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> [2003 Acura TL Owner's Manual](#)

Acura TL

2003 Acura TL Owner's Manual

Your comprehensive guide to operating and maintaining your vehicle.

1. INTRODUCTION

This owner's manual contains important information regarding the safe operation, maintenance, and care of your 2003 Acura TL. Please read it thoroughly to familiarize yourself with your vehicle's features and capabilities. Keeping this manual in your vehicle will ensure that essential information is always accessible.

For any questions not covered in this manual, please contact an authorized Acura dealer.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Your safety and the safety of your passengers are paramount. This section outlines critical safety precautions and features of your Acura TL.

2.1 Seat Belts and Airbags

- Always wear your seat belt. Ensure all passengers are properly restrained.
- The Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) includes front airbags. Refer to the detailed section on SRS for proper usage and warnings.
- Children should always be secured in appropriate child restraints in the rear seats.

2.2 Driving Safety

- Never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Avoid distracted driving. Focus on the road and traffic conditions.
- Adjust your speed to road, weather, and traffic conditions.

3. VEHICLE OVERVIEW

Familiarize yourself with the layout and key components of your 2003 Acura TL.

3.1 Exterior Features

The exterior of your Acura TL is designed for both aesthetics and functionality. Key features include headlights, taillights, turn signals, side mirrors, and the fuel filler door. Ensure all lights are functioning correctly for visibility and safety.

3.2 Interior Features

The interior is equipped with various controls and comfort features. This includes the dashboard, steering wheel controls, climate control system, audio system, and seating adjustments. Refer to specific sections for detailed operation of each component.

4. SETUP AND CONTROLS

This section guides you through the initial setup and operation of your vehicle's controls.

4.1 Starting the Engine

1. Ensure the transmission is in Park (P) or Neutral (N).
2. Insert the key fully into the ignition switch.
3. Turn the key to the START (III) position. Release the key when the engine starts.
4. If the engine does not start, refer to the Troubleshooting section.

4.2 Dashboard Indicators and Gauges

The instrument panel provides vital information about your vehicle's status. Pay attention to warning lights such as the oil pressure warning light, battery charge warning light, and brake system warning light. Consult the manual for a complete list and explanation of all indicators.

4.3 Climate Control System

Your Acura TL is equipped with an automatic climate control system. Use the temperature control dial to set your desired temperature. The system will automatically adjust fan speed and airflow to maintain comfort. Manual override options are also available.

5. OPERATING THE VEHICLE

Detailed instructions for driving your 2003 Acura TL.

5.1 Automatic Transmission

The automatic transmission has several positions: Park (P), Reverse (R), Neutral (N), Drive (D), and various lower gears (D3, 2, 1). Always ensure the vehicle is completely stopped before shifting into or out of Park or Reverse. Use the lower gears for increased engine braking on steep descents or for specific driving conditions.

5.2 Braking System

Your vehicle is equipped with an Anti-lock Brake System (ABS). In emergency braking situations, apply firm, continuous pressure to the brake pedal. The ABS will prevent wheel lock-up, allowing you to maintain steering control. A pulsating sensation in the pedal during ABS operation is normal.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and performance of your Acura TL.

6.1 Routine Checks

- **Engine Oil:** Check oil level regularly, ideally every fuel stop.
- **Tire Pressure:** Check tire pressure monthly, including the spare. Refer to the tire placard on the driver's door jamb for recommended pressures.
- **Washer Fluid:** Keep the windshield washer fluid reservoir filled.
- **Brake Fluid:** Check brake fluid level periodically.

6.2 Maintenance Schedule

Adhere to the recommended maintenance schedule to ensure optimal vehicle performance and safety. This schedule is based on normal driving conditions.

Simplified Maintenance Schedule

Service Item	Interval (Miles/Months)
Engine Oil & Filter Change	3,750 miles / 3 months
Tire Rotation	7,500 miles / 6 months
Air Filter Inspection	15,000 miles / 12 months
Spark Plug Replacement	105,000 miles / 84 months

Consult your authorized Acura dealer for specific maintenance requirements based on your driving habits and conditions.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section provides solutions to common issues you might encounter with your 2003 Acura TL.

7.1 Engine Will Not Start

- **Check Battery:** Ensure battery terminals are clean and tight. If the battery is dead, jump-start the vehicle.
- **Check Fuel Level:** Confirm there is sufficient fuel in the tank.
- **Immobilizer System:** If the immobilizer indicator light flashes, try using a different key or consult your dealer.

7.2 Warning Lights On

- **Check Engine Light:** If this light illuminates, it indicates a potential issue with the engine or emissions system. Have the vehicle inspected by a qualified technician.
- **Oil Pressure Light:** If this light comes on while driving, pull over safely and turn off the engine immediately. Check the oil level. Do not drive with low oil pressure.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the 2003 Acura TL.

2003 Acura TL General Specifications

Category	Specification
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Category	Specification
Engine Type	3.2L V6 SOHC VTEC
Horsepower	225 hp @ 5,600 rpm
Torque	216 lb-ft @ 4,700 rpm
Transmission	5-speed automatic with Sequential SportShift
Fuel Tank Capacity	17.2 US gallons (65.1 liters)
Overall Length	192.9 inches (4,900 mm)
Overall Width	70.3 inches (1,785 mm)
Overall Height	56.1 inches (1,425 mm)
Curb Weight	Approximately 3,472 lbs (1,575 kg)

These specifications are subject to change. Refer to the full manual for complete details.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your 2003 Acura TL is covered by a limited warranty. For detailed information regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the separate Warranty Information Booklet provided with your vehicle or contact an authorized Acura dealer.

For customer support, service appointments, or genuine Acura parts, please visit your nearest authorized Acura dealership or the official Acura website.