The 1979 Honda Prelude

To some, a sports car is a car that can accelerate away from a stoplight at blinding speed.

To others, a sports car is measured differently. The roofline should not exceed waist height, and it should be driven while lying nearly on one’s back with chin pressed to chest.

At Honda, we see things a little more simply.

Introducing the Honda Prelude. A sports car for grown-ups. People who are realistic about things like 55 mph speed limits and their personal comfort during a long trip.

But a sports car for grown-ups doesn’t have to be sedate. What with front-wheel drive, rack and pinion steering, steel-belted radial tires, and an advanced 4-wheel independent suspension system, it’s one of the most nimble Hondas we’ve ever made.

If you agree with our grown-up approach to designing this new automobile, we invite you to step inside a Honda Prelude.

Once you get in, you may never want to get out. And isn’t that really what a sports car should be?
The dash is simple to understand. The instrument cluster is within the perimeter of the steering wheel, for easy viewing. And the tachometer and speedometer are on the same axis, so both are large and easy to read.
The fully reclining front bucket seats are covered in a special handsome cloth seat fabric. The adjustable front seat headrests are also standard. And there is a stowage box in the center console as well as in the panel beside each rear seat.
A special standard feature of the new Prelude is the power-operated glass moonroof with manual sunshade. If you want fresh air, just press the button and the moonroof slides back. If you want shade, just slide the sunshade forward. Also standard is the athletic 1751cc version of Honda’s famous CVCC® Advanced Stratified Charge Engine.
Standard Features

A. Coin box, fresh air vent and electric rear window defroster switch
B. Trip odometer, maintenance reminder, coaxial tachometer with speedometer and electronic warning system
C. Digital clock and unique AM/FM stereo radio
D. Glove box with light
E. 5-speed manual transmission with console stowage box
   (manually-selected 2-speed Hondamatic transmission is optional)
F. Roomy trunk with convenient remote trunk lid release
G. Trunk stowage box
H. Power-assisted front disc brakes
I. Manually-operated sunshade
J. Power-operated tinted-glass moonroof

Accessories

A. Air conditioning, designed by Honda
B. Stereo cassette tape player
C. Trunk lid luggage rack
For a complete list of Honda quality accessories, see the following page.
### Prelude Standard Features

- CVCC® Advanced Stratified Charge Engine
- Electronic Ignition
- Front-Wheel Drive
- Four-Wheel Independent Suspension
- Rack and Pinion Steering
- Negative Steering Roll Radius
- Power-Assisted Front Disc Brakes
- Dual Diagonal Brake Circuits
- Laminated Steel-Belted Radial Ply Blackwall Tires
- Bright Metal Wheel Trim Rings
- Power-Operated Moonroof with Sunshade
- AM/FM Stereo Radio with Unique Controls
- Tachometer
- Electronic Warning System
- Maintenance Reminder
- Low Fuel Warning Light
- Digital Clock
- Cigarette Lighter
- Glove Box Light
- Two Speed Plus Intermittent Wipers
- Rear Window Defroster
- Side Window Defrosters
- Tinted Glass
- Rectangular Headlights with Snow Drains
- Trip Odometer
- Day/Night Rearview Mirror
- Coin Box with Lid
- Stowage Boxes in Rear Seat Side Panels
- Stowage Box in Center Console
- Fully Reclining Front Bucket Seats
- Full Carpeting
- Combination Light Switch on Steering Column
- Inside Hood Release
- Remote Trunk Lid Release and Interior Light
- Trunk Stowage Boxes
- Protective Body Side Mouldings
- Plastic Corrosion-Resistant Fender Liners
- Vanity Mirror—R. Sun Visor
- Passenger Assist Handle—Right Windshield Post
- Mud Flaps—Front Wheels

### Prelude Accessories

- Air Conditioning, Designed by Honda
- Cassette Tape Deck with Power Booster and
  4 Speakers
- Aluminum Alloy Wheels 13” x 5”
- Alloy Wheel Lock Set
- Fender Well Trim
- Illuminated Cigarette Lighter
- Steering Wheel Cover, Grip Type
- Trunk Lid Luggage Rack with Teak Inserts
- Right-Hand Mirror
- Door Edge Guards—Black
- Front and Rear Surlyn Bumper Guards
- Floor Mats—Rubber or Deluxe
- Rear Mud Guard Set

### Prelude Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>Front-Wheel Drive, Transverse Engine, Unitized Body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engine</strong></td>
<td>CVCC® Advanced Stratified Charge, 4-Cylinder, In-Line, Single Overhead Camshaft, Electronic Ignition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Piston Displacement</strong></td>
<td>1751cc (107 cu.in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compression Ratio</strong></td>
<td>8.0:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Horsepower</strong></td>
<td>72 @ 4500 rpm (68 @ 4500 with Hondamatic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Torque (lb.-ft.)</strong></td>
<td>94 @ 3000 rpm (94 @ 3500 with Hondamatic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carburetor</strong></td>
<td>3-Barrel Downdraft Carburetor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cooling</strong></td>
<td>Liquid-Cooled, Thermostatically Controlled Electric Fan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drive Train</strong></td>
<td>5-speed, All Forward Gears Synchronized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manual Transmission</strong></td>
<td>2 Manually Selected Forward Speeds with Torque Converter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hondamatic (optional)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suspension</strong></td>
<td>4-Wheel Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Front</strong></td>
<td>MacPherson Struts With Coil Springs and Integral Shock Absorbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rear</strong></td>
<td>MacPherson Struts With Coil Springs and Integral Shock Absorbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Steering</strong></td>
<td>Rack and Pinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turns, lock to lock</strong></td>
<td>3.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brakes</strong></td>
<td>Power-Assisted With Dual Diagonal Circuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Front</strong></td>
<td>Disc—Self-Adjusting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rear</strong></td>
<td>Drum—Self-Adjusting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tires</strong></td>
<td>175/70 SR13 Steel-Belted Radial Ply Blackwall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelbase</td>
<td>91.3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tread Front/Rear</td>
<td>55.1”/55.5”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>161.4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
<td>64.4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>51.0”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Curb Weights</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-Speed</td>
<td>2106 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hondamatic</td>
<td>2110 lbs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colors:  
- Exterior: Tudor Red Metallic, Inverness Blue Black Metallic, St. Moritz Silver Metallic  
- Interior: Ivory, Red

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