

1997 Honda Prelude



Perhaps the laws of gravity are not
as immutable as once thought. The
all-new Prelude, infused with Honda's
latest technology, will make you
wonder. Thrilling performance in
a sleek, aggressive package, the
Prelude is the embodiment of a
promise: to remain on the cutting
edge of automobile technology.

Models

Prelude: 2.2 liter, 195-horsepower VTEC engine, dual airbags,* anti-lock braking system (ABS), 16" alloy wheels, AM/FM stereo CD player with six speakers and Honda Acoustic Feedback Sound (AFB), and an immobilizer security key. 190 horsepower with Sequential SportShift automatic transmission.

Prelude Type SH Package: Adds Active Torque Transfer System (ATTS) for optimum handling, rear spoiler with integral LED stoplight, and exclusive alloy wheels. Available with 5-speed manual only.

*Honda reminds you and your passengers to always buckle up.







Surroundings

An impressively expansive cabin. Legendary Honda

ergonomics. Along with state-of-the-art safety features.

What you'll find inside the Prelude cabin is every bit

as advanced as what's under the Prelude hood.



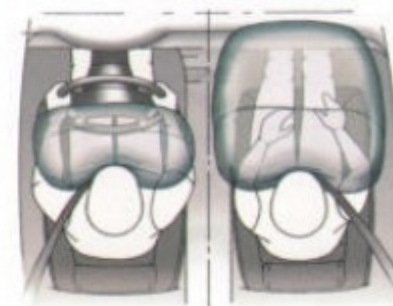
A Fold-Down Rear Seatback greatly expands the trunk. So pack up your ski equipment. Golf clubs. Groceries. Worries. Whatever.

We started with you. Before any gauge was designed, before any control was placed, we thought long and hard about the driver of this car. Because, after all, that's what the Prelude is all about.

The results? An all-new interior with an impressive amount of space for easier entrance and exit. A locking rear seatback that folds forward, and, for personal items, a front center armrest with storage compartments.

Throughout the Prelude, you'll find that special attention has been paid to passenger safety and luxury. A reinforced frame provides strength and a smooth ride.

There's also excellent visibility, thanks to a lower beltline and more glass. Furthermore, driver comfort is enhanced by a driver's seat with height adjustment and an adjustable steering column. The interior comes finished with durable fabrics, for a refined, luxurious feel. And you'll also appreciate a leather-wrapped shift knob on the Prelude Type SH.



Dual Airbags, a reinforced body and side-impact beams put you and your passengers in a cocoon of strength and safety.



The Acoustic Feedback Sound System uses a microphone within the rear speakers that actually listens to the sound and corrects any distortion it detects.

Ergonomically speaking, the Prelude is unmistakably a Honda. The design of the interior places everything within easy reach—power windows, mirrors and door locks, cruise control, moonroof, beverage holders, air conditioning, map lights and remote fuel filler door and trunk releases. Plus, the Prelude features an electronic security key imbedded with a special code that activates the ignition, preventing unauthorized persons from starting it.

You are the driver of this car. And everything about the Prelude makes that perfectly clear.



Prelude interior shown in black with Sequential SportShift automatic transmission and accessory floor mats.



Prelude Type SH interior shown in black with accessory floor mats.

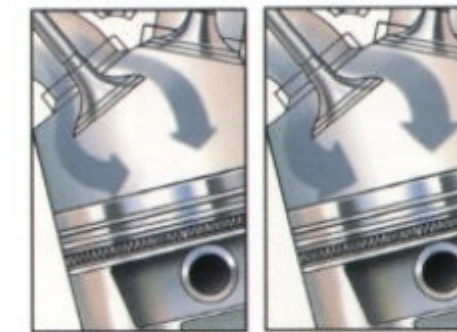


Advanced Engineering

Much of the Prelude's advanced engineering springs from the same expertise that has won six Formula One Constructor's Championships, and now the 1996 PPG Indy Car Manufacturer's Championship. The 2.2 liter, 195-horsepower, dual overhead camshaft, 16-valve Prelude VTEC engine, for example. Like many high-performance engines, it is made of weight-saving aluminum alloy. Because every pound saved here means quick acceleration, fast cornering and shorter stopping distances out there. The cylinder block uses liners made with carbon fiber and aluminum oxide. The liners are highly resistant to wear, save engine weight and transfer heat more efficiently, all of which help to extend engine life.

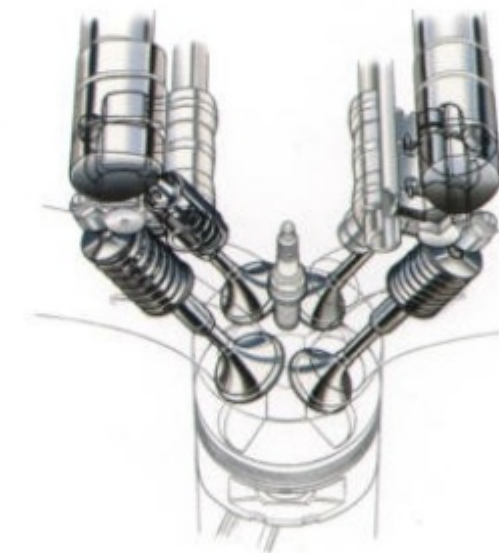
Even the Honda solution to engine vibration is different. A sophisticated second-order balance system inside the engine uses two counter-rotating balance shafts to cancel piston and connecting-rod vibration. The result is a practically vibration-free engine at all rpms.

An ultra-reliable Multi-Point Programmed Fuel Injection system (PGM-FI) and electronic ignition deliver the correct air-fuel mixture and high-voltage spark needed for consistent starting, smooth acceleration and efficient combustion under all driving conditions.



Variable Valve Timing and Lift Electronic Control (VTEC) changes intake (shown above) and exhaust valve timing and lift so that it more closely matches the engine's changing air-fuel needs. The result is maximum torque at all engine speeds and under all driving conditions.

Much of the Prelude VTEC engine's remarkable power comes from its variable valve timing system. At low- and mid-range engine rpm, a set of camshaft lobes matched to the specific intake and exhaust timing requirements of low- and mid-range engine speeds, operates the intake and exhaust valves. At high rpm, different high-lift, long-duration cam lobes, more suited to the rapid breathing demands of high-rpm operation, take over. As a result, the Prelude VTEC engine delivers powerful acceleration from idle to its 7000-rpm engine redline.



Four Valves Per Cylinder yield a larger valve area. As a result, the combustion chambers are filled more completely, resulting in more power.



High-efficiency, multi-valve combustion chambers.

High-rpm DOHC valve trains. Variable valve timing.

The Prelude's remarkable technology and performance

come from lessons learned on the world's racetracks.



Ride and Handling

The 1997 Prelude is above all a "driver's car." With

advanced features, such as 4-wheel double wishbone

suspension, Honda Active Torque Transfer System and

a Sequential SportShift automatic transmission.



Prelude's 4-Wheel Double Wishbone Suspension is engineered to combine outstanding handling and control with a smooth ride.

The Prelude owes much of its outstanding handling and ride to its Honda-designed 4-wheel double wishbone suspension.

Double wishbone suspension differs from most other independent suspension systems because it uses upper and lower transverse links instead of struts to locate the wheels and control their movement. As a result, each wheel's geometry can be precisely tailored to deliver optimum adhesion when cornering, which improves handling precision.

With Honda 4-wheel double wishbone suspension, each corner of the car is independently sprung, so a disturbance in traction, such as a bump or rut at one wheel, doesn't disturb traction at the other three. The result is better grip and a more comfortable ride.

Powerful 4-wheel disc brakes resist fade, and the Prelude's standard anti-lock braking system helps the driver retain steering control during hard braking, especially on wet or slippery surfaces.



The Active Torque Transfer System minimizes understeer and helps the Prelude Type SH track tight through curves.

The Prelude already has a reputation as a great-handling car. Now the innovative Active Torque Transfer System (ATTS), standard on the Prelude Type SH, makes it even better. ATTS helps steer the Type SH quickly into corners, with practically no sign of understeer or oversteer. In turns, it follows a tight line with even more control and less steering correction.

Honda uses it on their Formula 1 and Indy cars. Now a Sequential SportShift has been added to the new Prelude's available automatic transmission. Sequential SportShift can be left in "D," where it will automatically upshift and downshift. But, when you feel like taking advantage of all the performance the VTEC engine has to offer, slip the shift lever into its sequential slot and shift it like a manual gearbox.

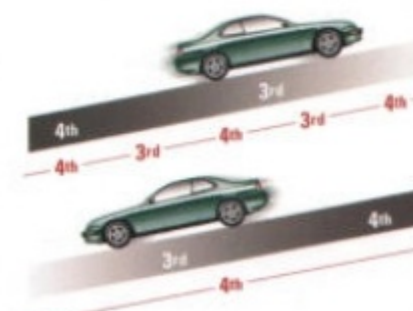
The automatic transmission also features an overdrive fourth gear for quieter, more economical cruising



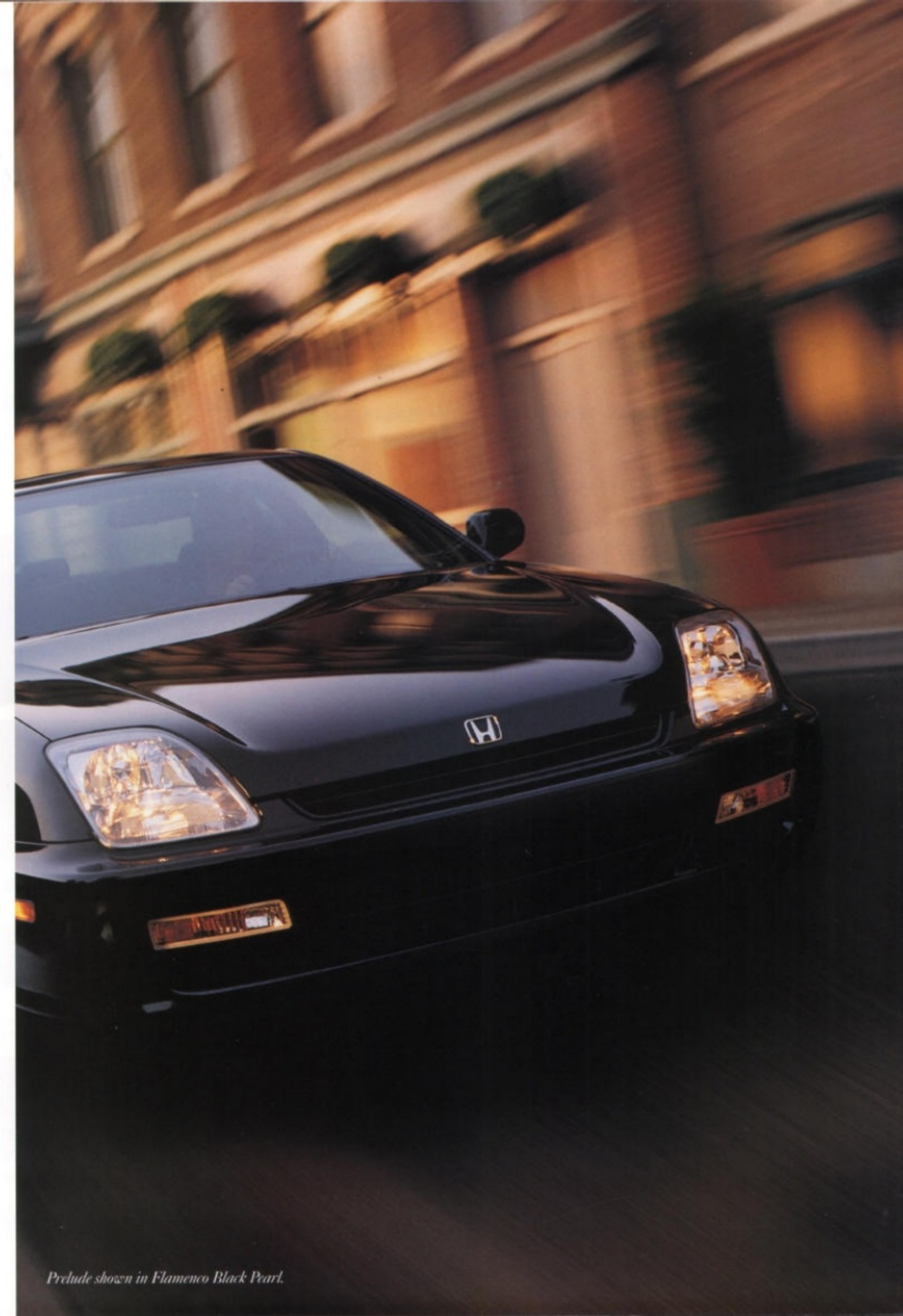
The Prelude Sequential SportShift 4-speed automatic transmission gives you the best of both worlds, combining the everyday driving convenience and versatility of an automatic transmission with the shift-it-yourself fun and performance of a manual transmission.

on the highway and a lockup torque converter that improves drivetrain efficiency by directly coupling the engine to the transmission when torque multiplication is not needed.

In addition, the transmission's electronic control unit, linear shift solenoid and Grade Logic Control ensure positive, smooth shifting regardless of throttle position, road speed or engine load.



Going up a steep grade, Grade Logic Control automatically downshifts and holds in a lower gear to eliminate the gear "hunting" that can occur in other automatic transmissions. When traveling down a steep hill and braking, Grade Logic automatically downshifts.



Prelude shown in Flamenco Black Pearl.



Accessories

Okay, how do you make the Honda Prelude *your* Honda

Prelude? Simple. With our Genuine Honda Accessories,

covered by a 3-year/36,000-mile limited warranty* when

purchased with your new Prelude. So express yourself.

Other available accessories are:

- Cassette Player
- Gold Trim
- Simulated Wood Trim
- Simulated Carbon Fiber Trim
- Shift Knobs
- Splash Guards
- Cargo Net
- Half Nose Mask
- Moonroof Visor
- Under Body Spoiler Kit
- Stainless Sport Exhaust Trim
- Ashtray
- Car Cover
- Wheel Locks

See your Honda dealer for details.



Honda Care. Extra peace of mind. Freedom from high repair costs, plus 24-hour roadside assistance. A vehicle service contract written with you in mind. Ask your dealer for details.



CD Changer (top) puts the luxury of six CDs at your fingertips, and three-beam laser pickup ensures great sound.

Rear Wing Spoiler (middle), color-matched to original factory specifications, enhances the sleek styling of your new Prelude. Included in the design is an LED stoplight.

The Honda Security System (bottom) helps protect your Prelude from theft and tampering. Transmitter shown.



Fog Lights (top) enhance driver's visibility in dense fog, rain or snow.

Floor and Cargo Mats (middle) are made of heavy-duty, nylon cut-pile with rubber-nibbed backing to keep the mats in place while helping to protect your carpeting.

Full Nose Mask (bottom) helps protect your new Prelude's front end from insects and road debris. It offers tough protection and a stylish look.

Prelude Specifications and Dimensions

Engine	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Type: Aluminum-Alloy In-Line 4	•	•
Displacement (cc)	2157	2157
Horsepower @ rpm (SAE, net, MT/AT)	195 @ 7000/190 @ 6600	195 @ 7000/NA
Torque (lb.-ft. @ rpm)	156 @ 5250	156 @ 5250
Compression Ratio	10.0:1	10.0:1
Valve Train: DOHC 16-Valve VTEC	•	•
Fuel System: Multi-Point Fuel Injection	•	•
Ignition System: Electronic	•	•

Drivetrain	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Type: Front-Wheel Drive	•	•
Manual Transmission: 5-Speed	•	•
Automatic Transmission: 4-Speed Sequential SportShift (available)	•	•
Final Drive Ratio (MT/AT)	4.266/4.785	4.266/NA

Body/Suspension/Chassis	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Body Type: Unit Body	•	•
Suspension: 4-Wheel Double Wishbone	•	•
Active Torque Transfer System (ATTS)	•	•
Stabilizer Bar (mm, front/rear)	25.4/23.0	24.2/23.0
Steering Type: Variable-Assist Power Rack-and-Pinion	•	•
Steering Wheel Turns, Lock-to-Lock	2.887	2.762
Turning Diameter, Curb-to-Curb (ft.)	36.1	37.4
Power-Assisted 4-Wheel Disc Brakes	•	•
Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS)	•	•
Wheels	16" Alloy	16" Alloy
Tires: All-Season	205/50 R16 87V Bridgestone RE92	205/50 R16 87V Bridgestone RE92

Exterior Dimensions	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Wheelbase (in.)	101.8	101.8
Length (in.)	178.0	178.0
Height (in.)	51.8	51.8
Width (in.)	69.0	69.0
Track (in., front/rear)	60.0/59.6	60.0/59.6
Curb Weight (lbs., MT/AT)	2954/3009	3042/NA

Interior Dimensions	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Headroom (in., front/rear)	37.9/35.3	37.9/35.3
Legroom (in., front/rear)	43.0/28.1	43.0/28.1
Shoulder Room (in., front/rear)	54.9/50.0	54.9/50.0
Hiproom (in., front/rear)	52.1/41.0	52.1/41.0
Usable Cargo Volume (cu. ft.)	8.7	8.7
Interior Passenger Volume (cu. ft.)	77.5	77.5

EPA Mileage Estimates*/Fuel Capacity	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
City/Highway (5-Speed Manual)	22/27	22/27
City/Highway (4-Speed Automatic)	21/27	NA
Fuel (gal.)	15.9	15.9



San Marino Red



Flamenco Black Pearl

Features and Colors

Exterior Features	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Exterior Sliding Power Moonroof with Tilt Feature	•	•
Chin Spoiler	•	•
Dual-Outlet Exhaust	•	•
Body-Colored Dual Power Mirrors	•	•
Integrated Rear Window Antenna	•	•
Rear Spoiler with Integral LED Stoplight	Accessory	•
Multi-Reflector Halogen Headlights	•	•
Alloy Wheels	•	•
Impact-Absorbing Body-Colored Bumpers	•	•

Interior Features	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
Dual Airbags	•	•
Immobilizer System (Electronic Key Code Security System)	•	•
Leather-Wrapped Steering Wheel	•	and Shift Knob
Reclining Front Seatbacks	•	•
Driver's Seat with Height Adjustment	•	•
Power Windows w/Auto-Down Driver's Window	•	•
Power Door Locks	•	•
Cruise Control	•	•
Map Lights	•	•
Air Conditioning	•	•

Exterior/Interior Colors	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
AM/FM Stereo CD Player with Honda Acoustic Feedback Sound System	120-watt w/6 Speakers	120-watt w/6 Speakers
Quartz Digital Clock	•	•
Tachometer	•	•
Adjustable Steering Column	•	•
Front Center Armrest with Storage Compartments	•	•
Beverage Holders, Front and Rear	•	•
2-Speed/Variable Intermittent Windshield Wipers	•	•
Front and Rear 3-Point Seat Belts	•	•
Front Passenger Walk-In Seat	•	•
Fold-Down Rear Seatback with Lock	•	•
Remote Fuel Filler Door Release	•	•
Remote Trunk Release with Lock	•	•
Ignition Switch Light	•	•
Rear Window Defroster with Timer	•	•
Low-Fuel Warning Light	•	•
Cargo Area Light	•	•
Seatback Pocket (Passenger's Side)	•	•
Driver's and Front Passenger's Vanity Mirrors	•	•
Driver's Footrest	•	•

Exterior/Interior Colors	Prelude	Prelude Type SH
San Marino Red/Black	•	•
Flamenco Black Pearl/Black	•	•
Nordic Mist Metallic/Black	•	•
Eucalyptus Green Pearl/Two-Tone Ivory-Black	•	•



Nordic Mist Metallic



Eucalyptus Green Pearl

*3-Year/36,000-Mile Limited Warranty: Ordinary maintenance items or adjustments, parts subject to normal wear and replacement, and certain items are excluded. See your Honda dealer for the terms and conditions of this limited warranty. *Mileage figures shown for comparison only. Actual mileage may vary. Specifications, features, illustrations and equipment shown in this brochure are based upon the latest available information at the time of printing. Although descriptions are believed correct, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. American Honda Motor Co., Inc., reserves the right to make changes at any time, without notice or obligation, in colors, specifications, features, accessories, materials and models. Some features shown may not be available on all models. California version differs slightly due to emissions standards. Some vehicles are shown with optional equipment. Available-Optional. NA=Not applicable or not available. ©1996 American Honda Motor Co., Inc. Litho in U.S.A. 4097.

Perhaps the last thing you should know about your new Honda is the first thing that went into it. Our philosophy. It goes beyond legendary quality and reliability. It's our mission to meet and exceed your expectations at every turn.

It starts with over 1,000 Honda dealers nationwide. They will answer questions and explain all your vehicle's features, including the 3-year/36,000-mile limited warranty. They also offer excellent financing and leasing options.*

No one is more committed to making your ownership experience a truly rewarding one. It is yet another reason people come back to Honda time and time again. We thought you should know that, too.



Civic Sedan



Accord Sedan



Civic Coupe



Accord Coupe



Civic Hatchback



Accord Wagon



del Sol



Odyssey



Prelude



Passport



CR-V



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