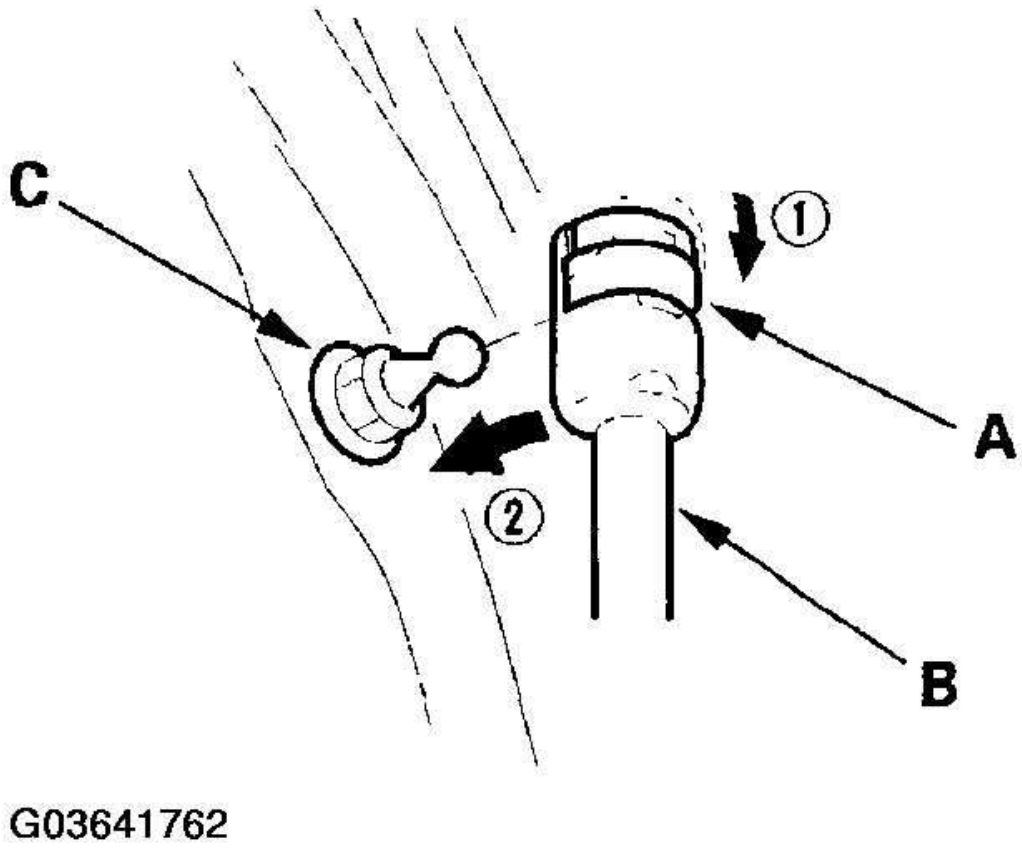

Fig. 4: Setting Clips To Original Position
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

TAILGATE WEATHERSTRIP REPLACEMENT

1. Remove the tailgate weatherstrip (A) by pulling out on it.

cardiagn.com

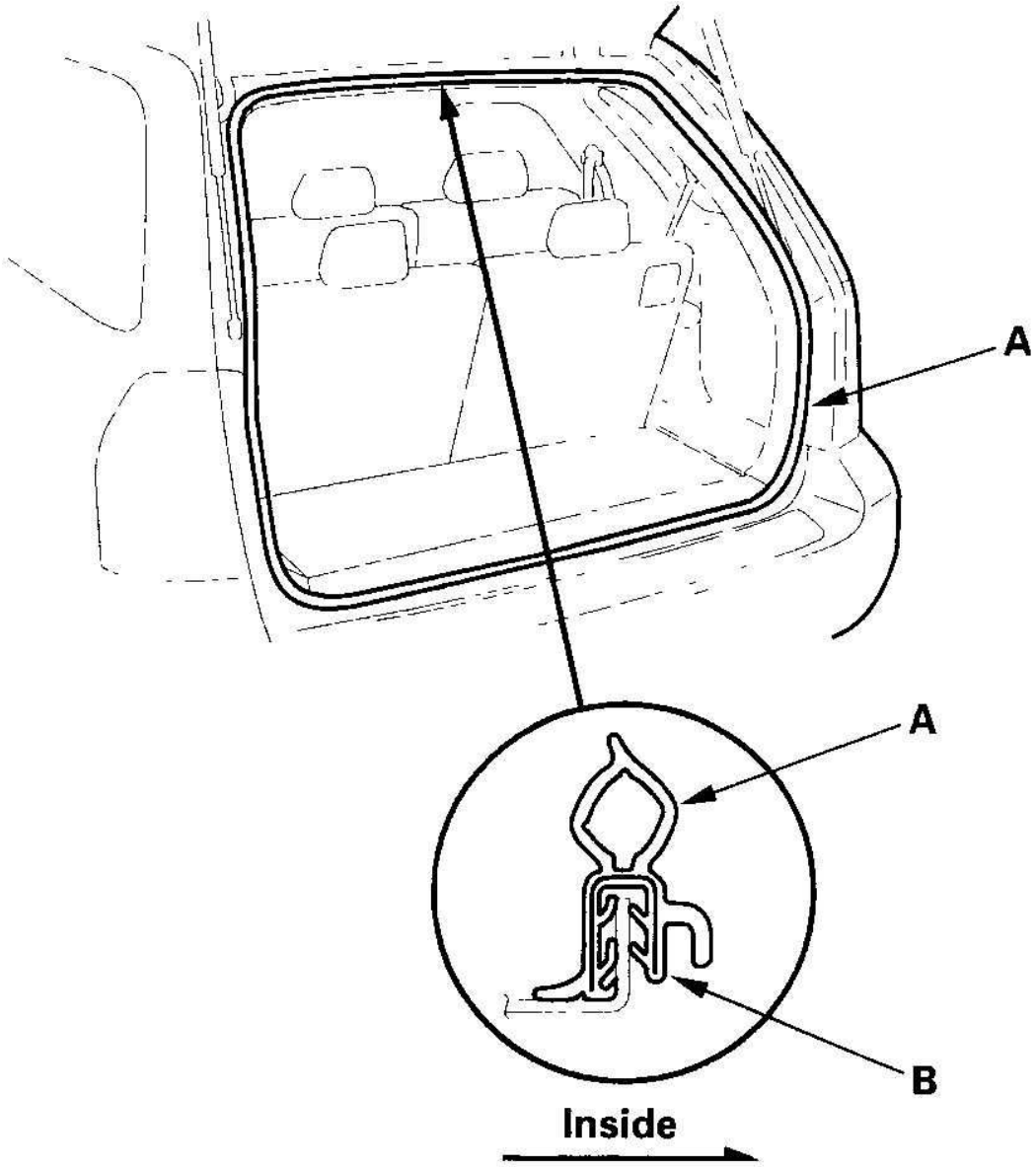

Fig. 5: Removing Tailgate Weatherstrip
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.

2. Locate the painted alignment mark (B) on the tailgate weatherstrip. Align the painted mark with the alignment tab in the center of the tailgate opening, and install the tailgate weatherstrip all the way around in the direction shown. Make sure there are no wrinkles in the weatherstrip.
3. Check for water leaks.

cardiagn.com