

# Front Suspension

## HONDA

Civic  
CVCC  
Accord

### 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 two-piece stabilizer bar (with spring coil) is attached to crossmember and connected at ends to lower control arms. Control Spring mounts with brackets to stabilizer bars and crossmember.

#### 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 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. Wheel bearing and seal must be replaced. Press out old bearing, then insert new one using a press to fully seat bearing and seal.

#### 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.

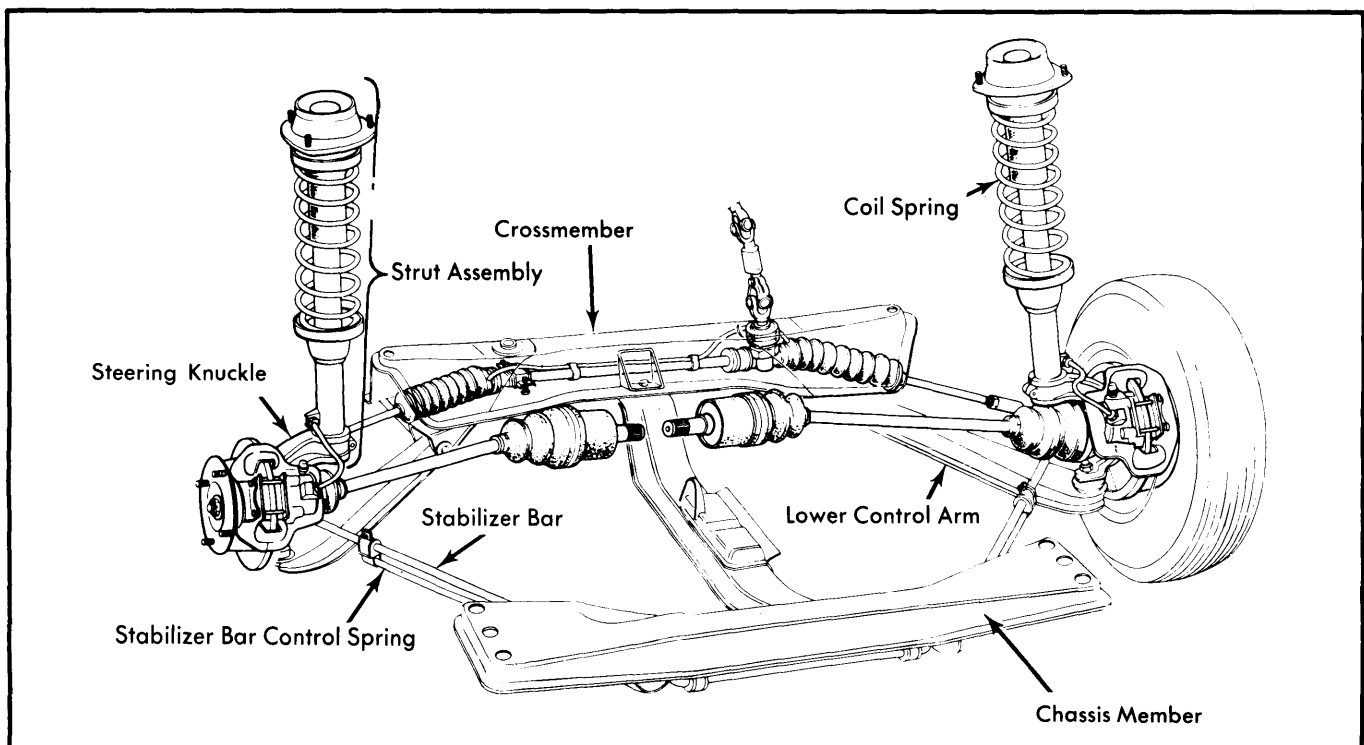


Fig. 1 Honda Front Suspension Assembly

## 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.

### LOWER CONTROL ARM

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

### STABILIZER BAR & CONTROL SPRING

**Removal** — Disconnect stabilizer bar mounting at lower control arm on both sides. Separate bracket and bushing mounting stabilizer bar control spring to stabilizer bar. Remove bracket securing control spring to crossmember. Loosen and remove stabilizer bar mounting at crossmember and slide both pieces from vehicle.

**Inspection** — Inspect all rubber bushings and metal sleeves for excessive wear or damage.

**Installation** — To install stabilizer and control spring, reverse removal procedure.

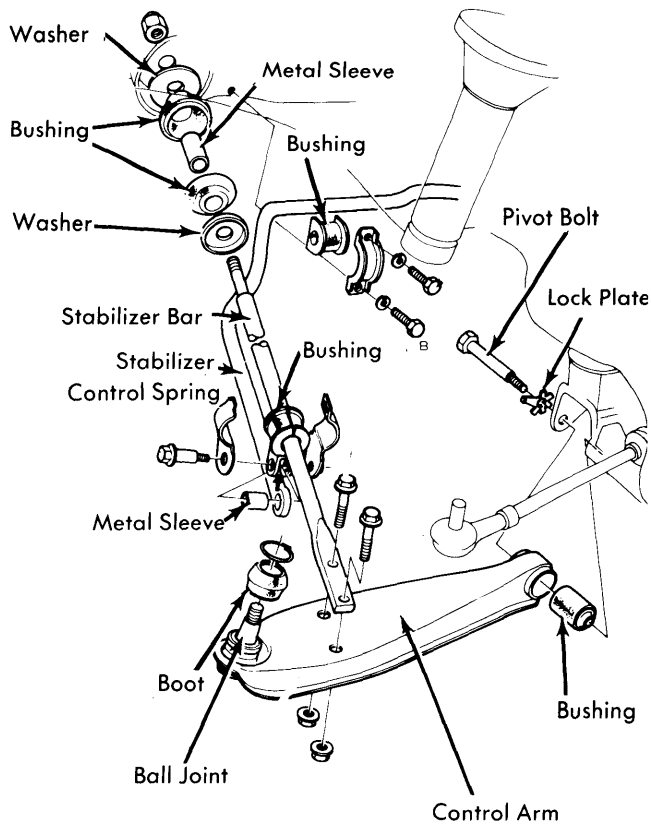


Fig. 2 Exploded View of Stabilizer Bar and Control Spring

TIGHTENING SPECIFICATIONS	
Application	Ft. Lbs. (mkg)
Spindle Nut	
Civic & Accord .....	87-130 (12-18)
CVCC .....	109 (15)
Ball Joint	
Civic .....	22-29 (3-4)
CVCC .....	25 (3.5)
Accord .....	29-36 (4-5)
Strut-to-Knuckle	
Civic .....	36-43 (5-6)
CVCC .....	40 (5.5)
Accord .....	43-51 (6-7)