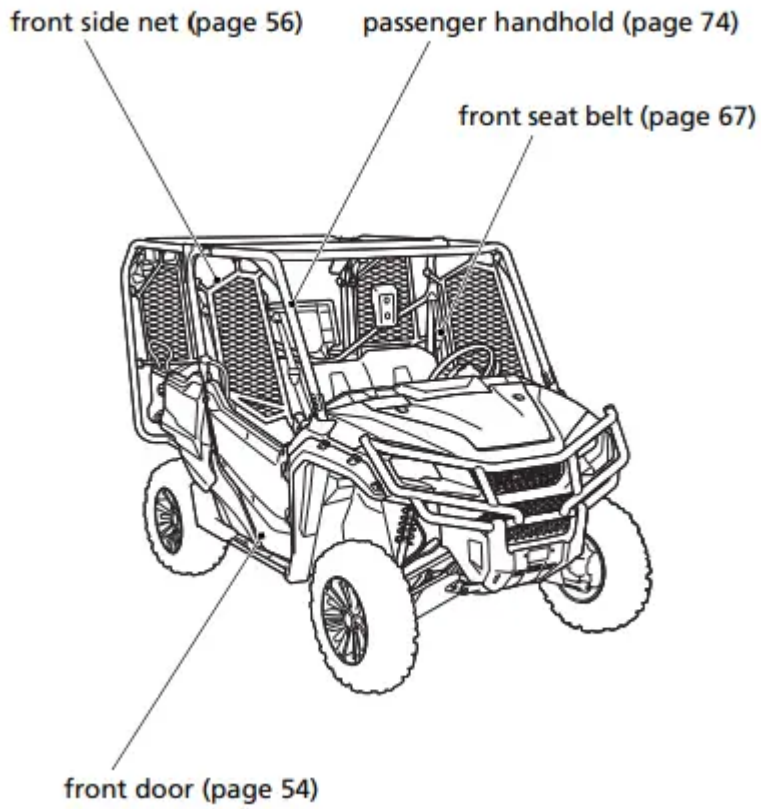
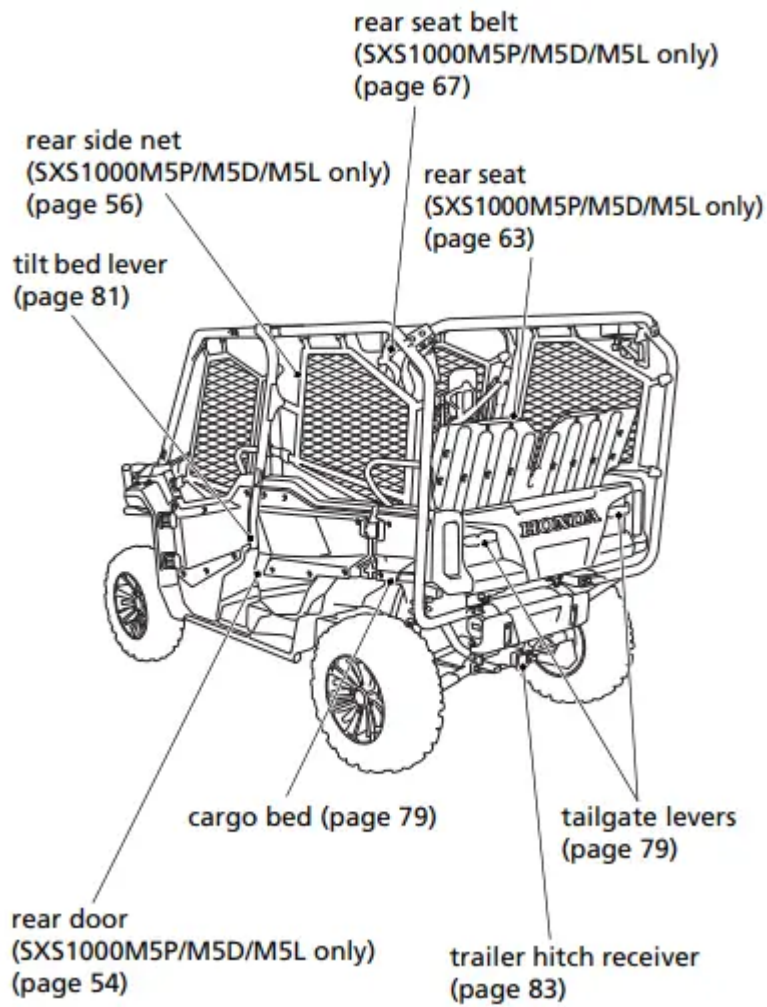


Instruments & Controls

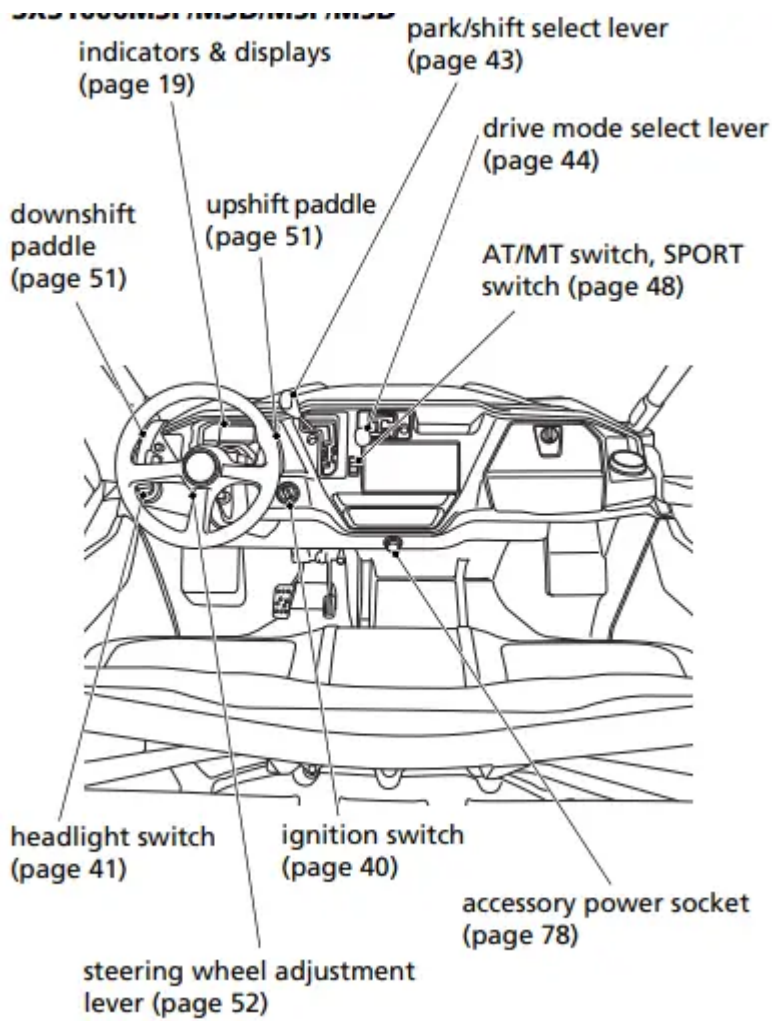
Operation Component Locations





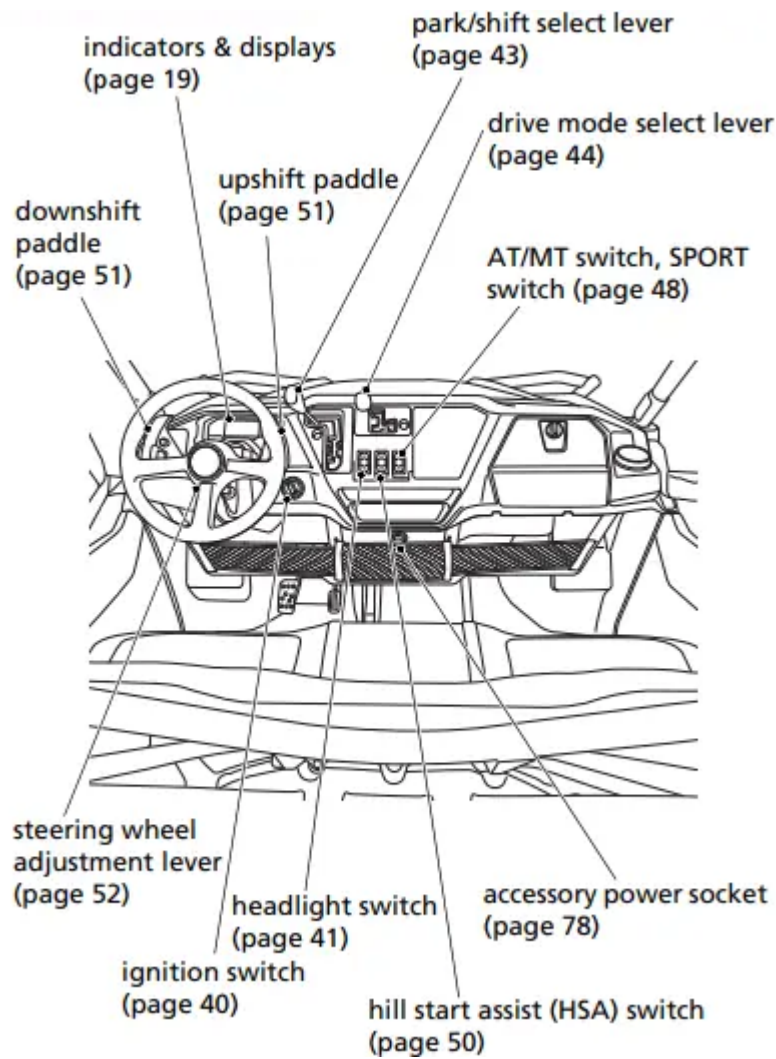
SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D





SXS1000M3L/M5L





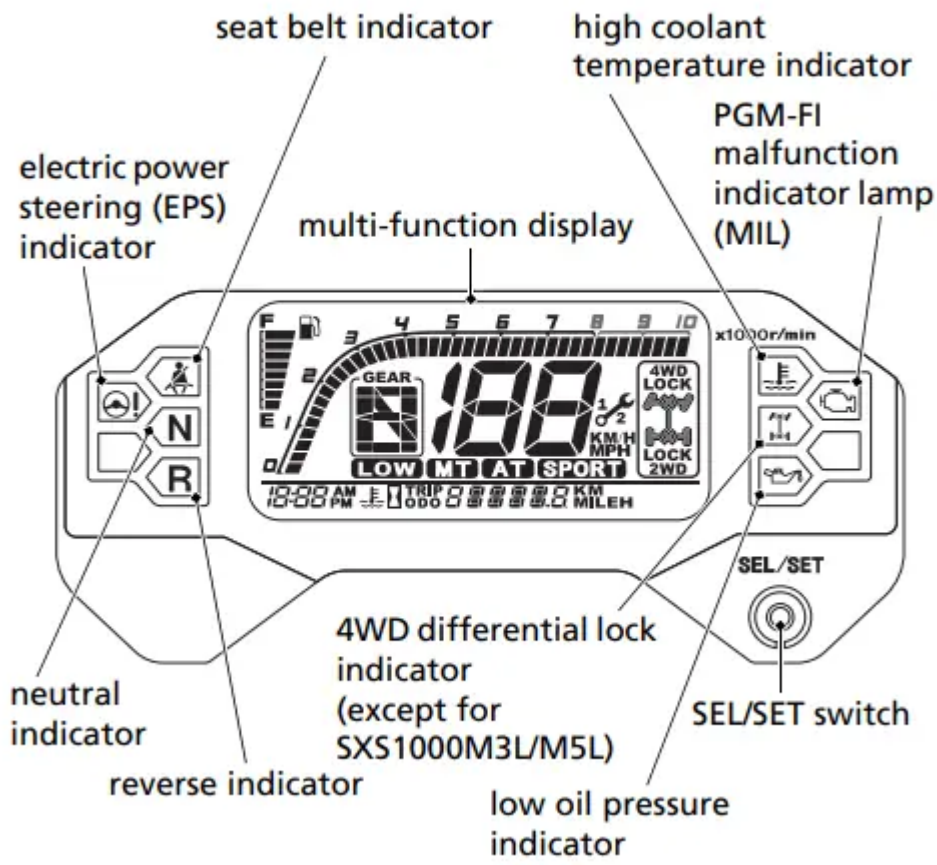
Indicators & Displays

The indicators and displays on your Honda SXS keep you informed, alert you to possible problems, and make your driving safer and more enjoyable. Refer to the indicators frequently. Their functions are described on the following pages.

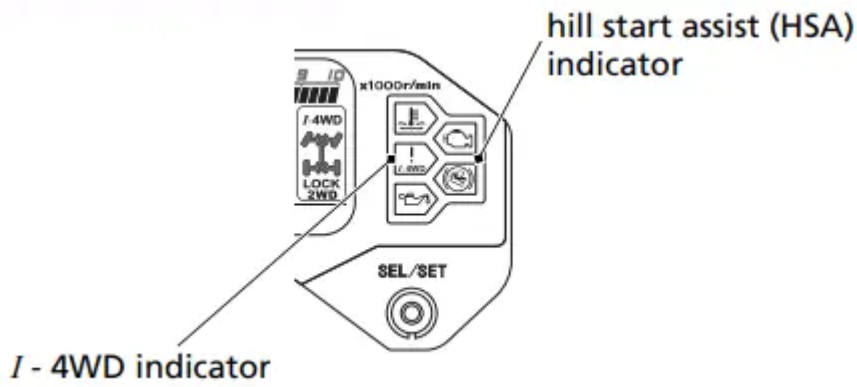
Lamp Check

The indicators come on and go off sequentially when you turn the ignition switch to the ON (I) position.

If one of these indicators does not come on key ON check, have your dealer check for problems.



SXS1000M3L/M5L only



N**Neutral Indicator**

This indicator comes on and stays on when the transmission is in neutral.

R**Reverse Indicator**

This indicator comes on and stays on when the transmission is in reverse.

**Electric Power Steering (EPS) Indicator**

This indicator comes on when the ignition switch is turned on and remains on until the engine is started.

This indicator comes on and stays on when there is abnormality in the electric power steering system.

**4WD Differential Lock Indicator**

(except for SXS1000M3L/M5L)

This indicator will be on when the four-wheel differential gears are engaged (page 38).

**High Coolant Temperature Indicator**

This indicator comes on and stays on when the coolant temperature is high enough to adversely affect the service life of the engine. If this indicator comes on while you are driving, stop as soon as possible, turn the engine off, and let it cool.

**PGM-FI Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL)**

This indicator comes on and stays on when there is a problem with your vehicle's engine system. If this happens, reduce speed and take your vehicle to a dealer as soon as possible.

**Seat Belt Indicator**

This indicator starts blinking if the driver's seat belt is not latched and remains blinking until the driver's seat belt is latched.

If the driver's seat belt is not latched properly, the maximum vehicle speed will be limited by the seat belt speed limiting system (page 68).



Low Oil Pressure Indicator

This indicator comes on when the ignition switch is turned on and remains on until the engine is started.

This indicator comes on and stays on when the engine oil pressure is low enough to cause engine damage. If this indicator comes on while you are driving, stop as soon as possible, turn the engine off and check for oil leaks and oil level.

This indicator also comes on when the emergency valve is operated. (See more details about the emergency valve on page 243)



Hill Start Assist (HSA) Indicator

(SXS1000M3L/M5L only)

This indicator comes on briefly when the ignition switch is turned on.

This indicator comes on when HSA is being used (page 50).



I - 4WD Indicator

(SXS1000M3L/M5L only)

This indicator comes on briefly when the ignition switch is turned on.

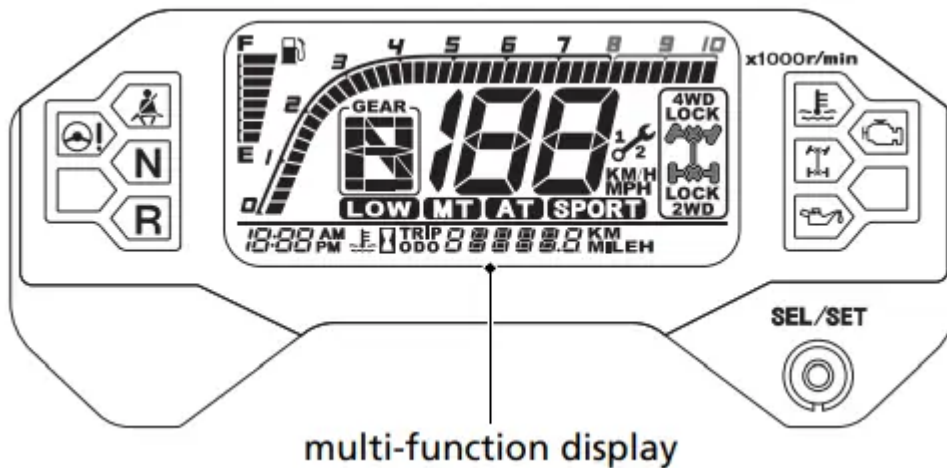
This indicator comes on and stays on when there is a problem with your vehicle's HSA (Hill Start Assist), BTCS (Brake Traction Control System) and EBD (Electronic Brakeforce Distribution). If this happens, reduce speed and take your vehicle to a dealer as soon as possible.

Display Check

When the ignition switch is turned ON (q), the multi-function display will temporarily show all the modes and digital segments and initial message. So, you can make sure the liquid crystal display is functioning properly.

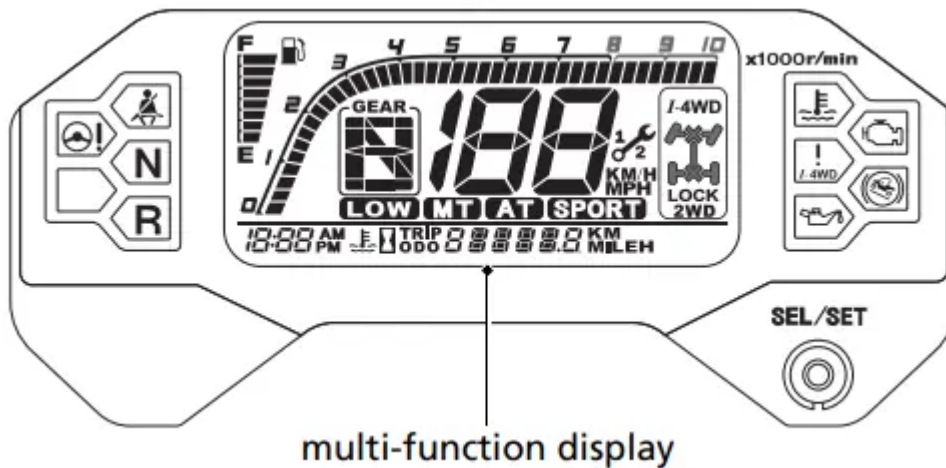
If any part of this display does not come on during the key on check, have your dealer check for problems.

SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D



multi-function display

SXS1000M3L/M5L



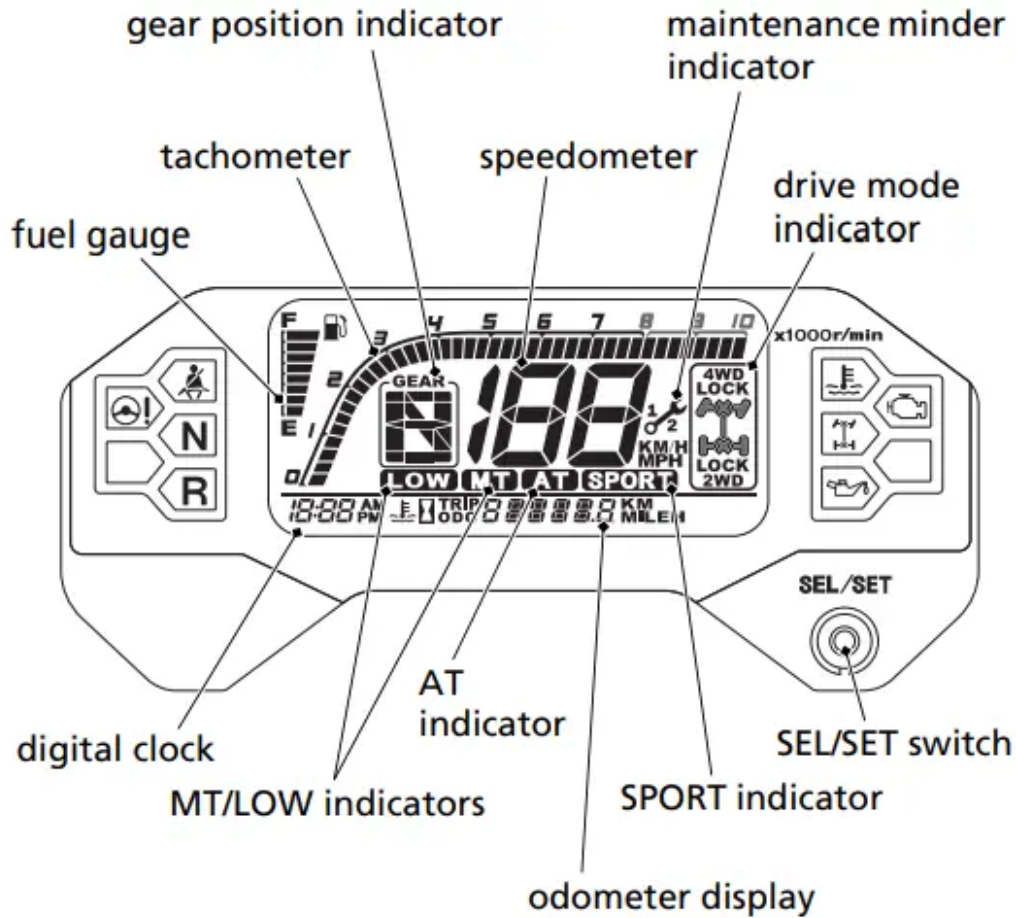
multi-function display

Multi-function Display

The multi-function display consists of the following function displays:

- Multi-function Display
- Speedometer
- Tachometer
- Fuel gauge
- Odometer display
- Maintenance minder indicator
- Digital clock
- Gear position indicator
- AT indicator
- MT/LOW indicators
- SPORT indicator

Drive mode indicator

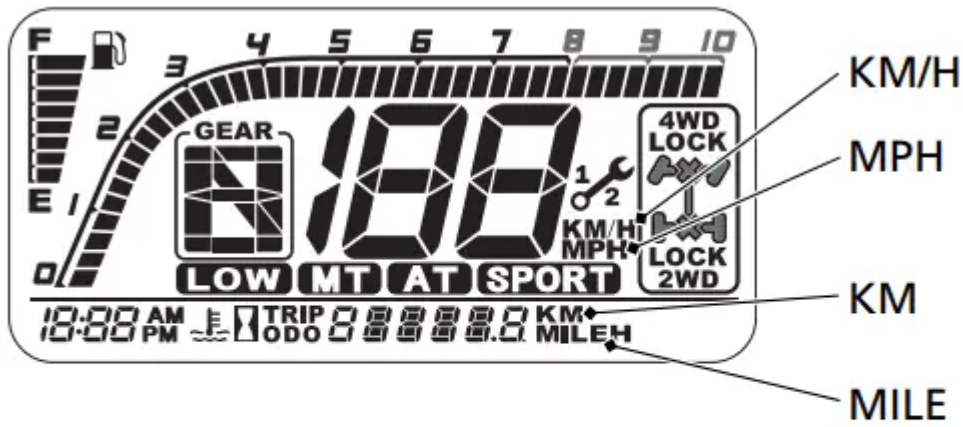


This display shows speed in miles or kilometers per hour.

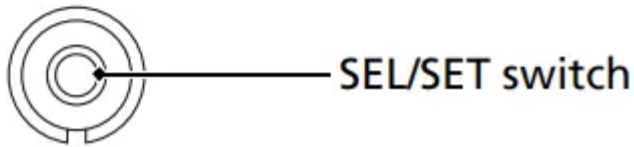
Mileage Unit Change

The speedometer, odometer, tripmeter and maintenance tripmeter show in either “MPH” and “MILE” or “KM/H” and “KM”.

To change the mileage unit, press and hold the SEL/SET switch for more than 5 seconds in odometer mode (page 29) with the vehicle stopped.



SEL/SET

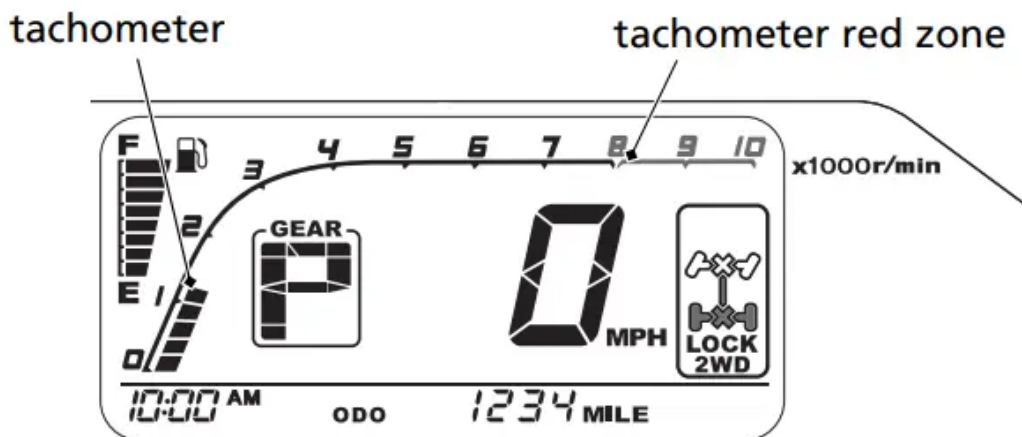


Speedometer Blinking

If the speedometer digits and seat belt indicator blink simultaneously, while you are driving, maximum vehicle speed will be limited to no more than 15 mph (24 km/h) by the seat belt speed limiting system (page 68).

Tachometer

This display shows the engine speed in revolutions per minute (rpm). Do not operate the engine in the tachometer red zone. Excessive engine speed can adversely affect engine life.

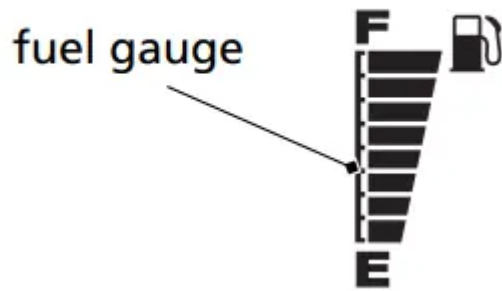


Fuel Gauge

The fuel gauge shows the approximate fuel supply available. The fuel tank capacity is:

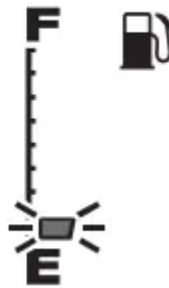


7.9 US gal (30 ℓ)



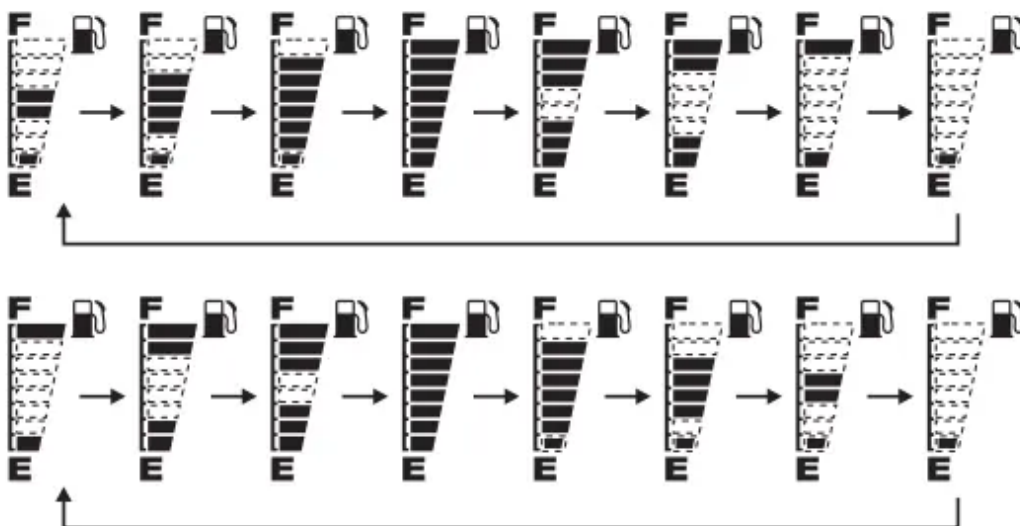
When the last segment blinks, you should refill the tank as soon as possible. The amount of fuel remaining when the blinking starts is approximately:

1.69 US gal (6.4 ℓ)



Fuel gauge failure:

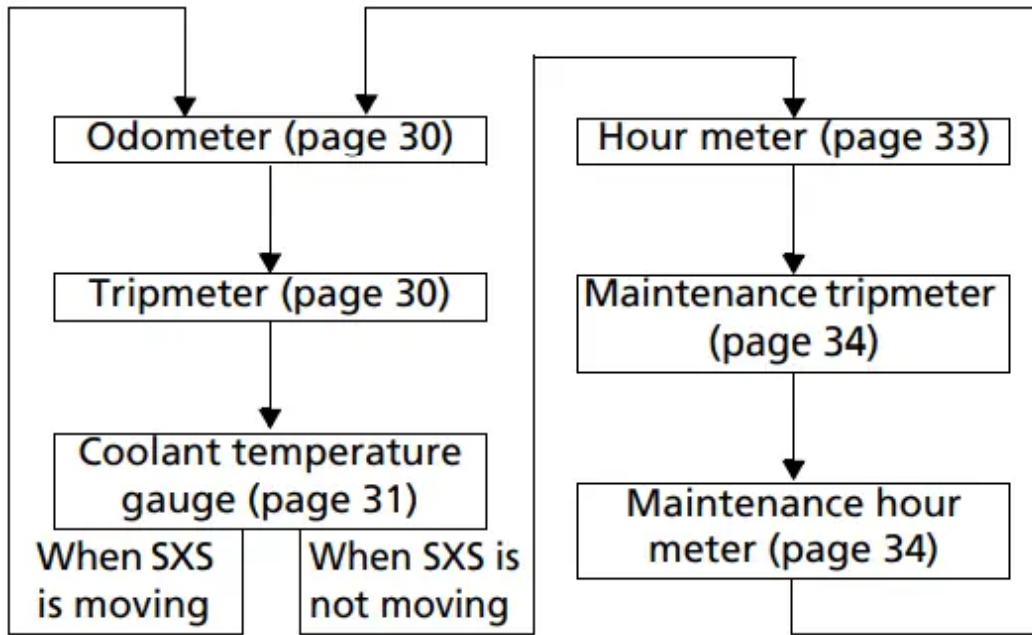
If the fuel system has an error, the fuel gauge indicators will be displayed as shown in the illustrations. If this occurs, see your dealer as soon as possible.



Odometer Display

This display includes odometer, tripmeter, coolant temperature gauge, hour meter, maintenance tripmeter, and maintenance hour meter.

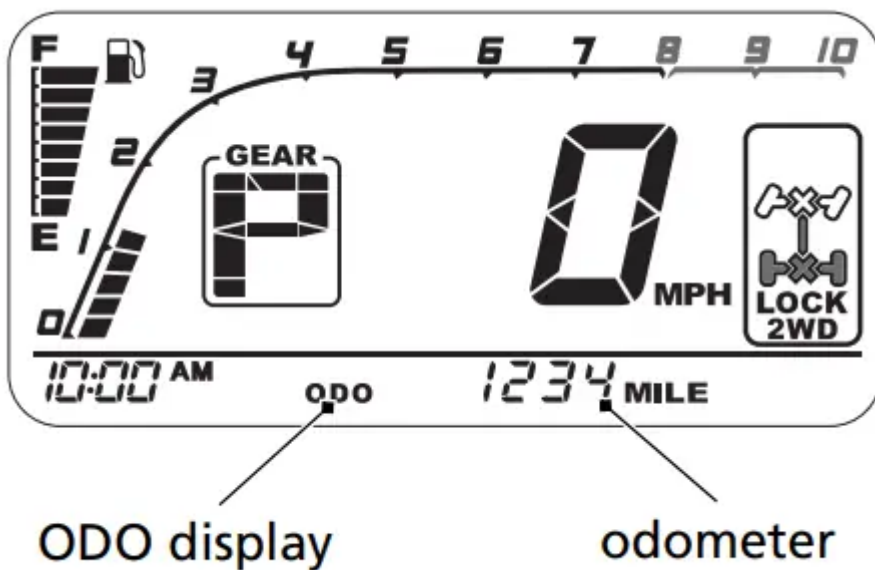
Each time you press the SEL/SET switch, mode will change as shown in the illustration.



If there are unusual indications with your SXS, and SEL/SET switch is not pressed for 10 seconds, a message will automatically appear in the display

Odometer

The odometer shows the total miles or kilometers ridden with the ODO display. The odometer locks at 999,999 when the readout exceeds 999,999.

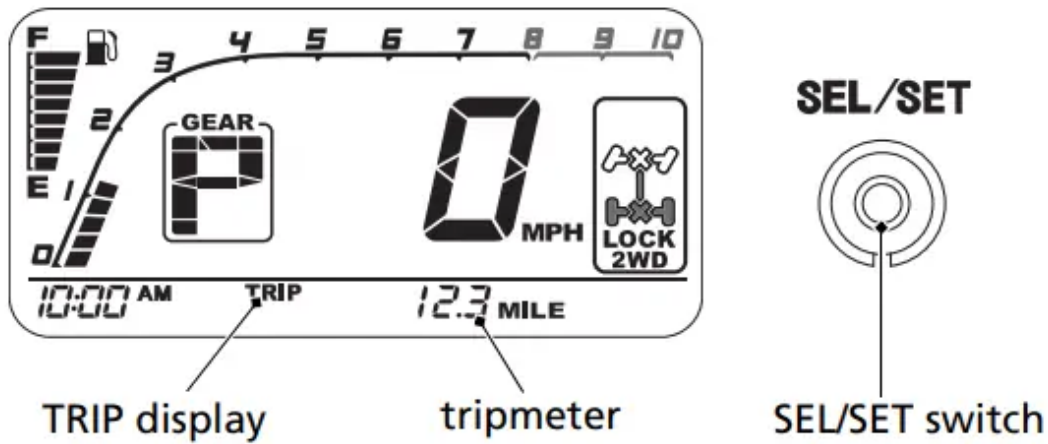


Tripmeter



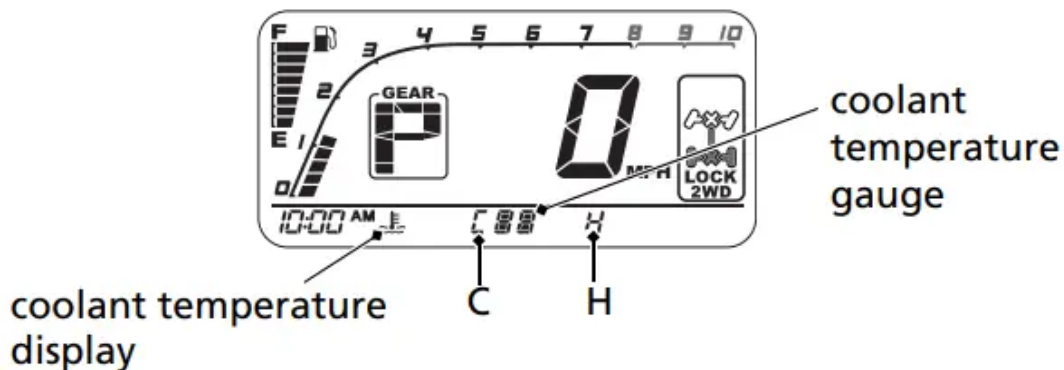
The tripmeter shows the number of miles or kilometers ridden with the TRIP display, since you last reset the tripmeter. The tripmeter returns to 0.0 when the readout exceeds 999.9.

To reset the tripmeter, press and hold the SEL/SET switch with the display in the tripmeter mode.



Coolant temperature gauge

The coolant temperature gauge shows engine coolant temperature with the coolant temperature display. When the segment begins to move above the C (Cold) display, the engine is warm enough for the SXS to be ridden. When the coolant temperature is low, the coolant temperature gauge will display "Lo". The normal operating temperature range is within the section between the H and C displays.

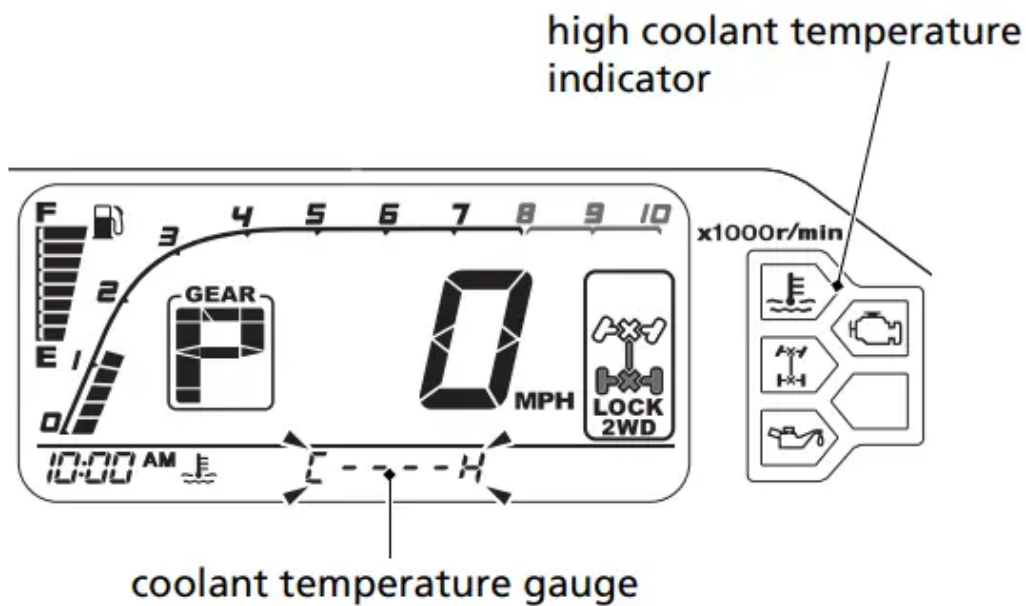


If all sections of the coolant temperature gauge, including segment H and high coolant temperature indicator are on (automatically appears in the display), stop the engine and check the reserve tank coolant level.

Read pages 248 – 249 and do not drive the SXS until the problem has been corrected.

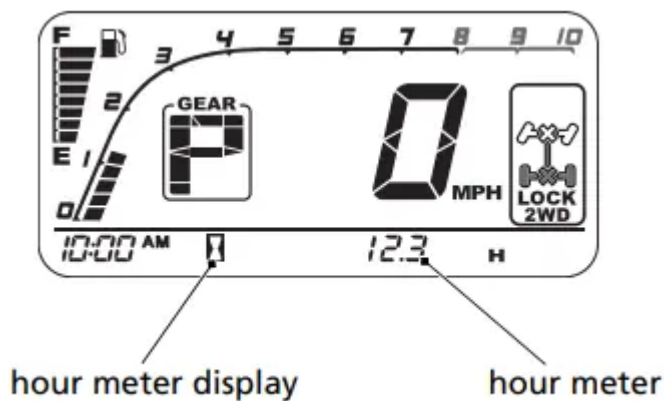
Coolant temperature gauge failure:

If the coolant temperature system has an error, the coolant temperature gauge will blink and appear in the display, and high coolant temperature indicator will turned on. If this occurs, see your dealer as soon as possible.



Hour meter

The hour meter display shows accumulated hours while the ignition is ON (q). The hour meter locks at 99,999.9 when the readout exceeds 99,999.9.



Maintenance Minder Indicator

The maintenance minder indicator appears in the display when the mileage or operating hours on your Honda SXS reaches the maintenance interval specified on the maintenance schedule (page 129).

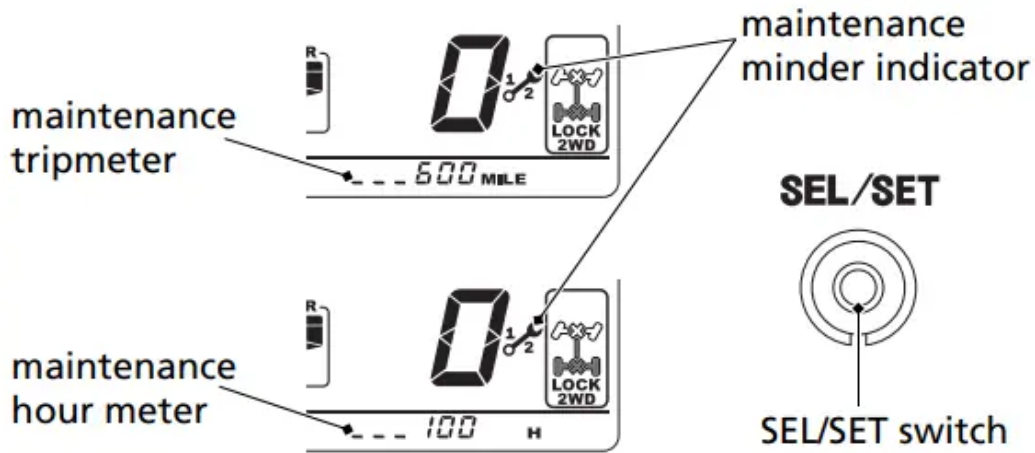
Reset the indicator after each scheduled maintenance is performed. If the scheduled maintenance is performed before the maintenance minder indicator appears, be sure to reset the maintenance minder after performing the scheduled maintenance.

Resetting the indicator:

To reset the indicator, press and continue to hold the SEL/SET switch and turn the ignition switch to ON (q). The indicator message will light up, and after 2 seconds will blink twice, the maintenance minder indicator is reset.

Also the maintenance tripmeter and maintenance hour meter will reset.

See more details about maintenance minder indicator on page 127.

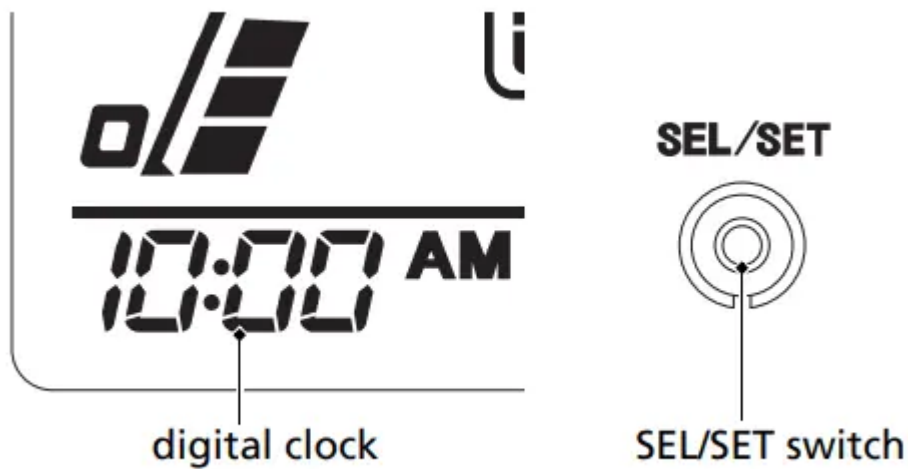


Digital Clock

The digital clock shows the hour and minutes with the 12-hour clock display.

To set the time:

1. Turn the ignition switch to ON (q).
2. Change the hour meter display (page 29).
3. Press and hold the SEL/SET switch. The clock will start blinking.
4. Press and hold the SEL/SET switch until the desired time appears.
5. To complete setting the clock, press the SEL/SET switch, or turn the ignition switch OFF (w).



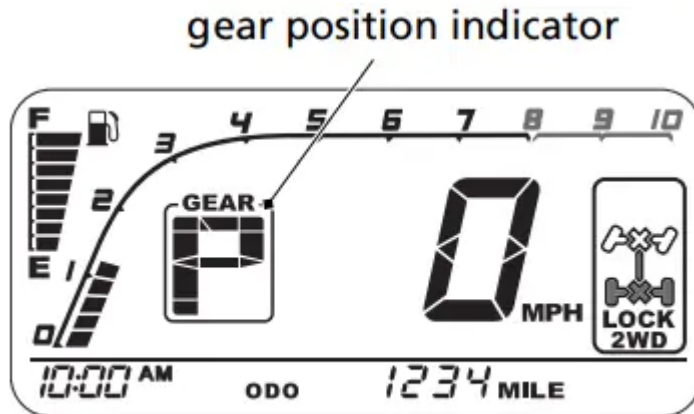
Gear Position Indicator

The gear position indicator shows the selected shift position by the shift select lever (page 43).

The indicator displays: P for park, N for neutral, R for reverse, H for high-range, L for low-range, and 1 – 6 for gear positions (shift paddles operation)

“–” will be displayed on the gear position indicator when the transmission is not shifted into gear properly. Before driving, check that the gear position is properly displayed on the gear position indicator.

If the gear position indicator blinks, see If the Transmission Is Not Functioning Properly, page 241.

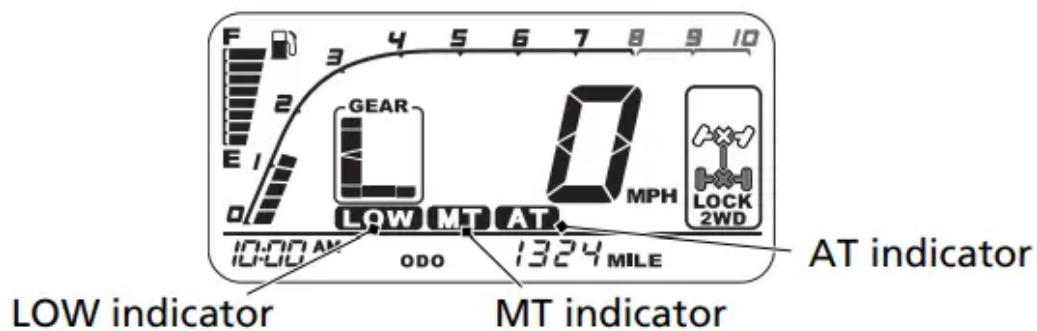


AT Indicator, MT Indicator / LOW Indicator

These indicators display the transmission mode of the SXS.

The indicators display: AT for automatic shift mode, MT for manual shift mode.

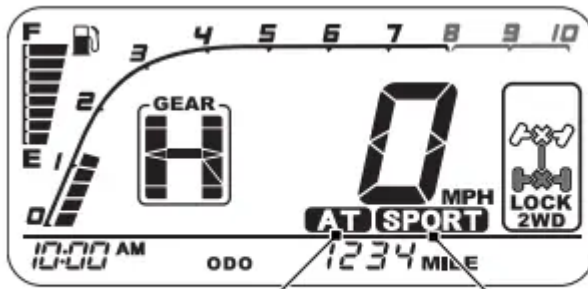
To switch between AT mode and MT mode, press the AT/MT switch (page 48). When MT mode is selected in low-range (L), the LOW indicator also comes on.



SPORT Indicator

When AT mode is selected, pressing the SPORT switch displays the SPORT indicator (page 49)





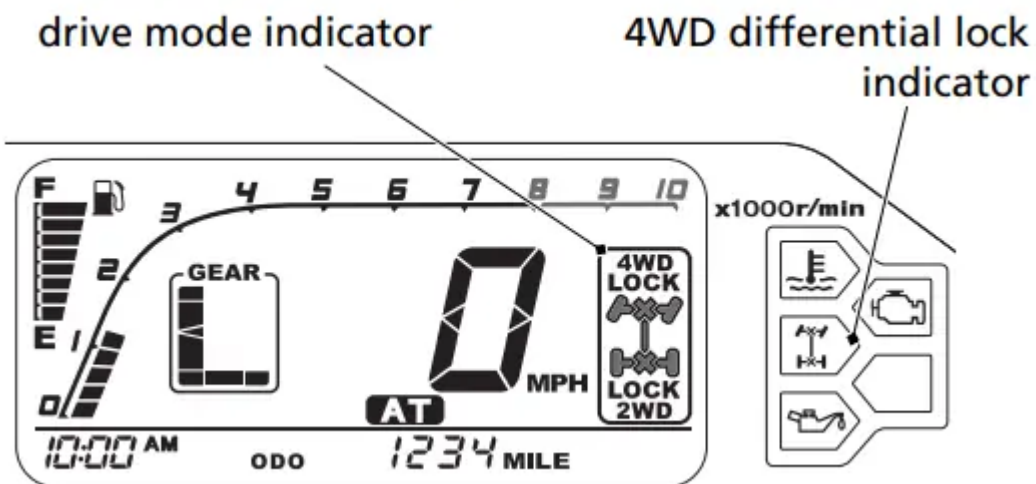
AT indicator SPORT indicator

Drive Mode Indicator (SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D)

The drive mode indicator shows the selected drive mode by the drive mode select lever (page 44, 108).

4WD differential lock indicator

This indicator comes on when the differential gears are engaged.

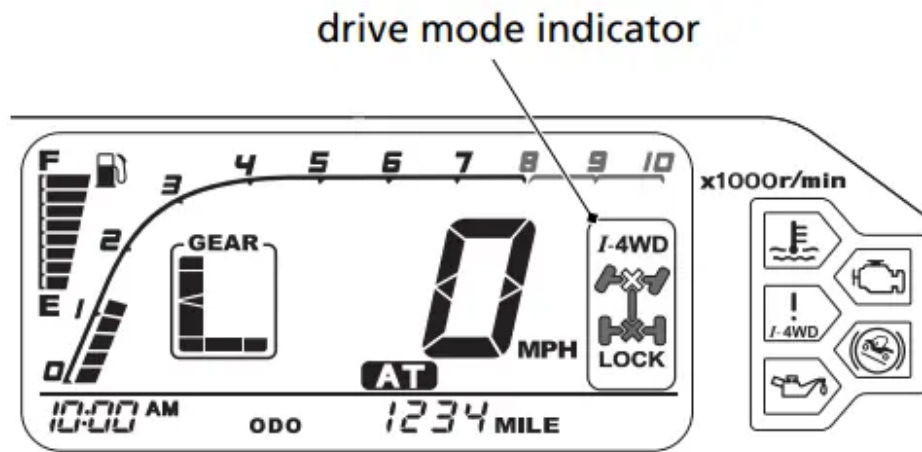


drive mode select lever position	Turf	2WD	4WD	4WD Diff Lock
drive mode indicator				
4WD differential lock indicator	No indicator light.			

Drive Mode Indicator (SXS1000M3L/M5L)

The drive mode indicator shows the selected drive mode by the drive mode select lever (page 46, 108).





drive mode select lever position	Turf	2WD	I - 4WD
drive mode indicator			

Driver Controls

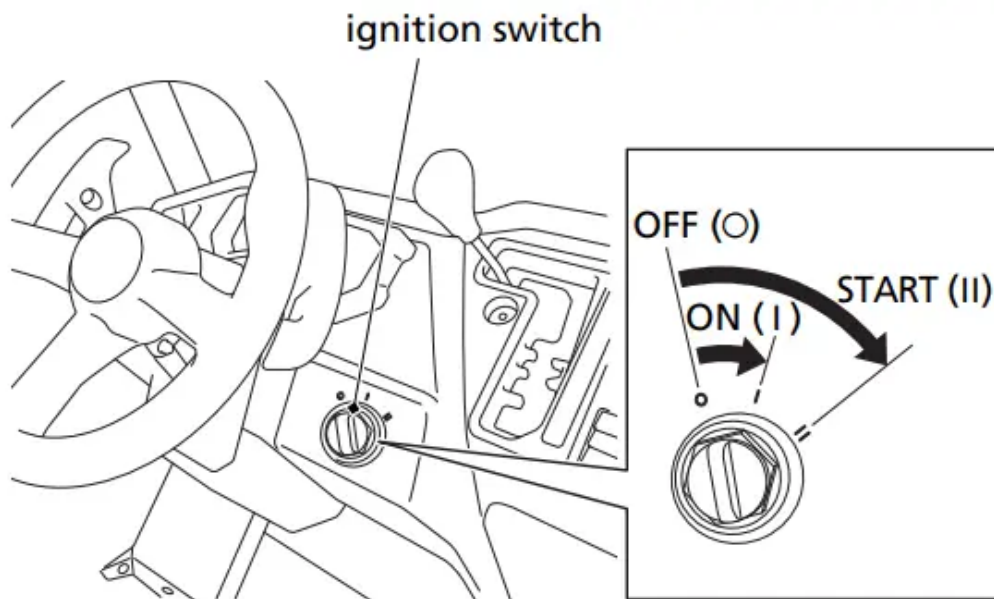
Ignition Switch

The ignition switch is a three-position, key-operated switch used to start and stop the engine.

OFF (O) — The engine and all electrical circuits are off. The key can be inserted and removed only when it is in this position.

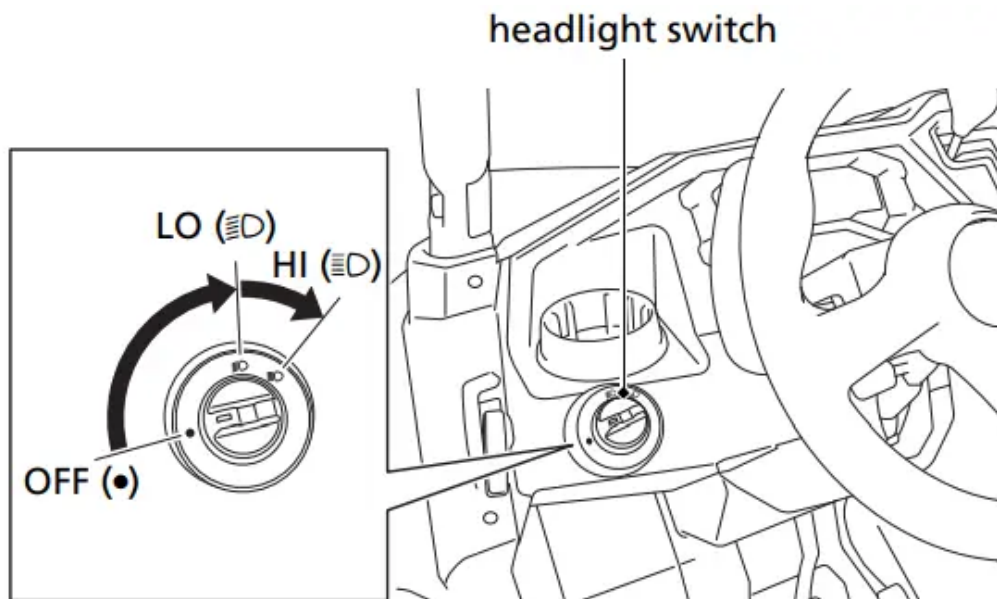
ON (I) — The electrical circuits are on. You can use the accessory power socket in this position.

START (II) — This position is used only to start the engine. The key will automatically return to the ON (q) position when you let go of it.



Headlight Switch (SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D)

The headlight switch is located on the front console, to the left of the steering wheel. This switch turns the headlights and taillights on and off, and changes between low beam or high beam.



OFF (•) — The headlights and taillights are off.

LO (≡D) — The headlights and taillights are on. The headlights are low beam.

HI (≡D) — The headlights and taillights are on. The headlights are high beam.

Basic Operation & Driving Guidelines

Basic Operation

Starting & Stopping the Engine

For safety, we recommend that you start the engine in a wellventilated area. If that is not practical, move the vehicle outdoors as soon as possible. The engine's exhaust contains carbon monoxide, a colorless and odorless gas that can cause illness and even death.

WARNING Running the engine of your vehicle while in an enclosed or even partially enclosed area can cause a rapid build-up of toxic carbon monoxide gas. Breathing this colorless, odorless gas can quickly cause unconsciousness and lead to death. Only run your vehicle's engine when it is located in a well ventilated area outdoors.

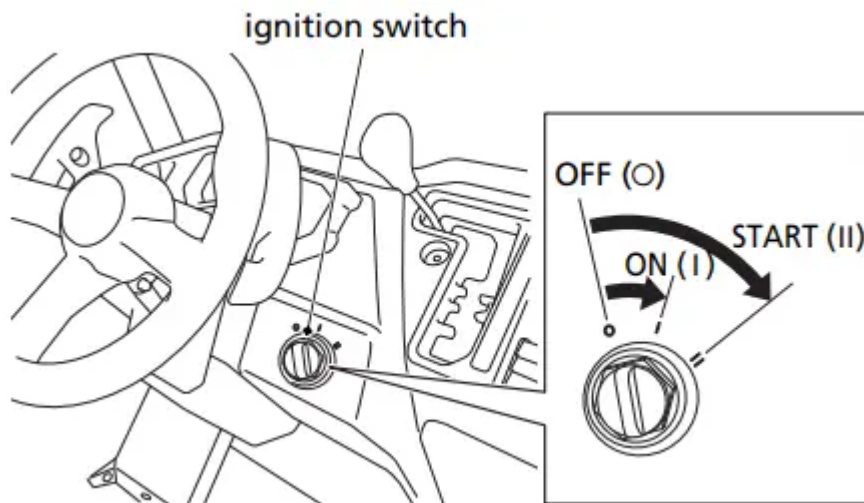
The starter motor will operate when the shift select lever is in the park (P) or neutral (N) position, or the brake pedal is pressed. You should do the following checks and adjustments before you drive your vehicle.

Before START:

1. Make sure the doors, side nets, tailgate and front hood are securely closed.
2. Make sure the cargo bed is securely lowered.
3. Check that any items you may be carrying are stored properly or fastened down securely.
4. Fasten your seat belt. Check that any passenger has fastened their seat belt as well.
5. When you start the engine, check the indicators in the instrument panel.

Starting the engine:

1. Move the shift select lever into the park (P) position.
2. Press on the brake pedal.
3. To start the engine, without touching the accelerator pedal, insert the key and turn the ignition switch to the START (p) position. Immediately after the engine starts, let go of the key. The switch returns to the ON (q) position. Do not hold the key in the START (p) position for more than 5 seconds at a time. If the engine does not start after 5 seconds, turn the key back to the OFF (w) position and wait about 10 seconds before turning it to START (p) again.
4. If the engine does not start within 5 seconds, or starts but stalls right away, repeat step 3 with the accelerator pedal pressed halfway down. If the engine starts, release pressure on the accelerator pedal so the engine does not race.
5. If the engine fails to start, press the accelerator pedal all the way down, and hold it there while starting to clear flooding. If the engine still does not start, return to step 3.



To stop the engine, turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position. Remember to shift into the park (P) position and remove the key if you plan to leave the vehicle.

Shifting Gears

You can move forward or in reverse by shifting the shift select lever from P or N, to R, H, or L. Your Honda SXS is equipped with a dual clutch transmission, which is an automatically controlled 6-speed transmission.

When the shift select lever is in the high-range (H) or low-range (L) position, you can switch between AT mode and MT mode by pressing the AT/MT switch. In AT mode, you can use the shift paddles to temporarily select a gear.

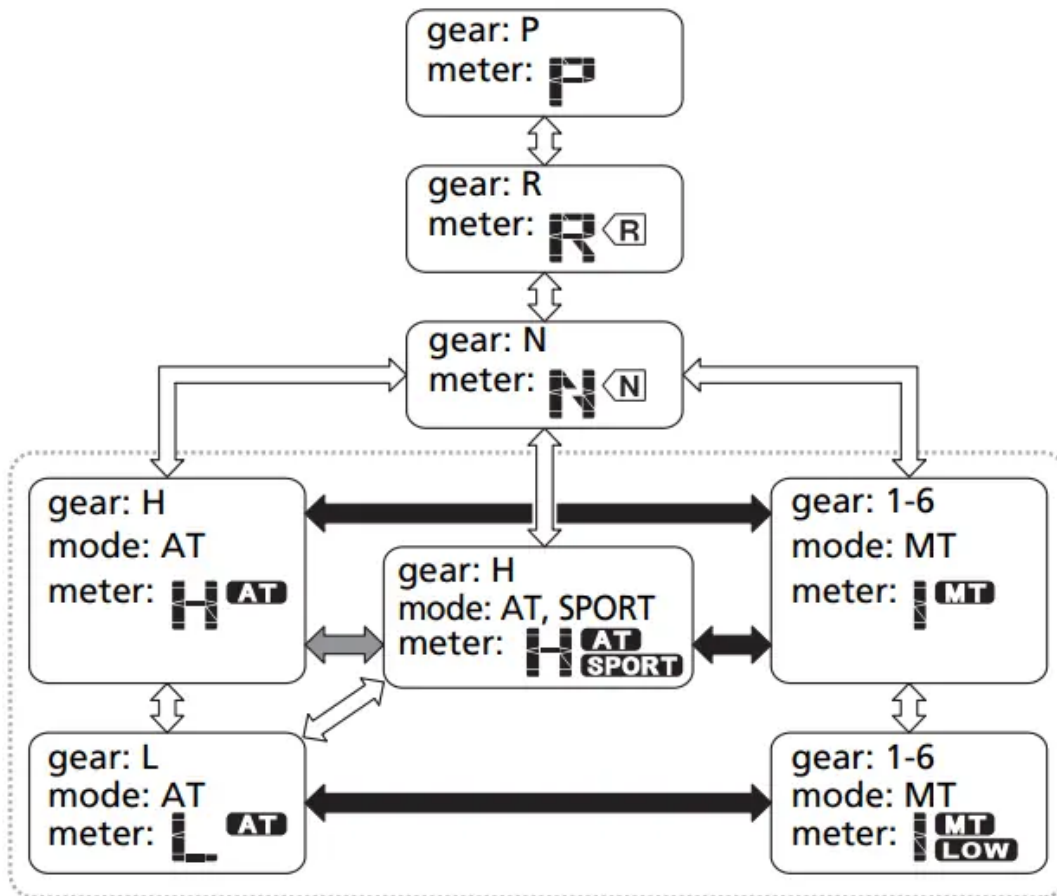
To avoid damaging the transmission, move the shift select lever only when the vehicle is stopped and the engine is idling. Select a driving mode appropriate for your driving environment and driver visibility.

NOTICE

Under extreme constant high load usage, the temperature of the clutch can rise over the allowable temperature limit for the clutch material. In this usage condition, clutch slippage and burning may occur.

avoid damaging the clutch, follow the proper usage of the subtransmission dual range as described. To prevent clutch damage, do not use the throttle to hold the vehicle stationary on an incline or try to tow an immovable object.

Shift Position and Meter Display



- ⇨ shift the shift select lever
- ➡ push the AT/MT switch
- ➡ push the SPORT switch
- ⋮ shift override using shift paddles is available. during shift override, shifted gears (1 – 6) are displayed

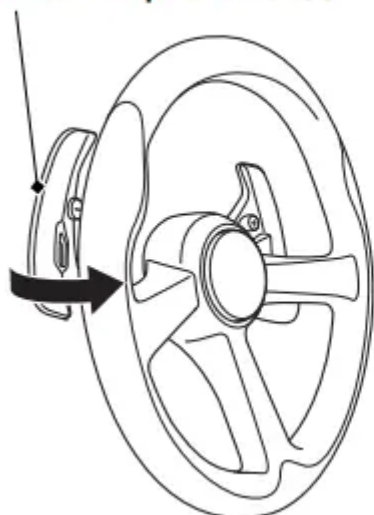
Driving by operating the shift paddles while MT mode is selected

To upshift the transmission, pull the right side upshift paddle once. To downshift the transmission, pull the left side downshift paddle once.

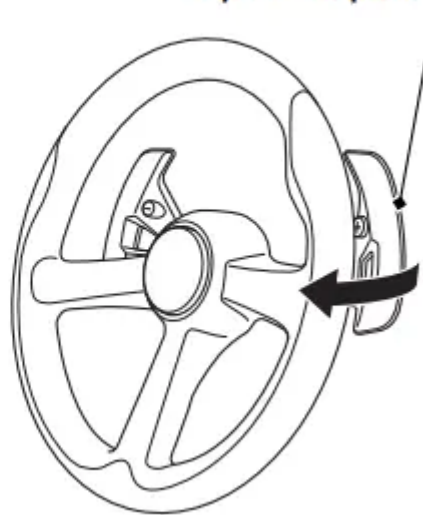
GEAR SHIFTING SEQUENCE



downshift paddle (-)



upshift paddle (+)



After starting the engine and letting it warm up, follow this procedure:

1. Press the brake pedal.
2. With the throttle closed, select the shift select lever into highrange (H) or low-range (L) position, and then select MT mode by pressing the AT/MT switch.
3. Release pressure from the brake pedal and increase engine speed by gradually pressing the accelerator pedal.
4. When speed increases, shift to 2nd gear by pulling the upshift paddle once.
5. Repeat this sequence to progressively upshift to 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th (top) gear.
6. To downshift, pull the downshift paddle once.

Selecting a Drive Mode

Turf

This mode supplies power to the rear wheels only. This mode is for driving on turf.

2WD

This mode supplies power to the rear wheels, and locks the rear differential. This mode is best for surfaces that provide good traction.

4WD (SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D)

This mode supplies power to the front and rear wheels, and locks the rear differential.

Steering will require slightly more effort than with 2WD. This mode is recommended for driving on surfaces that provide relatively poor traction.

4WD Diff Lock (SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D)

This mode supplies power to the front and rear wheels, and locks the rear and front differential.

As a result, steering will require extra space and effort. Select this mode to maximize available traction.

L - 4WD (SXS1000M3L/M5L)

This mode supplies power to the front and rear wheels, and locks the rear differential. In addition, Brake Traction Control System (BTCS) will work to enhance vehicle stability in slippery conditions.

Brake Traction Control System (BTCS):

BTCS applies the front brake in slippery conditions to help prevent loss of traction due to wheel spin when applying the accelerator pedal.

When applying the brake while BTCS is operating, the brake pedal will have a flutter feel. This is normal.

Before using the drive mode select lever to change from one mode to another, be sure the vehicle is stopped and the engine is idling. See page 44 for additional information.

Parking

SXS1000M3P/M3D/M3L/M5L

Look for a clear, level parking area with a firm surface. Avoid parking on a slope or on loose or slippery surfaces, if possible. If you must park on a slope, block the wheels to help keep the vehicle from sliding.

After bringing your vehicle to a stop:

1. Keep your foot on the brake pedal while you shift into the park (P) position.
2. Slowly release the brake pedal.
3. Turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position, and remove the key.

SXS1000M5P/M5D

The SXS1000M5P/M5D is equipped with an auto leveling rear shock absorber. (See page 194 for more information)

Look for a clear, level parking area with a firm surface. Parking on top of obstructions or terrain features taller than about 7.9 inches (200 mm) could result in the SXS1000 becoming stuck if the cargo bed is loaded and the vehicle settles (up to 4.5 inches [114 mm]) while parked. Avoid parking on a slope or on loose or slippery surfaces, if possible. If you must park on a slope, block the wheels to help keep the vehicle from sliding.

After bringing your vehicle to a stop:

1. Keep your foot on the brake pedal while you shift into the park (P) position.
2. Slowly release the brake pedal.
3. Turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position, and remove the key.

Servicing Your Honda

Maintenance Schedule

The required Maintenance Schedule that follows specifies how often you should have your Honda SXS serviced, and what things need attention. It is essential to have your Honda SXS serviced as scheduled to maintain safe, dependable performance, and proper emission control.

The service intervals in this Maintenance Schedule are based on average driving conditions. Some items will need more frequent service if you drive in unusually wet or dusty areas or at full throttle. Consult your dealer for recommendations applicable to your individual needs and use.

Some items in the Maintenance Schedule can be performed with basic mechanical skills and hand tools. Procedures for these items are provided in this manual. Other items involve more extensive procedures and may require special training, tools, and equipment. We recommend that you have your dealer perform these tasks unless you have advanced mechanical skills and the required tools and equipment. Procedures for such items in this schedule are provided in an official Honda Service Manual available for purchase (page 284).

If you do not feel capable of performing a given task or need assistance, remember that your Honda dealer knows your Honda SXS best and is fully equipped to maintain and repair it. If you decide to do your own maintenance, use only Honda Genuine Parts or their equivalents for repair or replacement to ensure the best quality and reliability.

Perform the pre-drive inspection (page 92) and owner maintenance in this section at each scheduled maintenance period.

Maintenance Minder Messages on the Multi-function Display The maintenance minder indicator appears in the multi-function display when the mileage or operating hours on your Honda SXS reaches the maintenance interval specified on the maintenance schedule.

Maintenance Minder Indicators:

	<p>Initial Maintenance</p> <p>Appears at 100 miles (150 km) or 20 operating hours, whichever comes first. See Initial Maintenance on the maintenance schedule</p>
	<p>Regular Maintenance Interval 1</p> <p>Appears 600 miles (1,000 km) or 100 operating hours after the Initial Maintenance is performed and maintenance minder is reset (page 34). See Regular Maintenance Interval for 100, 300, and 500 operating hours (or corresponding mileage interval, whichever comes first) in the maintenance schedule.</p>
	<p>Regular Maintenance Interval 2</p> <p>Appears 600 miles (1,000 km) or 100 operating hours after Regular Maintenance Interval 1 is performed and maintenance minder is reset (page 34). See Regular Maintenance Interval for 200, 400, and 600 operating hours (or corresponding mileage interval, whichever comes first) in the maintenance schedule.</p>

- The Initial Maintenance indicator appears only once over the life of the vehicle.
- The Regular Maintenance Interval 1 and 2 indicators will appear alternately over the life of the vehicle.
- Consider the total mileage and operating hours shown on the odometer/hour meter, along with your vehicle maintenance history, to determine the appropriate Regular Maintenance Interval to follow on the maintenance schedule.

Each item on the maintenance schedule requires some mechanical knowledge. Certain items (particularly those marked * and **) may require more technical information and tools. Consult your dealer.

* Should be serviced by your dealer, unless you have the proper tools and service data, and are mechanically qualified. Refer to the official Honda Service Manual (page 284).

** In the interest of safety, we recommend these items be serviced only by your dealer.



Service the items listed at the indicated distance (or time, if given).												
		Initial maintenance	Regular maintenance interval									
ITEMS	FREQUENCY	x100 mi	1	6	12	18	24	30	36	Note	Refer to page	
	(Whichever comes first)	x100 km	1.5	10	20	30	40	50	60			
		Hours	20	100	200	300	400	500	600			
	Check engine oil and coolant		Check oil and coolant at fuel stop								153, 172	
	Check tires		Check inflation and condition once a month								205	
	Check side net and snap hooks		•	•	•	•	•	•	•		56	
	Check brake fluid		Check fluid level once a month								199	
	Replace engine oil and oil filter		•		•		•		•		155	
	Check sub-transmission oil		•		•		•		•		163	
	Replace sub-transmission oil			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)								165
	Replace DCT oil filter		•				•				160	
*	Inspect valve clearance		•			•			•	1	—	
*	Clean spark arrester			•	•	•	•	•	•		189	
	Replace air cleaner element								•	2	176	
	Clean sub air cleaner element				•				•	2	178	
	Check spark plugs			•		•			•		186	
*	Inspect idle speed		•			•			•		—	
*	Check fuel lines and connections					•			•		—	
	Check front and rear brakes		•			•			•	3	198	
	Check front and rear final gear oil		•			•			•		167, 169	

Should be serviced by your dealer, unless you have the proper tools and service data, and are mechanically qualified. Refer to the official Honda Service Manual (page 284).

Note 1 Inspect valve clearance as needed, if engine is noisy.

Note 2 Service more frequently when operating in dusty areas, sand or snow.

Note 3 Service more frequently when operated in muddy conditions.



Service the items listed at the indicated distance (or time, if given).											
			Initial maintenance	Regular maintenance interval							
ITEMS	FREQUENCY (Whichever comes first)		1	6	12	18	24	30	36	Note	Refer to page
	x100 mi	x100 km	1.5	10	20	30	40	50	60		
	Hours		20	100	200	300	400	500	600		
	Lubricate all hinges, latches, and pivots					•			•		179
**	Inspect the following items:										—
	Suspension components										—
	Wheels										212
	Driveshaft boots										213
	Accelerator and brake pedals					•			•		184, 202
	Brake light switch										203
	Exhaust system										191
	Battery terminal condition										215
*	Check parking lock system adjustment		•						•		—
*	Check shift lever adjustment		•						•		—
**	Inspect the following items:										—
	Tie-rod ends										—
*	Steering gearbox and boots								•		—
*	Brake hoses and lines										—
*	SXS underbody									4	—
*	Inspect evaporative emission control system (USA - 50 states [meets California])			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)							—
	Replace the following items:			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)							—
	Front and rear final gear oil			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)							168, 170
*	Engine coolant			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)							174
*	Brake fluid			Every 2 years (regardless of mileage)							—

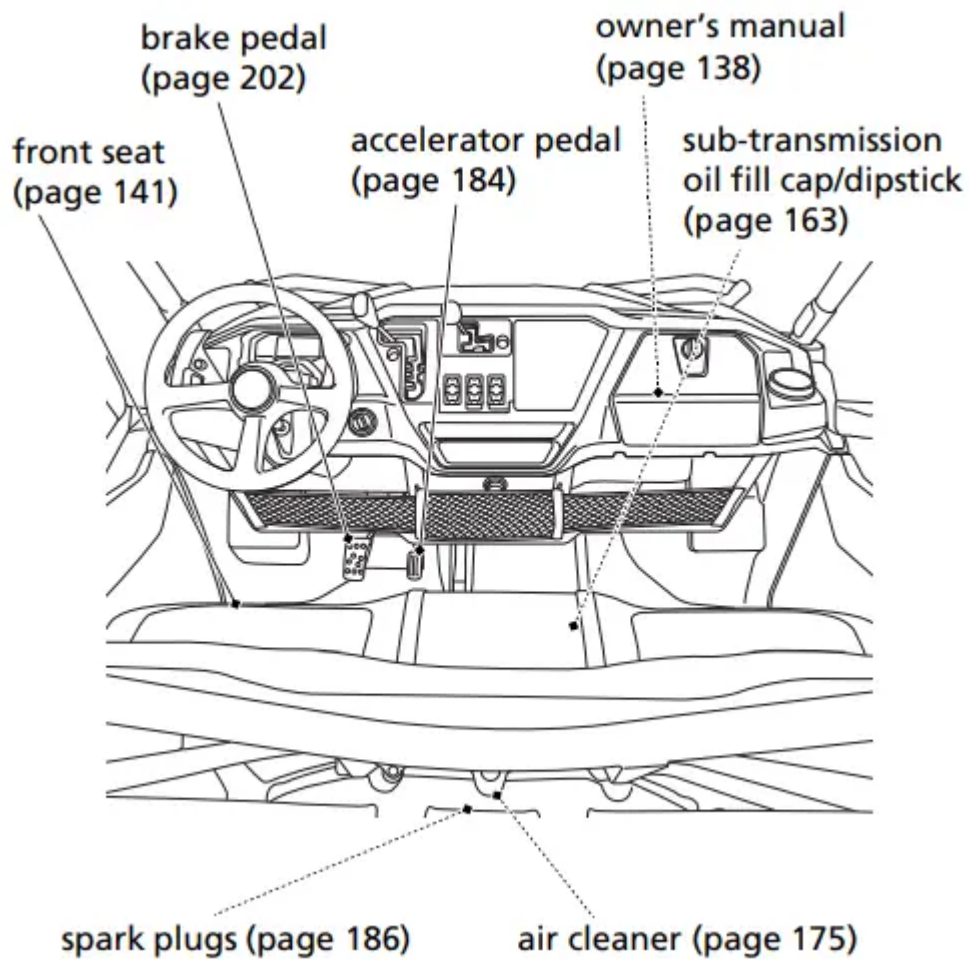
* Should be serviced by your dealer, unless you have the proper tools and service data, and are mechanically qualified. Refer to the official Honda Service Manual (page 284).

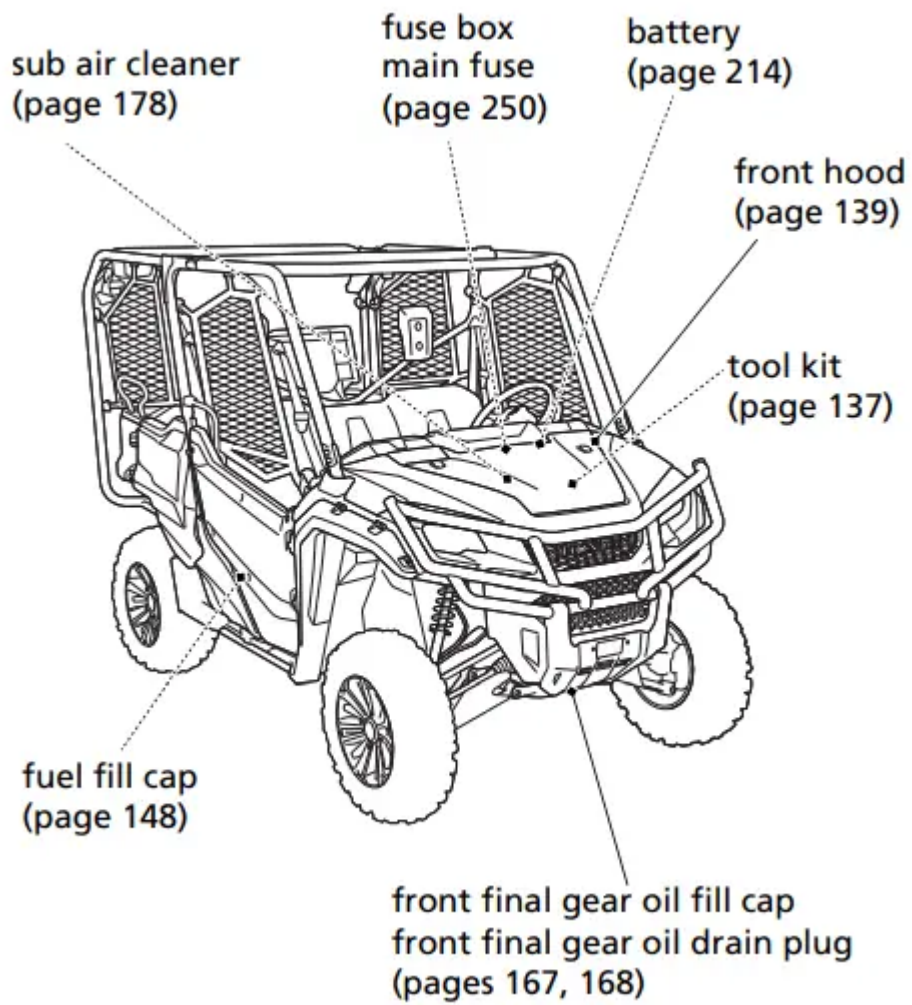
** In the interest of safety, we recommend these items be serviced only by your dealer.

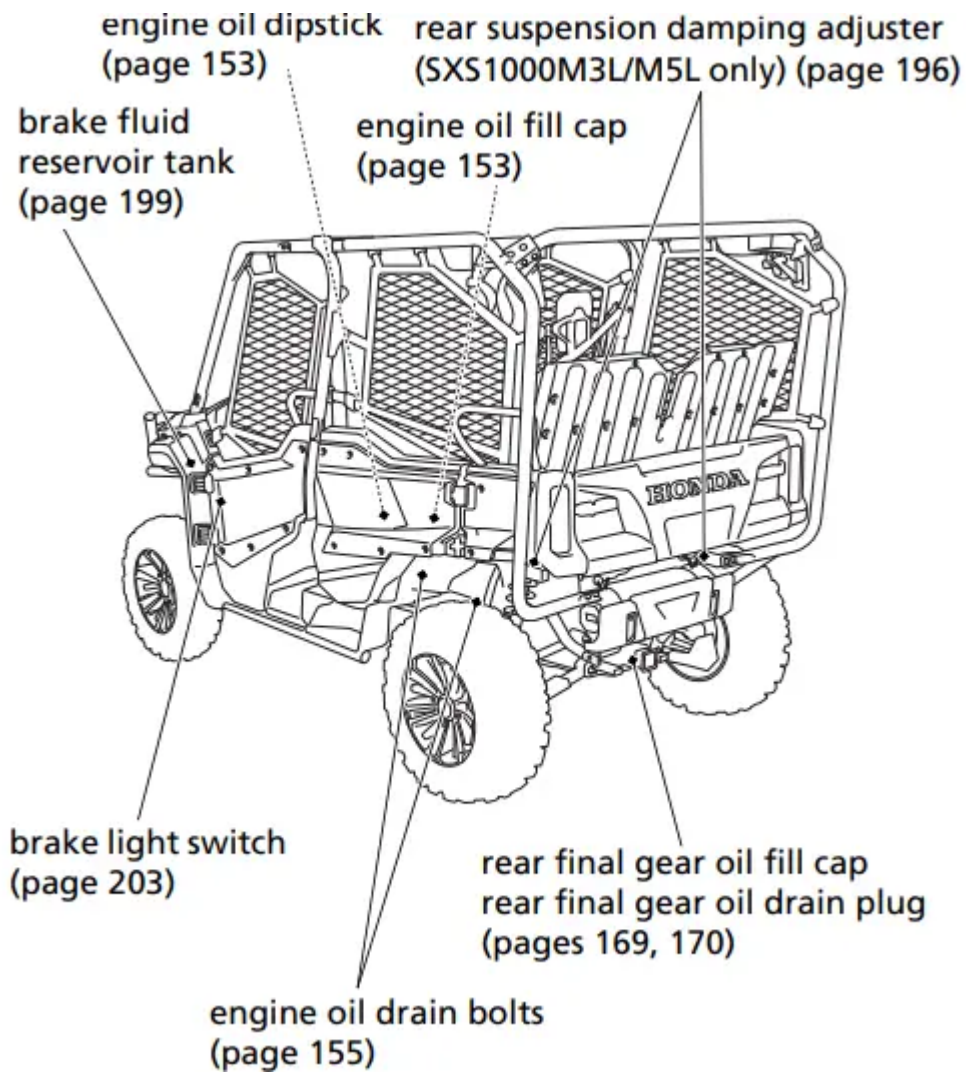
Note 4 Check the underbody whenever the under guard has been hit.

Maintenance Component Locations

- Indicates something visible.
-→ Indicates something concealed.

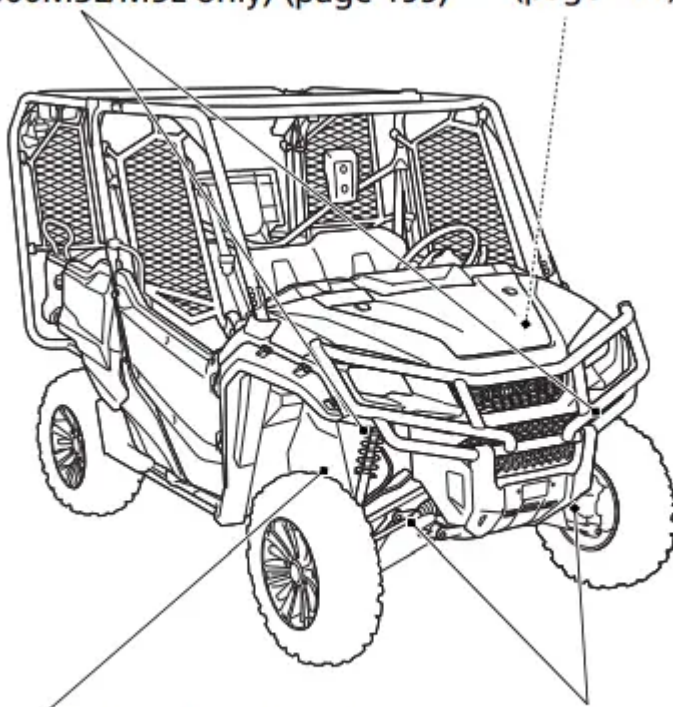






front suspension damping adjuster
(SXS1000M3L/M5L only) (page 195)

coolant reserve tank
(page 171)

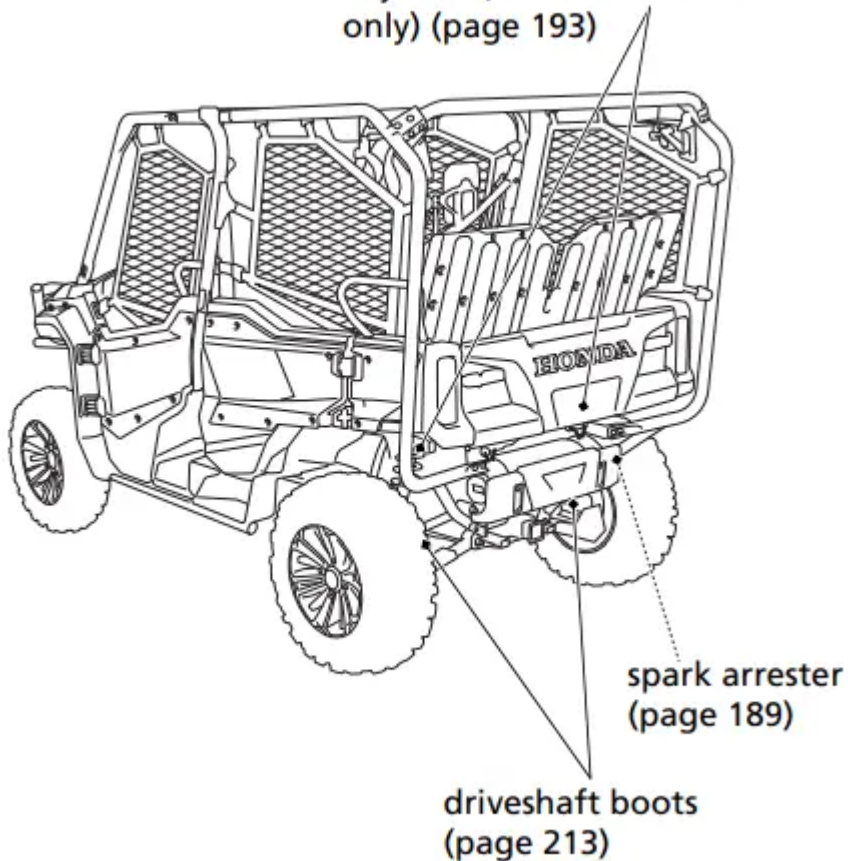


sub-transmission oil drain bolt
(page 165)

driveshaft boots
(page 213)



rear suspension spring pre-load
adjuster (SXS1000M3P/M3D
only) (page 193)



Taking Care of the Unexpected

If Your Engine Quits or Won't Start

Proper operation and maintenance can prevent starting and engine performance problems. In many cases, the cause of the problem may be a simple operational oversight.

If you have a problem starting the engine — or experience poor engine performance — the following information may help you. If you can't correct the problem, see your dealer.

If your SXS won't start, listen as you turn the ignition key to the START (p) position. If you don't hear the starter motor turning, refer to the Starter motor doesn't operate symptom. If you can hear the starter motor working normally, refer to the Starter motor works, but the engine won't start symptom.

SYMPTOM: Starter motor doesn't operate.	
POSSIBLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
transmission not in park (P) or neutral (N) position	Shift into park (P) or neutral (N) position or press on the brake pedal.
blown fuse	Replace with a new fuse of the same rating (page 250).
battery lead loose	Tighten the battery lead.
low battery	Charge the battery (page 218). If charging doesn't help, see your dealer.
faulty starter motor	If all possible causes are negative, the starter motor may be faulty. See your dealer.

SYMPTOM: Starter motor works, but the engine won't start.	
POSSIBLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
out of fuel	Fill the fuel tank.
flooded engine	See starting the engine step 5 (page 101).
loose or unconnected spark plug caps	Install the spark plug caps securely. If the engine still won't start, see your dealer.
loose battery cables	Tighten the battery terminal bolts.
weak battery	Charge the battery (page 218). If charging doesn't help, see your dealer.

SYMPTOM: Engine starts, but runs poorly.	
POSSIBLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
high coolant temperature	Check the high coolant temperature indicator. Refer to <i>If the High Coolant Temperature Indicator Lights</i> , page 248.
runs erratically, misfires	May damage catalytic converter. See your dealer.
blubbers (rich fuel mixture)	See your dealer.
sooty exhaust (rich fuel mixture)	See your dealer.
detonates or pings under load	If applicable, switch to the recommended octane gasoline (page 147) or change your brand of gasoline. If the problem persists, see your dealer.
afterfires (backfires)	May damage catalytic converter. See your dealer.
pre-ignition (runs on after ignition switched OFF)	May damage catalytic converter. See your dealer.

If the Transmission Is Not Functioning Properly

If the gear position indicator is blinking, perform the following:

1. If you are driving your Honda SXS, stop at a safe place.
2. Shift the shift select lever to the park (P) position.
3. Check the pattern displayed on the gear position indicator, and then perform the following.

“P”, “R”, “N”, “H” or “L” is blinking:

You can drive in either AT mode or MT mode. See your dealer as soon as possible.

“1”, “2”, “3”, “4”, “5” or “6” is blinking:

At high-range (H) or low-range (L), you can drive only in the gear position that is blinking. You can also drive in reverse (R).

To avoid damaging the clutch, we recommend that you drive in lowrange (L). The engine brake may not work, so please drive slowly. See your dealer as soon as possible.

“-” is blinking:

Check for SXS failure again. Perform the following procedure.

1. Check that the shift select lever is at the park (P) position.
2. Turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position.
3. Turn the ignition switch to the START (p) position and then start the engine.
4. Check the gear position indicator display, and then perform the following.

The gear position (“1”, “2”, “3”, “4”, “5” or “6”) is blinking:

At high-range (H) or low-range (L), you can drive only in the gear position that is blinking. You can also drive in reverse (R).

To avoid damaging the clutch, we recommend that you drive in lowrange (L). The engine brake may not work, so please drive slowly. See your dealer as soon as possible.

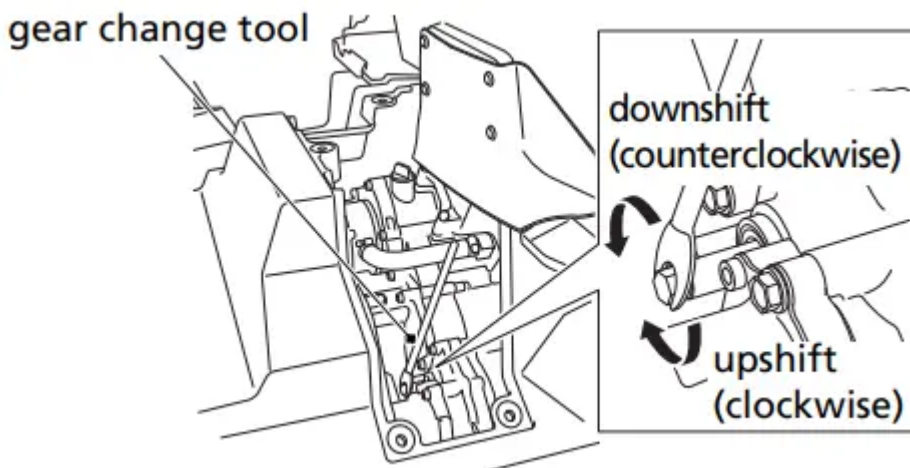
If “-” continues to blink:

Change the gear position by using the gear change tool, and tighten the emergency valve. Perform the following procedure.

1. Turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position, and then stop the engine.
2. Turn the ignition switch to the ON (q) position. Do not turn it to the START (p) position.
3. Take out the gear change tool from the tool kit (page 137).
4. Lift the cargo bed (page 81).
5. Remove the rear mudguard lid (page 143).
6. Set the gear change tool of the spindle which is located on the crankcase.
7. To downshift, turn the gear change tool counterclockwise. To upshift, turn the gear change tool clockwise. When you upshift one position from the lowest downshift position, “E” blinks in the gear position indicator.

If you cannot shift properly, shift the shift select lever to the highrange (H) position, and while pushing the gear change tool in the direction you want to rotate, rock the vehicle back and forth. When the transmission shifts, return the shift select lever to the park (P) position.

UNDER CARGO BED



8. Return the gear change tool to the tool kit.

9. Check that “E” is blinking. Next, tighten the emergency valve. Proceed to “E” is blinking.

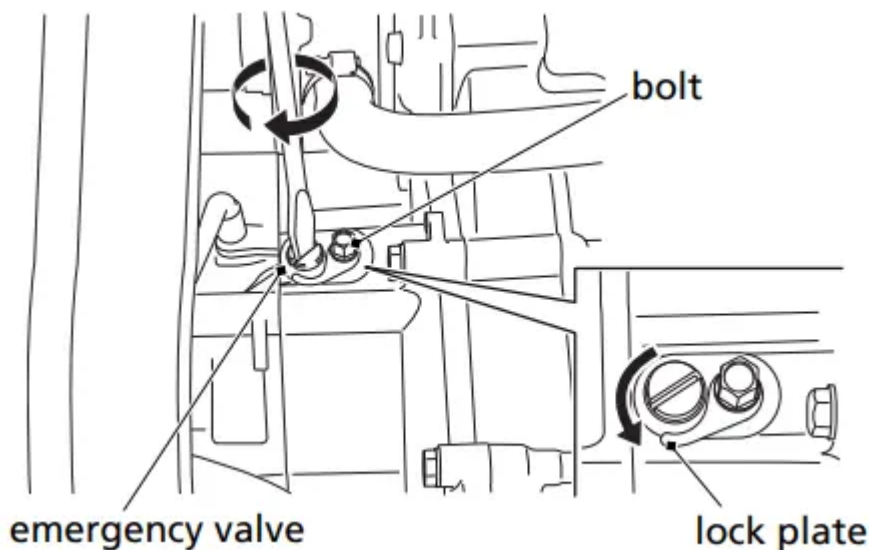
If “-” is not displayed in the gear position indicator and you change the gear position by using the gear change tool, the DCT system will automatically stop. To reactivate the system, turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position, and then turn it back to the ON (q) position.

“E” is blinking:

Tighten the emergency valve. Perform the following procedure.

1. Turn the ignition switch to the OFF (w) position, and then stop the engine.
2. Remove the rear mudguard lid (page 143).
3. Loosen the bolt and release the lock plate, and turn the emergency valve all the way in.

UNDER CARGO BED



4. Tighten the bolt and the lock plate.

5. Install the rear mudguard lid.

6. Turn the ignition switch to the START (II) position, and then start the engine.

7. Check that the gear position (“1”, “2”, “3”, “4”, “5” or “6”) is blinking.

8. At high-range (H) or low-range (L), you can drive only in the gear position that is blinking. You can also drive in reverse (R). To avoid damaging the clutch, we recommend that you drive in low-range (L). The engine brake may not work, so please drive slowly. See your dealer as soon as possible.

- When in the reverse (R), high-range (H), or low-range (L) position, low oil temperatures will cause the vehicle to move slowly. Shift into the park (P) position and warm up the engine.
- When restarting the engine, although “E” stops blinking, the gear position (“1”, “2”, “3”, “4”, “5” or “6”) blinks, and the low oil pressure indicator comes on, you can drive the vehicle.

If You Have a Flat Tire

How you handle a flat tire on the trail depends on how serious the tire damage is, and what tools and supplies you have with you.

If you have a slow leak or a minor puncture, use the plug method to make a temporary repair. (The plug method is applied from the outside of the tire and is the same as that for conventional tubeless tires.)

A plug-type repair kit, available at most auto parts stores or service stations, provides a plug, an installation tool, tire cement, and an instruction sheet. Follow the instructions provided with the repair kit to make a temporary repair.

As soon as possible, have the tire permanently repaired by your dealer.

Any tire that cannot be repaired should be replaced.

Whenever the Honda SXS is to be operated far from service facilities or available transportation, we recommend that you carry a tire pump and a repair kit with the vehicle.

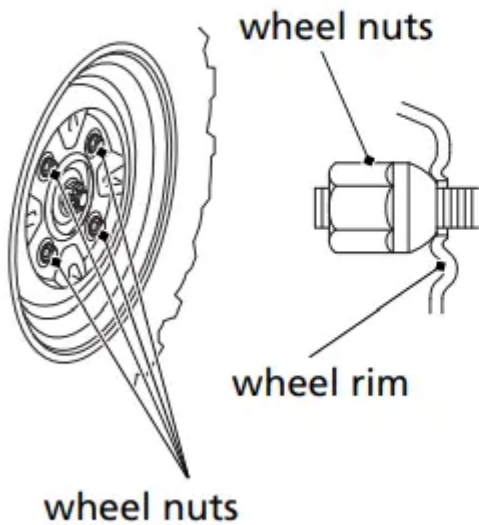
If the leak is more serious, or a temporary repair doesn't hold, the tire must be replaced. The tire will also need to be replaced if it is damaged (page 207). Replacing a tire involves removing and reinstalling the wheel (page 246).

If you are unable to repair a flat tire on the trail, you will need to send for help. We strongly recommend that you do not try to drive with a flat tire. The Honda SXS will be hard to handle, and if the tire comes off the rim, it may lock up the wheel and cause you to crash or overturn.

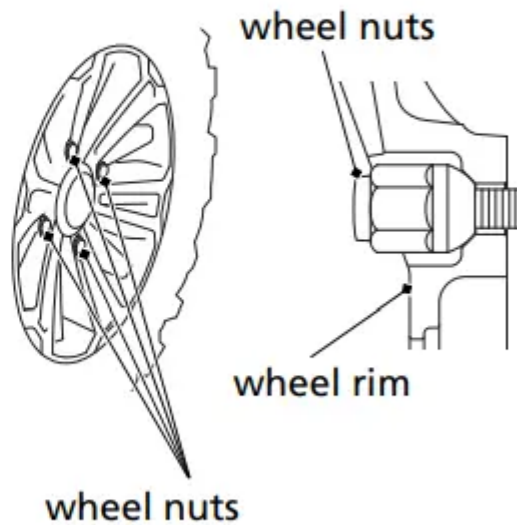
Emergency Wheel Removal/Installation

[Refer to Safety Precautions on page 125](#)

**SXS1000M3P/M5P
(Steel wheel model)**



**SXS1000M3D/M3L/M5D/M5L
(Aluminum wheel model)**



Removal

1. Park your Honda SXS on a firm, level surface.
2. Loosen — but do not remove — the wheel nuts.
3. Raise the front (or rear) wheels off the ground (page 146).
4. Remove the wheel nuts.
5. Remove the wheel.
 - Avoid getting grease, oil, or dirt on the disc or pad surfaces when removing and installing each wheel. Any contamination can cause poor brake performance or rapid pad wear after reassembly.

Installation

1. Thoroughly clean hub and wheel.
2. Position the wheel.
3. Position the wheel nuts so that the tapered sides face the wheel rim.
4. Hand-tighten the wheel nuts on the wheel, then lower the Honda SXS to the ground before tightening the nuts in a crisscross (rather than circular) pattern to the specified torque: 80 lbf·ft (108 N·m, 11 kgf·m)

If a torque wrench was not used for installation, see your dealer as soon as possible to verify proper assembly. Improper assembly may lead to loss of control and braking capability

If the High Coolant Temperature Indicator Lights

Normally, the high coolant temperature indicator will only light momentarily when you turn the ignition ON (q). Occasionally, it may flicker at or near idling speed.

High coolant temperature may be caused by restriction of air flow to the radiator (such as mud caked on the radiator), extended idling, an oil leak, a coolant leak, a low oil level, a low coolant level, or extended operation under adverse conditions. If the all sections of the coolant temperature gauge including segment H and high coolant temperature indicator are on while you're driving, don't ignore it. Pull safely to a stop. Stop the engine as soon as it's safe to do so, and let it cool.

NOTICE

Continuing to drive with high coolant temperature or an overheated engine can cause serious engine damage.

- A steaming engine indicates a coolant leak. Shut the engine off and wait until the steaming stops. Look for a leak, but don't touch the engine or radiator system. Let everything cool off first.
- Check for any restriction of air flow to the radiator.
- If there's no obvious problem, leave the engine on so the fan and coolant circulating system can continue working. Monitor the coolant temperature gauge and high coolant temperature indicator. The coolant temperature gauge and indicator may return to normal after a brief stop with no load on the engine.
- Check the radiator fan.

If the fan is not working, turn the engine off. Open the fuse box (page 251) and check the radiator fan fuse. If the fuse is blown, replace it with the proper (same rating) spare fuse. Start the engine. If the all sections of the coolant temperature gauge including segment H and high coolant temperature indicator stay on, turn the engine off.

If the radiator fan is working, visually check the coolant level in the reserve tank, located under the front hood. It isn't necessary to touch the radiator system.

- If the reserve tank is low or empty, don't drive without adding coolant (page 172). After adding coolant, turn the engine on and check the coolant temperature gauge and high coolant temperature indicator.

If the indicator doesn't turn off, do not drive. The engine needs repair.

Transport your Honda SXS to a dealer (page 228).

If the temperature drops to normal, check the coolant level. If it has gone down, add more coolant.

- Check for an oil leak.

- Check the oil level. If necessary, add the recommended oil (page 151) to the upper level mark. If you must leave your Honda SXS to get oil, secure it as much as possible.
- Start the engine, and check that the coolant temperature gauge and high coolant temperature indicator are normal.

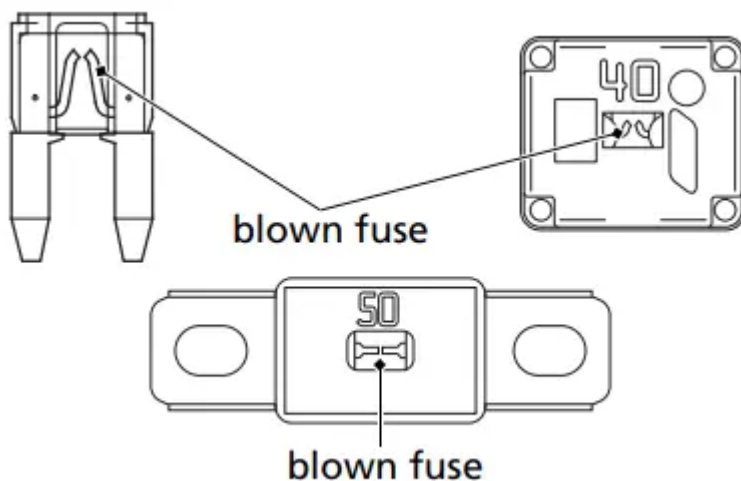
If the coolant temperature gauge and indicator return to normal, resume driving. If there is a leak, do not drive the SXS until the leak is repaired by your dealer.

If there's a mild coolant leak, you can drive for a while, carefully watching the coolant temperature gauge and indicator. Be prepared to stop and add more coolant or water. If the leak is bad, transport your Honda SXS to your dealer (page 228).

If a Fuse Blows

All of the electrical circuits on your Honda SXS have fuses to protect them from damage caused by excess current flow (short circuit or overload).

If something electrical on your Honda SXS stops working, the first thing you should check for is a blown fuse.



Check all the fuses before looking elsewhere for another possible cause of the problem. Replace any blown fuses and check component operation.

The main fuse and circuit fuses are located in the fuse box under the front hood. The electric power steering (EPS) fuse is located under the front hood.

The brake traction control system (BTCS) fuse is located under the front hood. (SXS1000M3L/M5L only)

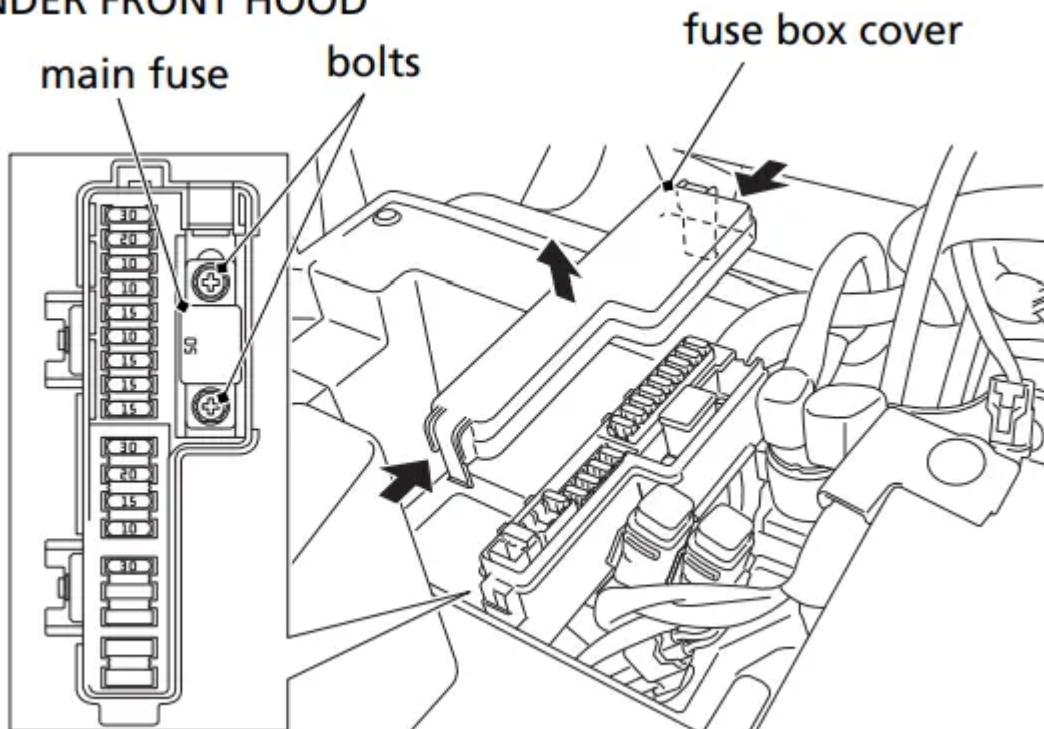
Recommended Fuses

main fuse	50 A
circuit fuses	SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D 30 A, 20 A, 15 A × 4, 10 A × 3 SXS1000M3L/M5L 30 A × 2, 20 A, 15 A × 4, 10 A × 3
electric power steering (EPS) fuse	40 A
brake traction control (BTCS) fuse (SXS1000M3L/M5L only)	40 A

Main Fuse Access

1. To prevent an accidental short circuit, turn the ignition switch OFF (w) before checking or replacing the fuses.
2. Remove the front hood (page 139).
3. Remove the fuse box cover.
4. To access the main fuse, remove the bolts, and then pull the main fuse out. If the main fuse is blown, see your dealer for this service.

UNDER FRONT HOOD



Circuit Fuse Access

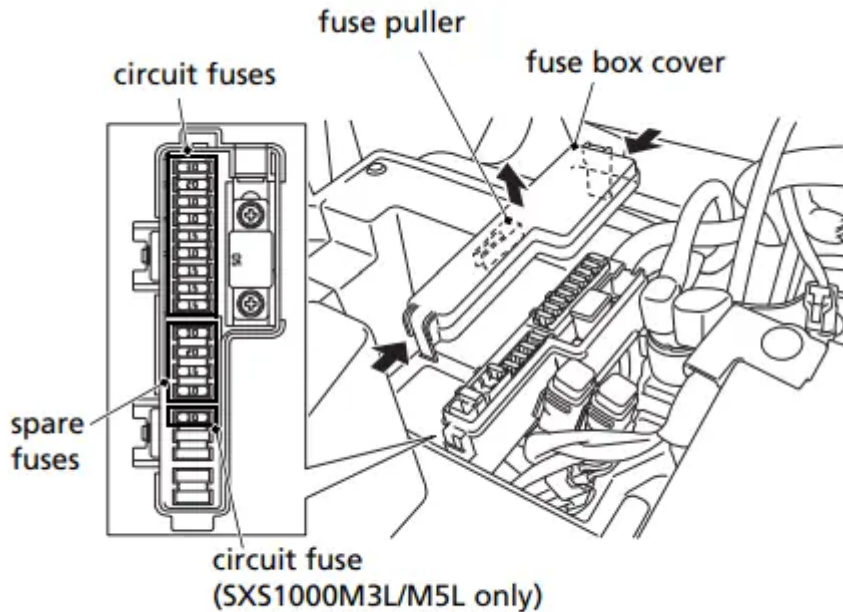
5. To check or replace a circuit fuse, pull the fuses out one by one with the fuse puller located behind the fuse box cover. If the fuse is blown, replace it with a spare fuse of the same rating.

If you do not have a replacement fuse with the proper rating for the circuit, install one with a lower rating.

NOTICE Replacing a fuse with one that has a higher rating greatly increases the chance of damage to the electrical system.

6. Install the fuse box cover.

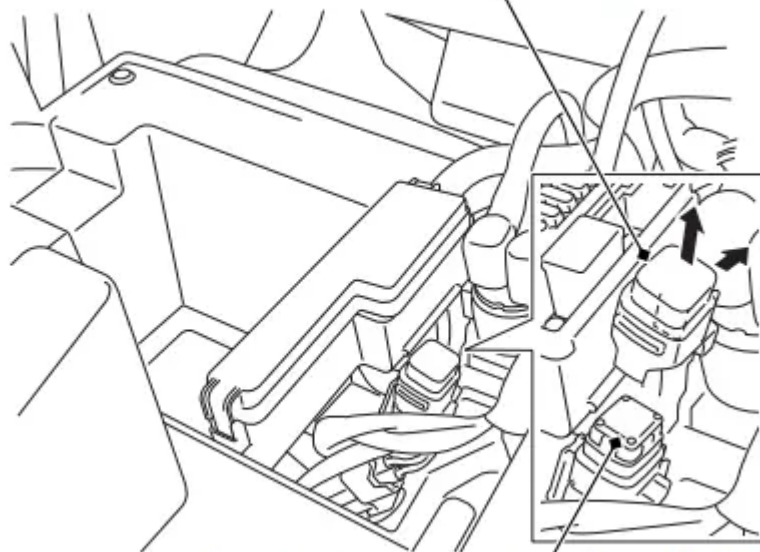
7. Install the front hood.



Electric Power Steering (EPS) Fuse Access

1. Turn the ignition switch to OFF (w) before checking the fuse.
2. Remove the front hood (page 139).
3. To access the EPS fuse, remove the fuse cover. If the EPS fuse is blown, see your dealer for this service.
4. Install the fuse cover.
5. Install the front hood.

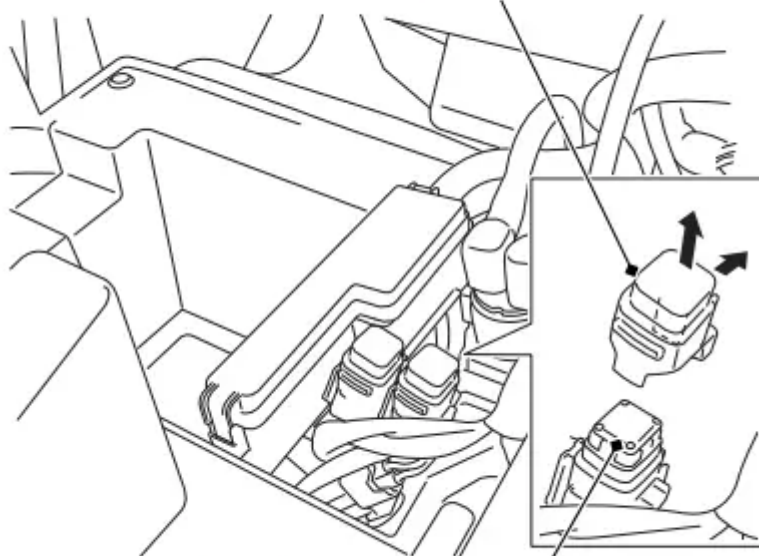
(SXS1000M3P/M3D/M5P/M5D) fuse cover



electric power steering (EPS) fuse

(SXS1000M3L/M5L)

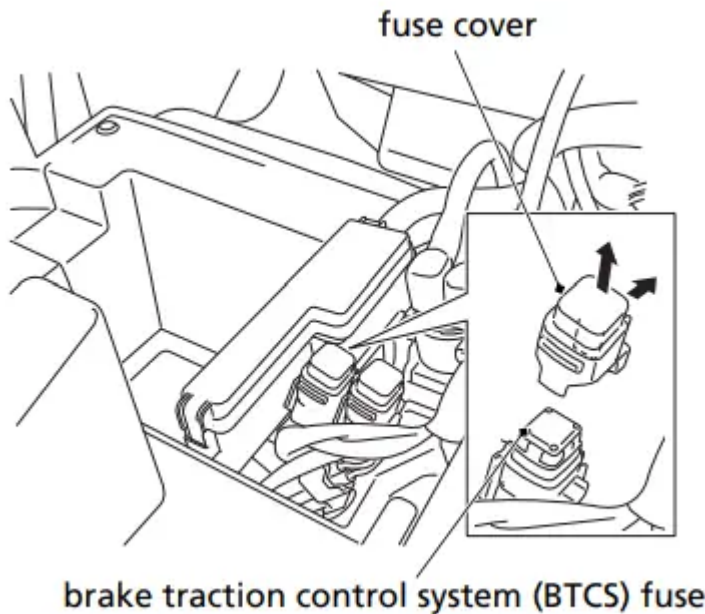
fuse cover



electric power steering (EPS) fuse

Brake Traction Control System (BTCS) Fuse Access (SXS1000M3L/ M5L only)

1. Turn the ignition switch to OFF (w) before checking the fuse.
2. Remove the front hood (page 139).
3. To access the BTCS fuse, remove the fuse cover. If the BTCS fuse is blown, see your dealer for this service.
4. Install the fuse cover.
5. Install the front hood.



If you do not have a spare fuse and you cannot drive the Honda SXS without fixing the problem, take a fuse of the same rating or a lower rating from one of the other circuits that you can do without temporarily.

If you replace a blown fuse with a spare fuse that has a lower rating, replace the fuse with the correct rating as soon as you can. Also remember to replace any spare fuses that were installed.

If the replacement fuse of the same rating burns out in a short time, there is probably a serious electrical problem on your Honda SXS. Leave the blown fuse in that circuit and have your Honda SXS checked by your dealer

If You Crash

Personal safety is your first priority after a crash. If you or anyone else has been injured, take time to assess the severity of the injuries and whether it is safe to continue driving. If you cannot drive safely, send someone for help. Do not drive if you will risk further injury.

If you decide that you are capable of driving your SXS safely, first evaluate the condition of your SXS. If the engine is still running, turn it off and look it over carefully; inspect it for fluid leaks, check the tightness of critical nuts and bolts securing such parts as the steering wheel, control levers, brakes, and wheels.

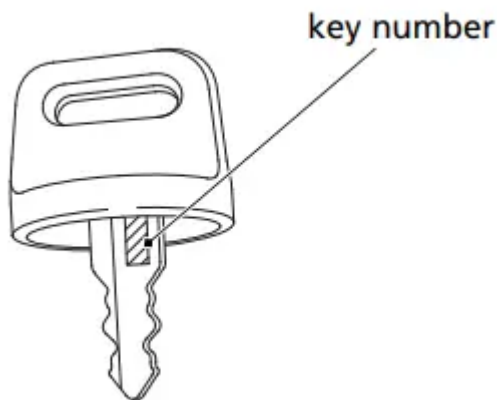
If there is minor damage, or you are unsure about possible damage but decide to try driving the Honda SXS back to your base, drive slowly and cautiously.

Sometimes, crash damage is hidden or not immediately apparent. When you get home, thoroughly check your Honda SXS and correct any problems you find. Also, be sure to have your dealer check the frame suspension, seat belts, and occupant protective structure after any serious crash.

If You Lose Your Key

Be sure to record your key number. Store the spare key and recorded key number in a safe location. You'll need this number to have a duplicate key made.

If you lose your key and aren't carrying a duplicate, either get your spare or have one made. If you don't know your key number, call the dealer where you purchased your Honda SXS. They may have it listed in their records. If they don't, transport your Honda SXS to them or the nearest dealer. The dealer will probably have to remove the ignition switch assembly to find the key number so they can make a key for you.



If the Battery Is Low

If the battery is low, the starter motor doesn't operate or works poorly, and you can't start the engine. Jump starting your Honda SXS should be avoided. Instead, the battery should be removed and recharged (page 218). If you can't charge the battery or it appears unable to hold a charge, contact your dealer.

WARNING

The battery gives off explosive hydrogen gas during normal operation. A spark or flame can cause the battery to explode with enough force to kill or seriously hurt you. Wear protective clothing and a face shield, or have a skilled mechanic do the battery maintenance.

NOTICE

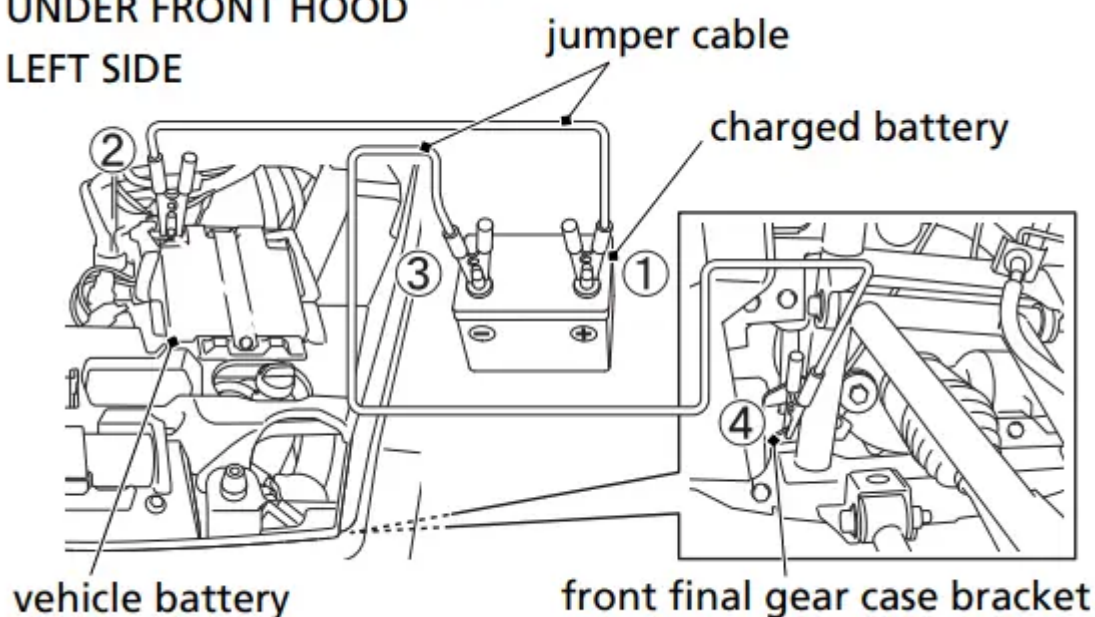
If a battery sits in extreme cold, the electrolyte inside can freeze. Attempting to jump start with a frozen battery can cause it to rupture.

Use a battery that is the same as the one in the vehicle or an equivalent.

1. To prevent an accidental short circuit, turn the ignition switch OFF (w).
2. Remove the front hood (page 139).
3. Using a fully charged 12-volt battery, connect the positive (+) side of the jumper cable to the charged battery, and connect the positive (+) side on the other end of the jumper cable to the positive (+) terminal of vehicle battery.

4. Connect the negative (-) side of the jumper cable to the charged battery, and connect the negative (-) side on the other end of the jumper cable to the front final gear case bracket.
5. After starting the engine, remove the negative (-) sides of the jumper cable from the vehicle and the battery. Then remove the positive (+) sides of the jumper cable from the vehicle battery and the charged battery.
6. Close the rubber dust cover and install the front seat.
 - Do not let the positive (+) side of the jumper cable touch on the negative (-) terminal.
 - If the jumper cable is connected to the battery with the polarity reversed, the battery can explode or the electrical system will be seriously damaged.

UNDER FRONT HOOD LEFT SIDE



If a Component Fails

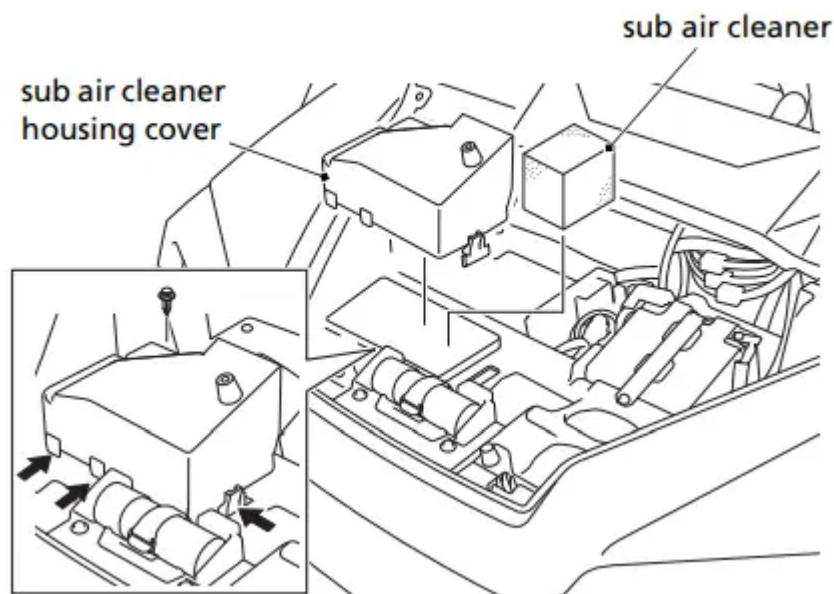
The brake lines, control cables, and other components can be damaged as you drive in dense brush or over rocky terrain. Making a trailside repair depends on how serious the damage is and what tools and supplies you have with you.

- If any component in the brake system is damaged, you may have reduced or limited stopping power. If you decide to continue driving back to your base, do so cautiously and at a very low speed.
- If you damage the accelerator cable or other critical component, your Honda SXS may be unsafe to drive. Carefully assess the damage and make any repairs that you can. But if there is any doubt, it's best to be conservative and safe.

If your Honda SXS becomes immersed in water (water level is above the floorboard), inspect the vehicle to avoid severe engine damage by following these steps:

1. Move your Honda SXS to dry land or at the very least, to a water level below 10 inches (25 cm).
2. Check the sub air cleaner condition.

UNDER FRONT HOOD



- If the sub air cleaner is wet, water may have entered the air intake system. Do not start engine.
- If the sub air cleaner is dry, the engine can be restarted.

3. Take your Honda SXS to your dealer for service as soon as possible, even if you succeeded in starting the engine.

If the Vehicle Speed Does Not Exceed 15 mph (24 km/h)

If the driver's side seat belt is not latched properly, the maximum vehicle speed will be limited to no more than 15 mph (24 km/h) by the seat belt speed limiting system (page 68).

Also the seat belt indicator and speedometer digits blink.

Make sure that the driver's side seat belt is latched properly. If the problem persists, see your dealer.

Warning

This content is compiled from multiple sources and is provided for reference purposes only. It may not be complete or fully applicable to all situations. If you are unable to resolve your issue, please contact the product manufacturer or an authorized service provider for official support.

