



The RDX is Acura's newest offering.

# Honda, Acura have much to offer in 2007

Honda is that Japanese-based auto maker that has always been innovative in the automotive field. It is back once again in 2007 with some very interesting cars and trucks, including its Acura luxury division that continues to impress. While at the Honda or Acura dealership, ask for more technical details. You will be amazed at all the innovations this auto maker can come up with!

## Discover the new Fit at your Honda dealer

Honda is known for its fast but economical small cars. Proof positive, its spectacular Civic model remains one of the most popular on the market. It is light, compact and nimble but still large enough to carry four passengers and their luggage. The Civic is available as a sporty coupe or a more practical sedan. While both are powered by peppy four-cylinder engines (1.8 or 2.0 litre), only the sedan can be ordered with the hybrid-electric configuration that makes it one of the market's most economical cars. But the Civic is not Honda's smallest car. In 2007, car buyers can opt for the smaller Fit, a sub-compact, five-door hatchback that is new to our market. This very roomy vehicle is powered by a 1.5-litre, four-cylinder engine that delivers 109 horsepower. If it's a bigger car you're looking for, Honda still has the pretty Accord in its line-up. Available as a coupe or a sedan, this mid-size car can be powered by a 2.4-litre, four-cylinder engine or a 3.0-litre, V-6 mill. An optional 3.0-litre V-6 with hybrid technology is now available for more power. By the way, sports car enthusiasts will appreciate the return of the S2000 roadster.

Honda also has a few light trucks in its line-up, including the popular CR-V, the redesigned small SUV, and the unusual Element, another small SUV but with a different purpose. It's built more for fun than for moving people around. For people looking for a bigger SUV, Honda is bringing back the mighty Pilot, a full-size sport ute powered by a capable V-6, combined with a well-designed, all-wheel drive system. The Pilot served as a base to the remarkable Ridgeline pickup truck, another technological marvel by Honda. Its full chassis is well integrated to the body. Once again, a powerful 3.5-litre V-6 is combined with an automatic transmission and an all-wheel drive system. Finally, Honda has the most-recommended minivan on the market, the impressive Odyssey. This front-wheel drive people mover is powered by the same V-6 found in the Pilot and the Ridgeline.

## Acura is better than ever

One stop at your local Acura dealer, and you will discover how much this luxury brand by Honda is gaining in popularity. In Canada, it starts with a small sedan that is available nowhere else in the world, not even the U.S.A., the CSX. Based on a Honda sedan, the CSX is not only more luxurious, but also more powerful with an Acura RSX engine. As this car will not be back in 2007, the line-up continues with the sporty TSX, a mid-size sedan that is more of a sporty than a deluxe car. The only engine available is a 2.4-litre, 205-horsepower four-cylinder. Then there is the TL, a sedan based on the Accord but only available with the 3.2-litre V-6 with front-wheel drive. The TL, like the TSX, can be ordered with a six-speed manual or five-speed automatic transmission. The biggest Acura car is the uniquely-engineered RL luxury-sedan. Powered by a 290-horsepower V-6, it has an all-wheel drive system designed to reduce understeer.

Acura used to have only one so-called truck in its line-up, the full-size MDX, an SUV based on the Pilot, and sharing approximately the same mechanical configuration with a 3.5-litre V-6 mated to a five-speed automatic transmission and all-wheel-drive. Though it is redesigned for 2007, it will stay mostly the same. But it will not be alone anymore. Indeed, Acura is now offering the small, luxury SUV RDX to compete with the BMW X3. The RDX will not have a six-cylinder engine, but a turbocharged, 240-horsepower, four-cylinder mill. Mated to a five-speed automatic transmission, it transmits its power to all four wheels.

—Weeklies Toolbox

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2007 Sportage V6 model shown†

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