Honda Prelude Sport Coupe. We like to think of the 1981 Prelude as a refined view of what a sports car should be. A sleek and lively automobile that's simple to own, simple to drive and simple to maintain.

With engineering features like front-wheel drive, rack and pinion steering and 4-wheel independent suspension with MacPherson struts, for comfortable sportive handling. Our power-assisted front disc and rear drum brakes have dual-diagonal circuits, and are self-adjusting.

Honda's 5-speed manual transmission is standard with the Prelude Sport Coupe. The 5th gear is actually overdrive. It reduces engine rpm relative to road speed. And that saves fuel,* increases engine life and reduces engine noise.

Our new 3-speed automatic transmission, which comes with variable-assist power steering, is optional. Careful matching of the automatic's shift points with the engine's torque curve provides a smooth yet responsive combination.

Variable-assist power steering gives maximum assist when the car is stationary, or moving slowly. That helps make parking and maneuvering in traffic surprisingly simple. Yet at highway speeds the power assist is minimal, for excellent control and feel of the road.
The Prelude is equipped with generous standard features. Like our power-operated moonroof for the openness of a sports car. And steel-belted radial tires with sporty wheel trim rings, protective body side mouldings and front wheel mud guards that combine function with style.
The 1981 Prelude Sport Coupe is simply a pleasure to drive. Peppy performance, graceful styling, crisp road handling and uncommon sports car comfort are some of the reasons why.

The Prelude's power-operated moonroof is another. With the push of a button you have open-air driving. Fresh air and sunshine during the day. And the moon and stars at night. The automatic retractable wind deflector keeps the wind outside. And for shade, you simply slide the manual sunshade forward when the tinted-glass moonroof is closed.

A spirited 1751cc CVCC-Advanced Stratified Charge engine powers the Prelude. This transverse-mounted overhead camshaft power plant has been recognized as a major development in fuel efficiency* and emission reduction. The Prelude's electronic ignition increases performance, and lessens maintenance.

Durability is an important feature as well. We're not saying Hondas are immortal. But durability is definitely a major consideration in the design and construction of our automobiles.
CVCC® Engine

Secondary Intake Valve for Rich Fuel/Air Mixture

Precombustion Chamber

Main Combustion Chamber

Intake and Exhaust Valves
The new Prelude is beautiful to look at from any angle. With many thoughtful finishing touches. Like a remarkably spacious trunk that's fully lined to help protect your cargo. And you'll appreciate the convenience of the remote trunk lid release, automatic trunk light and stowage boxes on the sides for small items.
The Prelude’s cockpit design is the product of extensive testing and research focused on the driver and his immediate environment.

For 1981, we’ve completely redesigned the instrument cluster. A separate speedometer and tachometer are housed in a control center that also includes Honda’s maintenance reminder and electronic warning system. An adjacent light panel monitors important driving data, and includes a low fuel warning light.

The instrument panel features a quartz digital clock, trip odometer and even a convenient coin box with lid.

The combination light switch on the steering column controls parking lights, headlights, high and low beams and turn signals. The two-speed wiper/washer control lever is located on the right side of the steering column. Our additional intermittent action wiper speed is ideal for misty rain.

The Prelude’s specialized air conditioning and AM/FM stereo with auto-reverse cassette, electronic tuning and digital display are the only optional items shown here. Features which add to the simple pleasure of driving our sport coupe.
Honda Prelude’s all-new interior environment is simply luxurious.

Reclining front bucket seats with built-in lumbar supports are contoured for ultra comfort. The headrests adjust vertically as well as forward and backward.

The seats and door panels are covered with elegant color-coordinated fabric. And there’s plush deep-pile carpeting throughout, including the lower door panels.

Generous interior appointments include a remote control outside mirror, a vanity mirror on the right sun visor and a convenient stowage box in the center console. Plus lots more.

The Prelude’s elegant interior is proof that a sportive automobile’s lively performance and sleek styling doesn’t have to detract from its comfort.
The teak and chrome trunk lid rack, above, mounts simply on the Prelude. The stylish teak slats help protect the car's finish when carrying luggage. Our rear bumper guards are shown here as well.

Our sport luggage rack conveniently increases the Prelude's loadspace. Accent striping is available in colors that complement the 1981 Prelude's exterior finish. Honda's stainless steel fender well trim and door edge guards help protect your Prelude's paint in tight parking situations, and are a handsome finishing touch. Rear wheel mud guards, besides being good-looking, help keep the car clean.

Honda's aluminum alloy wheels look great on the Prelude. They're lighter than the standard wheels and are precision made, with just the right amount of wheel offset to meet all Honda engineering recommendations.
1981 Honda Prelude Sport Coupe Accessories. A long list of standard features come with the 1981 Honda Prelude Sport Coupe. We also offer a complete range of optional Honda accessories. They're designed to help protect your new Prelude's good looks, and to increase its comfort and convenience, as well as your driving pleasure. Because their quality matches that of the car itself, be sure to ask for genuine Honda accessories.

Our manual radio antenna telescopes completely into the windshield post to minimize potential damage.
Honda’s quartz halogen fog lamp set is designed to increase visibility in inclement weather. Two stylish black front bumper guards fit the contour of the bumper, lessening possible damage to your new Prelude. They’re also available for the rear bumper. The optional right-side mirror is helpful for changing lanes and right turns.

The Prelude’s specialized air conditioning is designed to be an integral part of the heating and ventilation system. It has a 3-speed blower, and fully adjustable outlets to provide the desired amount and direction of temperature-controlled air.

For 1981 there are seven different Honda entertainment systems to choose from. Like the AM/FM stereo with auto-reverse cassette, electronic tuning and digital display shown above.

Above are Honda’s AM/FM stereo with push-button tuning, and our AM/FM stereo with auto-reverse cassette and push-button tuning. All Honda sound equipment is designed to fit perfectly into the Prelude’s instrument panel.

Front and rear pile-carpeted floor mats help keep the carpeting clean, and come in different colors to match the 1981 Honda Prelude interiors. Rubber floor mats come in the same colors.

A set of four wheel locks is recommended along with your aluminum alloy wheels to help guard against theft.

Honda Accessories
Entertainment Systems
AM Radio
with Push-Button Tuning
AM/FM Radio
with Push-Button Tuning
AM/FM Stereo Radio
with Push-Button Tuning
AM/FM Stereo Radio
with 8-Track and Push-Button Tuning
AM/FM Stereo Radio with Autoreverse Cassette
AM/FM Stereo Radio with Autoreverse Cassette and Push-Button Tuning
AM/FM Stereo Radio with Autoreverse Cassette and Electronic Tuning with Digital Display
Stereo Speakers
Antenna, Manual
Power Booster

Comfort/Convenience
Air Conditioning
Sport Luggage Rack
Teak Luggage Rack
Remote Control Right-Side Mirror

Appearance
Floor Mats (Carpet or Rubber)
Steering Wheel Cover
Aluminum Alloy Wheels
Alloy Wheel Lock Set
Accent Striping
Fog Lamp Kit

Protection
Bumper Guards
Door Edge Guards
Mud Guards
Fender Well Trim
## Standard Features
- CVCC® Advanced Stratified Charge Engine
- Front-Wheel Drive
- 5-Speed Manual Transmission
- Four-Wheel Independent Suspension
- Rack and Pinion Steering
- Electronic Ignition
- Power-Assisted, Self-Adjusting Brakes
- Steel-Belted Radial Ply Tires
- Power-Operated Moonroof
- Tinted Glass
- Trips
- Trip Odometer
- Electronic Warning System
- Maintenance Reminder
- Low Fuel Warning Light
- Quartz Digital Clock
- Coin Box with Lid
- Two-Speed Plus Intermittent Wipers
- Combination Light Switch on Steering Column
- Remote Control Outside Mirror
- Remote Trunk Lid Release
- Remote Hood Release
- Day/Night Rearview Mirror
- Cigarette Lighter
- Stowage Box in Center Console
- Vanity Mirror—Right Sun Visor
- Glove Compartment Light
- Reclining Front Bucket Seats with Adjustable Headrests
- Full Carpeting
- Passenger Assist Handle—Right Windshield Post
- Door Window Defrosters
- Stowage Boxes in Rear Seat Side Panels
- Rear Window Defroster
- Automatic Trunk Light
- Stowage Box Each Side of Trunk
- Protective Body Side Mouldings
- Wheel Trim Rings
- Front Wheel Mud Guards
- Front Fender Rust Protectors
- Locking Fuel Filler Door
- Special Protective Paint on Lower Body Edges

## Specifications

### General
- Front-Wheel Drive, Transverse Engine, Unitized Body
- CVCC® Advanced Stratified Charge, 4-Cylinder, Overhead Camshaft
- 1751cc
- 8.8:1
- 75 @ 4500 rpm
- 99.3 @ 3500 rpm
- 13.2
- Electronic
- Unleaded (Catalytic Converter)
- 5-Speed Manual
- 3-Speed Automatic in Combination with Variable-Assist Power Steering
- 4-Wheel Independent
- MacPherson Struts
- Rack and Pinion
- 3.26
- 33.5 ft.
- Self-Adjusting, Power-Assisted with Dual-Diagonal Circuits
- Disc
- Drum
- Steel-Belted, Radial Blackwall
- 175/70SR-13
- 161.4
- 64.4
- 51.0
- 91.3
- 55.1/55.5
- 2148
- 2187
- Tudor Red/Red
- St. Moritz Silver/Red
- Windsor Blue/Ivory

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*EPA STATEMENT: [27] EPA Est. mpg. 36 Est. Hwy. mpg for Prelude Sport Coupe with 5-speed transmission. Use 27 mpg for comparison. Your mileage may differ depending on weather, speed and trip length. Actual Hwv. mileage will probably be less than shown. Figures are lower for automatic transmission and California cars.*

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Accessories, materials, equipment, colors, models, specifications and availability are subject to change without notice. Colors may vary from those shown.