

Front Suspension

HONDA

Civic
Civic CVCC

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.

REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

STEERING KNUCKLE

Removal – 1) Raise and support vehicle and remove wheel. Remove spindle nut and brake caliper. Install hub puller with slide hammer and remove hub with brake disc attached, from steering knuckle.

2) Disconnect tie rod from steering knuckle using ball joint remover tool. **CAUTION** – Care should be taken not to damage ball joint seals. Use ball joint remover tool to 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 note the following: The wheel bearings will be damaged during removal. Press in new bearings and seal before reinstalling.

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 to special spring compressor tool, and compress shock absorber approximately 2" (51 mm). Remove rubber cover and loosen self-locking nut on end of piston rod. Remove tool and upper mount, thrust bearing assembly and coil spring.

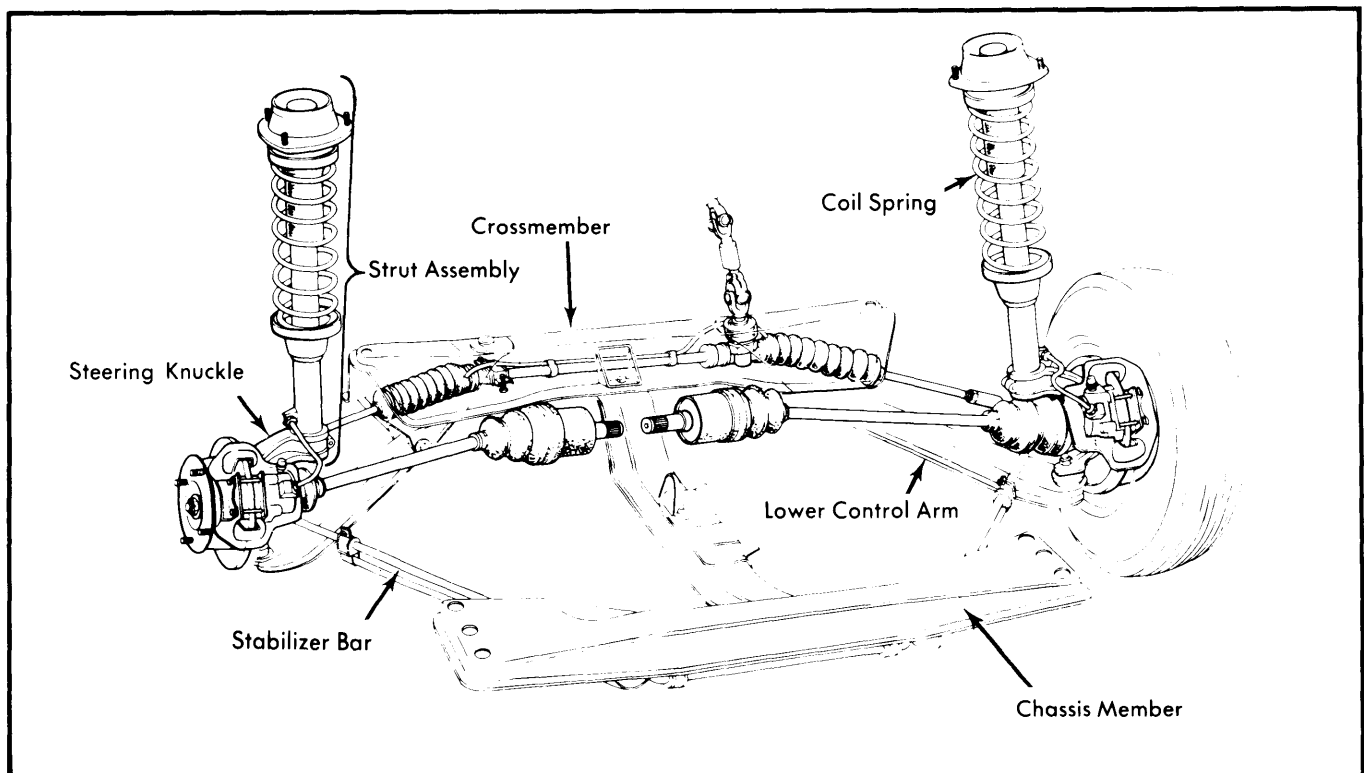


Fig. 1 Honda Front Suspension Assembly

HONDA (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.

joint remover tool. Disconnect stabilizer retaining brackets and remove stabilizer bar. Remove lower control arm pivot bolt and disconnect radius rod. Remove control arm.

LOWER CONTROL ARM

Removal — Raise and support vehicle. Remove wheel. Disconnect lower ball joint from steering knuckle using ball

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

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS	
Application	Ft. Lbs.(mkg)
Spindle Nut	
CVCC	109(15)
Civic	87-130(12-18)
Stabilizer Bracket	
CVCC	9(1.2)
Civic	5-9(.7-1.2)
Control Arm-to-Body	
CVCC	33(4.6)
Civic	25-36(3.5-5.0)
Ball Joint Nut	
CVCC	25(3.5)
Civic	22-29(3-4)
Radius Rod Nut	
CVCC	33(4.6)
Civic	25-36(3.5-5.0)
Strut-to-Body	
CVCC	16(2.2)
Civic	7-12(1.0-1.7)
Strut-to-Knuckle	
CVCC	40(5.5)
Civic	36-43(5-6)
Shock Absorber Center Nut	
CVCC	43(5.9)
Civic	40-51(5.5-7.1)