

1973 HONDA CIVIC

Civic (1973)

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

DESCRIPTION

Strut type front suspension consisting of a vertically mounted strut assembly. Strut assembly is mounted to body at the top by means of a thrust bearing. Lower end of strut is connected to steering knuckle which is mounted to lower control arm by means of a ball joint. Strut assembly consists of a shock absorber built into strut outer tube and a coil spring mounted to outside upper portion of strut tube. A stabilizer bar is attached to crossmember and connected at ends to lower control arms.

ADJUSTMENT

WHEEL ALIGNMENT SPECIFICATIONS & PROCEDURES

See *Wheel Alignment Specifications & Procedures* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* Section.

WHEEL BEARING ADJUSTMENT

See *Wheel Bearing Adjustment* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* Section.

BALL JOINT CHECKING

See *Ball Joint Checking* in *WHEEL ALIGNMENT* Section.

STEERING KNUCKLE

Removal — 1) Raise and support vehicle and remove wheel. Remove spindle nut and brake caliper. Install suitable hub puller (07934-6340100), attach suitable slide hammer (07936-5120000, 07036-5790000) and remove hub with brake disc attached from steering knuckle.

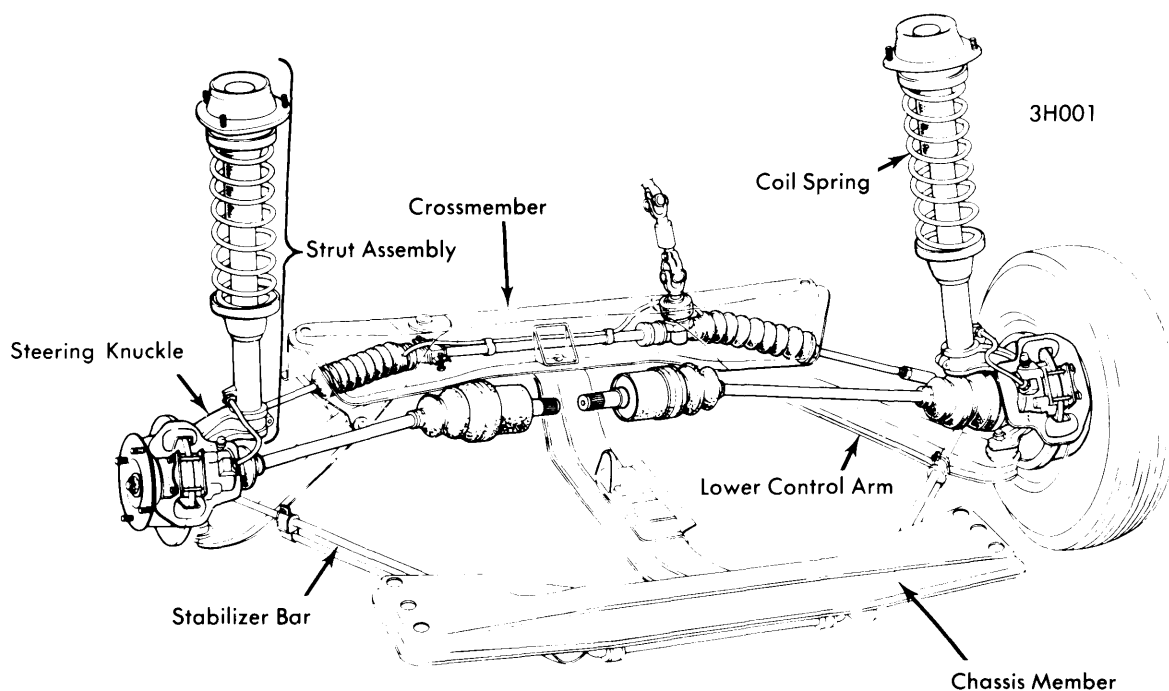
2) Using suitable ball joint remover (07941-6340000), disconnect tie rod from steering knuckle. **CAUTION** — Care should be taken not to damage ball joint seals. Using same ball joint remover, detach lower control arm from steering knuckle. Loosen lock bolt securing steering knuckle to strut assembly. Pull steering knuckle from strut assembly, slide off of axle and remove steering knuckle.

Installation — To install, reverse removal procedure and tighten all nuts and bolts.

STRUT ASSEMBLY

Removal — Raise and support vehicle then remove wheel. Disconnect brake line at strut assembly and remove retaining clip. Loosen lock bolt securing strut assembly to steering knuckle and separate knuckle from strut. Remove nuts retaining upper end of strut to body and remove strut.

Disassembly — Assemble strut assembly in special tool (07959-6340000), and compress shock absorber approximately 2". Remove rubber cover and loosen self-locking nut on end of piston rod. Remove tool and remove upper mount, thrust bearing assembly and coil spring.



FRONT SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY

Front Suspension

1973 HONDA CIVIC (Cont.)

Reassembly & Installation — Inspect strut shock absorber components for leaks or damage and replace defective parts. Reverse disassembly procedure then to install, reverse removal procedure.

LOWER CONTROL ARM

Removal — Raise and support vehicle. Remove wheel. Disconnect lower ball joint from steering knuckle using suitable tool (07941-6340000). Disconnect stabilizer retaining brackets and remove stabilizer bar. Remove lower control arm pivot bolt and disconnect radius rod. Remove control arm.

Installation — To install, reverse removal procedure and tighten all nuts and bolts as required.

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS

Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Tie Rod Ball Joint	32 (4.4)
Spindle Nut	109 (15)
Stabilizer Bracket	7 (1)
Strut Assembly-to-Body	10 (1.4)
Strut Assembly-to-Steering Knuckle	40 (5.5)
Lower Control Arm	30 (4.1)
Radius Rod	30 (4.1)
Lower Control Arm-to-Ball Joint	26 (3.6)