

1999 civic manual

1999 civic manual: Your Gateway to Understanding and Maintaining the Legendary Sixth-Generation Honda Civic. This comprehensive guide delves deep into everything you need to know about the 1999 Honda Civic, from its robust engine options and intricate drivetrain systems to its user-friendly interior features and essential maintenance schedules. Whether you're a proud owner looking to perform routine upkeep, a DIY enthusiast seeking detailed repair procedures, or a potential buyer wanting to understand this classic model, this article serves as your definitive resource. We'll explore the various trims, common issues, and performance aspects that made the 1999 Civic a standout in its era, ensuring you have all the knowledge required to keep yours running smoothly for years to come.

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The 1999 Civic: A Sixth-Generation Icon

The 1999 Honda Civic represents the pinnacle of the sixth generation, a period that saw significant evolution for Honda's beloved compact car. Introduced in 1995, the sixth generation (chassis codes EK, EJ, and EM) brought a more aerodynamic design, improved interior comfort, and a range of refined engine options. The 1999 model year, in particular, is celebrated for its blend of reliability, fuel efficiency, and surprisingly engaging driving dynamics. It appealed to a broad spectrum of buyers, from commuting students to small families, solidifying the Civic's reputation as a practical and dependable choice in the automotive market. Its styling was a departure from the sharper lines of the fifth generation, embracing a curvier, more modern aesthetic that proved timeless.

This generation offered various body styles, including the agile 3-door hatchback, the practical 4-door sedan, and the versatile 5-door hatchback (often referred to as the "Aerodeck" in some markets, though less common in North America). The 1999 Civic was available in several trim levels, each offering a unique balance of features and performance. From the fuel-sipping DX to the more upscale EX and the sporty Si (which was a hatchback-only variant in North America for this generation), there was a 1999 Civic to suit different needs and preferences. The widespread availability and enduring popularity of this model mean that understanding its nuances is crucial for owners and enthusiasts alike.

Understanding Your 1999 Civic Manual

Possessing a 1999 Civic manual, whether it's the owner's manual or a more in-depth service manual, is an invaluable asset for any owner. The owner's manual is your first point of contact with your vehicle's operational details, providing essential information for daily use and basic maintenance. It guides you through understanding the dashboard indicators, operating various controls, and performing simple checks

like fluid levels and tire pressure. Familiarizing yourself with the owner's manual is the initial step in becoming a responsible and knowledgeable custodian of your 1999 Civic.

The owner's manual is structured logically, usually beginning with an overview of the car's features, followed by sections on driving, maintenance, emergencies, and specifications. It often includes a maintenance schedule tailored to the specific model year, outlining when certain services should be performed to ensure longevity and optimal performance. Understanding the language and symbols used within the manual is key to effectively utilizing the information it provides. Many modern owners can find digital versions of their 1999 Civic owner's manual online, which are just as informative.

Key Sections of the 1999 Civic Owner's Manual

Your 1999 Civic owner's manual is a treasure trove of information, divided into distinct sections for easy navigation. The "Introduction" typically provides a welcome and a brief overview of the vehicle. The "Controls and Equipment" section is crucial for understanding the function of every button, lever, and dial within the cabin, from the climate control system to the lighting and wipers. A significant portion is dedicated to "Operation," detailing how to start the engine, drive the vehicle, and engage various features like cruise control, if equipped.

The "Maintenance" section is arguably the most vital for long-term ownership, outlining routine checks and service intervals. This includes guidance on checking engine oil, coolant, brake fluid, and windshield washer fluid, as well as instructions for replacing common items like air filters. The "Emergencies" section provides guidance on what to do in case of a breakdown, flat tire, or warning lights, offering step-by-step instructions for common roadside issues. Finally, the "Specifications" section lists detailed technical data about your 1999 Civic, such as engine displacement, horsepower, torque, dimensions, and tire sizes, which is helpful for parts procurement and performance understanding.

1999 Civic Engine and Drivetrain Explained

The heart of the 1999 Honda Civic lies in its efficient and reliable powertrain. Honda's engineering prowess is evident in the series of four-cylinder engines offered, designed for a balance of performance and fuel economy. These engines are known for their durability and relatively simple design, making them accessible for maintenance and repair. Understanding the specifics of the engine and drivetrain is fundamental for any owner looking to keep their vehicle in top condition.

The drivetrain components, including the transmission and clutch (for manual models), are engineered to work seamlessly with the engine. The engagement of the transmission, whether manual or automatic, directly impacts the driving experience and fuel efficiency. Proper maintenance of these systems ensures

smooth power delivery and prevents premature wear. The inherent design of the 1999 Civic's powertrain has contributed significantly to its reputation for longevity and low running costs.

1999 Civic Engine Options and Specifications

The 1999 Honda Civic was primarily offered with a choice of two main gasoline engines in most markets, both belonging to Honda's renowned D-series of inline-four engines. The most common engine found in the lower trims like the DX and LX was the 1.6-liter D16Y7. This engine typically produced around 106 horsepower at 6,200 rpm and 103 lb-ft of torque at 4,500 rpm. It was an SOHC (Single Overhead Cam) engine known for its exceptional fuel efficiency and reliability, making it a workhorse for daily commuting.

For the more performance-oriented trims, such as the EX and the Si, Honda offered the D16Y8 engine, also a 1.6-liter unit, but with VTEC (Variable Valve Timing and Lift Electronic Control). This SOHC VTEC engine offered a more spirited performance, typically generating around 127 horsepower at 6,600 rpm and 102 lb-ft of torque at 5,500 rpm. The VTEC system provided a noticeable boost in power at higher RPMs, giving the EX and Si models a more engaging driving experience. Both engines featured multi-point fuel injection, contributing to their efficiency and smooth operation.

Transmission Systems in the 1999 Civic

The 1999 Honda Civic provided buyers with a choice between two primary transmission types: a manual transmission and an automatic transmission. The manual gearbox, typically a 5-speed unit, was favored by enthusiasts for its direct engagement and greater control over the engine's power delivery. It contributed to the car's sporty feel and often offered slightly better fuel economy than the automatic counterpart. The clutch system, while robust, is a wear item and requires periodic inspection and eventual replacement.

For those who preferred the convenience of an automatic transmission, Honda offered a 4-speed automatic gearbox. This transmission was designed for smooth shifting and comfortable driving, particularly in stop-and-go traffic. While generally reliable, automatic transmissions can be more complex and costly to repair if issues arise. Regular fluid changes for the automatic transmission are crucial for its longevity and proper functioning, as outlined in the 1999 Civic manual.

Maintenance and Care for Your 1999 Civic

Maintaining your 1999 Honda Civic is paramount to ensuring its longevity, reliability, and optimal

performance. Regular maintenance not only prevents costly repairs down the line but also contributes to better fuel efficiency and a safer driving experience. Following the recommended service intervals and procedures detailed in your 1999 Civic manual will help you get the most out of your vehicle. Key areas of focus include fluid checks, filter replacements, brake system care, and tire maintenance.

A proactive approach to maintenance is always more cost-effective than reactive repairs. By staying on top of scheduled services, you can identify potential problems before they escalate. This includes regular visual inspections of various components, listening for unusual noises, and paying attention to how the car is driving. The simplicity of the 1999 Civic's design means that many routine maintenance tasks are achievable for the average DIY enthusiast.

Routine Maintenance Schedule: 1999 Civic

The maintenance schedule for your 1999 Civic is typically broken down by mileage intervals, usually starting at around 5,000 to 7,500 miles (or every 6 months). At these initial intervals, standard checks include inspecting all fluid levels (engine oil, coolant, brake fluid, power steering fluid if applicable, and transmission fluid), checking tire pressure and condition, and inspecting the wiper blades. An oil and filter change is generally recommended every 5,000 to 7,500 miles, depending on driving conditions and the type of oil used.

At slightly longer intervals, such as every 15,000 to 30,000 miles, more comprehensive services become due. These might include replacing the engine air filter and cabin air filter (if equipped), inspecting the drive belts and hoses for wear, checking the brake pads and rotors, and lubricating door hinges and latches. Spark plugs are typically recommended for replacement around the 60,000 to 100,000-mile mark, though this can vary. The 1999 Civic manual provides the most accurate and specific schedule for your exact model and driving conditions.

Fluid Checks and Replacements for the 1999 Civic

Several vital fluids keep your 1999 Civic running smoothly, and regular checks are essential. Engine oil lubricates moving parts and dissipates heat; low or dirty oil can cause catastrophic engine damage. The owner's manual will specify the correct type and viscosity of oil to use. Coolant, or antifreeze, prevents the engine from overheating or freezing and also protects against corrosion. It's important to check the coolant level regularly and top it off with the correct mixture of antifreeze and distilled water.

Brake fluid is crucial for the hydraulic braking system; it transmits force from the brake pedal to the calipers. Low or contaminated brake fluid can lead to reduced braking performance. Transmission fluid lubricates and cools the transmission components; both manual and automatic transmissions have specific

fluid requirements. Power steering fluid (if equipped) is necessary for easy steering, and windshield washer fluid ensures clear visibility. Always refer to your 1999 Civic manual for the precise locations of reservoirs and recommended fluid types.

Brake System Maintenance on the 1999 Civic

The braking system on a 1999 Civic, like any vehicle, requires diligent maintenance to ensure safety. This involves regular inspection of the brake pads and rotors for wear. Brake pads are designed to wear down and will eventually need replacement. When they are significantly worn, you might hear a squealing noise when braking, or the braking distance may increase. Rotors can also wear thin or become grooved, impacting braking efficiency and potentially requiring replacement or resurfacing.

The brake fluid also needs attention. Over time, brake fluid can absorb moisture, which lowers its boiling point and can lead to brake fade. It's recommended to have the brake fluid flushed and replaced according to the manufacturer's schedule, usually every two to three years. Checking the brake fluid level in the master cylinder reservoir is a simple check you can perform regularly. Ensuring the brake lines and hoses are free from leaks or damage is also part of essential brake system maintenance.

Tire Care and Rotation for Optimal 1999 Civic Performance

Proper tire care is fundamental for the performance, safety, and fuel economy of your 1999 Honda Civic. Keeping tires properly inflated to the recommended pressure, as indicated on the driver's side doorjamb sticker or in your 1999 Civic manual, is crucial. Underinflated tires reduce fuel efficiency, wear unevenly, and can compromise handling. Overinflated tires can lead to a harsher ride and reduced traction.

Regular tire rotation is also important. Rotating your tires every 5,000 to 7,500 miles helps ensure they wear evenly, extending their lifespan and maintaining optimal handling characteristics. The pattern for rotation will depend on whether your Civic has directional tires or not, and it's typically outlined in the owner's manual. Inspecting your tires for any signs of damage, such as cuts, bulges, or uneven wear patterns, should also be part of your routine checks.

Troubleshooting Common 1999 Civic Issues

While the 1999 Honda Civic is known for its reliability, like any vehicle, it can experience issues over time. Understanding common problems and their potential causes can help owners diagnose and address minor issues before they become major expenses. Many of these issues are well-documented within the

automotive community and can often be resolved with a good understanding of basic mechanics and the information found in the 1999 Civic manual.

Some common areas that might require attention include minor oil leaks, electrical system quirks, and suspension wear. By recognizing the symptoms and knowing where to look for solutions, owners can keep their beloved Civics running as smoothly as they did when they were new. It's always advisable to consult a professional mechanic if you are unsure about any repair or diagnosis.

Engine Performance Problems in the 1999 Civic

Owners of the 1999 Civic might occasionally encounter issues related to engine performance. One common symptom is a rough idle, which can be caused by several factors. These include fouled spark plugs, a dirty air filter, vacuum leaks, or issues with the idle air control (IAC) valve. A lack of power or hesitation during acceleration could indicate problems with fuel delivery (e.g., clogged fuel filter or weak fuel pump), ignition system issues (e.g., bad spark plug wires or ignition coil), or a malfunctioning Mass Airflow (MAF) sensor.

Overheating is another potential issue, which, as mentioned, is often linked to the cooling system. This could involve a faulty thermostat, a worn water pump, a clogged radiator, or leaks in the cooling system hoses. Warning lights on the dashboard, such as the "Check Engine" light, are important indicators that something is amiss and should not be ignored. Consulting the 1999 Civic manual for potential meanings of dashboard lights is a good first step in diagnosis.

Electrical System Glitches in the 1999 Civic

The electrical system in any car can be a source of frustration when glitches occur. For the 1999 Civic, common electrical issues might include non-functional power windows, intermittent dashboard lights, or problems with the central locking system. These issues can sometimes be traced back to faulty fuses, relays, or worn wiring harnesses. The battery terminals should be kept clean and tight, as corrosion can impede electrical flow.

More complex electrical problems, such as issues with the alternator or starter motor, might require more involved diagnostics. The vehicle's computer, or ECU (Engine Control Unit), plays a significant role in managing various engine and electrical functions, and a failure in this component, though rare, can cause widespread problems. Understanding the fuse box layout, usually detailed in the 1999 Civic manual, is essential for troubleshooting minor electrical faults.

Interior and Exterior Features of the 1999 Civic

The interior and exterior design of the 1999 Honda Civic struck a balance between practicality and a touch of sportiness that resonated with buyers. The cabin was known for its user-friendly layout, comfortable seating, and good visibility, making it a pleasant place to spend time. The exterior styling, while perhaps not as aggressive as some competitors, offered a clean and aerodynamic profile that has aged well.

Honda's attention to detail is evident in the thoughtful integration of features and the overall quality of materials used for its class at the time. Understanding these features enhances the ownership experience and helps in appreciating the design philosophy behind the sixth-generation Civic.

1999 Civic Interior Controls and Features

The interior of the 1999 Civic is characterized by its ergonomic design and straightforward controls. The dashboard is typically uncluttered, with easy-to-reach knobs and buttons for climate control, audio system, and other functions. Gauges are clear and easy to read, providing essential information at a glance. Seating is generally supportive for its class, and the cabin offers a reasonable amount of space for passengers.

Features varied by trim level, but commonly included power windows, power door locks, and a tilt steering wheel. Higher trims like the EX often came with a sunroof, air conditioning, and a better quality audio system. The trunk space was also quite practical for a compact car, making it suitable for everyday errands and even moderate luggage for trips. The 1999 Civic manual details the operation of all these features.

Exterior Dimensions and Body Styles of the 1999 Civic

The 1999 Honda Civic was available in several distinct body styles, each offering different dimensions and utility. The most popular were the 4-door sedan and the 3-door hatchback. The sedan offered a longer wheelbase and overall length, providing more rear passenger space and a larger trunk. The 3-door hatchback, on the other hand, was more compact and agile, favored by those who appreciated its sportier proportions and versatile cargo area.

Specific dimensions would vary slightly between these body styles and market regions, but generally, the sedan was around 175 inches long, while the hatchback was closer to 160 inches. The width was typically around 67 inches, and the height around 55 inches. These dimensions made the 1999 Civic an easy car to maneuver in urban environments and park in tight spaces, a trait that contributed to its appeal as a daily driver.

Safety Features in the 1999 Honda Civic

Honda has a long-standing commitment to safety, and the 1999 Civic incorporated several key safety features to protect occupants. While safety standards have evolved significantly since 1999, this generation of Civic was equipped with essential passive safety systems. These included front airbags for the driver and front passenger, which were designed to inflate in the event of a moderate to severe frontal collision.

The vehicle structure itself was engineered with crumple zones designed to absorb impact energy in a collision, helping to protect the passenger cabin. Three-point seat belts with pretensioners were standard for the front occupants, helping to restrain them during an impact. Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) was available on some higher trims, providing improved steering control and preventing wheel lock-up during hard braking. Always check your specific 1999 Civic model's features as they could vary by trim and region.

Finding and Using a 1999 Civic Service Manual

For those who wish to perform more in-depth maintenance or repairs on their 1999 Civic, a service manual is an indispensable tool. Unlike the owner's manual, a service manual provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for virtually every mechanical and electrical component of the vehicle. These manuals are often published by Honda or by reputable aftermarket publishers like Haynes or Chilton.

Finding a 1999 Civic service manual can be done through various channels. Online marketplaces like eBay or specialized automotive book retailers often stock both new and used copies. Digital versions, sometimes in PDF format, are also widely available. When using a service manual, it's crucial to read through the relevant sections thoroughly before starting any work. Pay close attention to safety warnings, required tools, torque specifications, and the order of operations. The information within a service manual empowers owners to tackle complex tasks with confidence, provided they have the necessary mechanical aptitude and tools.

Resources for 1999 Civic Parts and Information

For owners and enthusiasts looking to maintain or restore their 1999 Honda Civic, a wealth of resources are available for parts and additional information. Online auto parts retailers are a primary source for replacement parts, stocking everything from filters and brake components to engine sensors and body panels. Many of these sites allow you to input your specific vehicle year, make, and model to ensure compatibility.

Beyond parts retailers, online forums and communities dedicated to Honda Civics are invaluable. These platforms are filled with experienced owners who readily share their knowledge, tips, and troubleshooting advice. You can often find DIY guides, common issue discussions, and even individuals selling hard-to-find parts. Additionally, YouTube is a fantastic resource for visual learners, with countless videos demonstrating specific maintenance and repair procedures for the 1999 Civic. Referencing the 1999 Civic manual alongside these resources will provide a comprehensive approach to vehicle care.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I find a digital copy of the 1999 Honda Civic owner's manual?

Many websites offer free digital downloads of the 1999 Honda Civic owner's manual. Popular sources include Honda's official website (though older models might be archived), enthusiast forums dedicated to Civics, and general automotive manual archive sites. A quick search for '1999 Honda Civic owner's manual PDF' should yield results.

What are common maintenance items for a 1999 Honda Civic mentioned in the manual?

The 1999 Civic manual typically outlines routine maintenance such as oil and filter changes (usually every 5,000-7,500 miles depending on oil type), air filter replacement, checking and topping off fluids (coolant, brake fluid, power steering fluid, transmission fluid), tire rotation and pressure checks, and inspecting belts and hoses.

Does the 1999 Honda Civic manual explain how to change a headlight bulb?

Yes, the owner's manual for a 1999 Honda Civic usually includes step-by-step instructions for common tasks like replacing light bulbs, including headlights. It will specify the bulb type needed and the procedure for accessing and replacing it safely.

What does the 1999 Honda Civic manual say about the timing belt maintenance?

The 1999 Honda Civic, depending on the specific engine (D-series or B-series), will have a timing belt. The manual will typically recommend a replacement interval, often around 90,000 to 105,000 miles, or after a certain number of years. It's a critical maintenance item to prevent severe engine damage.

Are there specific procedures in the 1999 Honda Civic manual for resetting the 'Maintenance Due' or 'Service' indicator light?

Yes, the 1999 Honda Civic manual should detail the process for resetting the maintenance reminder light after service has been performed. This often involves a specific sequence of turning the ignition key and pressing a button on the instrument cluster.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to a 1999 Civic manual, each starting with *and followed by a short description:*

1. *Inside the '99 Civic: Your Comprehensive Guide*

This book serves as a detailed roadmap for owners of the 1999 Honda Civic. It delves into the intricacies of the vehicle's design, from engine mechanics to interior features, aiming to empower owners with knowledge. Expect clear explanations and practical advice for maintenance and understanding your car's operation.

2. *The 1999 Civic Owner's Companion: From Purchase to Performance*

Designed to be the ultimate resource for 1999 Civic owners, this manual covers everything from initial purchase considerations to optimizing performance. It addresses common issues, provides troubleshooting tips, and offers insights into routine care. This book ensures you get the most out of your Civic experience.

3. *Your 1999 Civic: Maintenance Made Easy*

This straightforward guide simplifies the often daunting task of maintaining your 1999 Honda Civic. It breaks down essential maintenance procedures into easy-to-follow steps, making it accessible even for novice car owners. Learn how to keep your Civic running smoothly and efficiently with this practical manual.

4. *Understanding Your 1999 Civic: A Practical Handbook*

This handbook offers a clear and concise explanation of the various systems and components within the 1999 Honda Civic. It demystifies complex automotive terminology and functions, helping owners gain a better understanding of their vehicle. This resource is ideal for anyone who wants to feel more confident when dealing with their car.

5. *The Driver's Guide to the 1999 Civic: Features and Functions*

Focusing on the driver's experience, this guide explores all the features and functions of the 1999 Honda Civic. From the dashboard controls to the nuances of driving dynamics, it ensures you're fully aware of what your car can do. This book enhances your connection with your vehicle and improves your driving.

6. *Troubleshooting Your 1999 Civic: Common Problems and Solutions*

This essential book addresses the most frequent issues encountered by owners of the 1999 Honda Civic. It provides practical, step-by-step solutions for common mechanical and electrical problems. Arm yourself

with the knowledge to diagnose and potentially fix minor issues before they become major ones.

7. The Enthusiast's Guide to the 1999 Civic: Customization and Care

For those who are passionate about their 1999 Honda Civic, this guide explores customization options and advanced care techniques. It offers tips for modifications that enhance performance and aesthetics, alongside advice on long-term preservation. This book caters to owners looking to personalize and maintain their Civic with a discerning eye.

8. Your 1999 Civic: A Practical Manual for Everyday Use

This manual is designed to be a go-to resource for the everyday operation and care of the 1999 Honda Civic. It covers essential information on driving, safety, and routine maintenance in a user-friendly format. Make your daily commute and ownership experience smoother with this practical guide.

9. Decoding Your 1999 Civic: Understanding Its Systems

This book aims to demystify the intricate systems that make the 1999 Honda Civic function. It explains the purpose and operation of various mechanical and electrical components in an understandable way. By decoding your Civic, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for its engineering and how to maintain it effectively.

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