

How To Fill Your 2006 Honda Accord with Gasoline

Introduction

The 2006 Honda Accord is an 11 year old car now. If you are reading this guide, you most likely just obtained one of these dinosaurs for yourself. Congratulations, the life expectancy of one of these cars (treated right) is around 250,000 miles. That being said, let me emphasize that you need to treat your car right, and after this guide, you'll be an expert on how fuel your 2006 Honda Accord.

Preparation

Locating and Opening the Fuel Cap

The process of accessing your gas tank is simple by design. The fuel door is the panel covering the fuel cap. The fuel door, when closed, is flush with the exterior of your car and made of the same material that your car's body is. When you open the fuel door, you can find the fuel cap, a cylindrical cap that covers the entrance to the fuel tank. Once the fuel cap is removed, you have an entry point to your gas tank. To open the fuel door...

1. There is a control lever on the floor to the left of the driver's seat. Push the lever down into the floor and the fuel door on the outside of your car will open. If you are having trouble finding it, sit in the driver's seat and look at the floor, closer to the door on your left.
2. To open the fuel cap, grasp the handle and twist the cap counter clockwise. As you do this, the cap should slowly unscrew and, once removed, you should be able to see the hole that leads to the gas tank. Notice that the fuel cap is attached to the fuel tank by a tether so it does not get lost in the fueling process.
3. To replace the fuel cap, place it back onto the fuel tank opening and rotate clockwise until you hear a series of clicks emanating from the fuel cap. This means that it is now locked in place. Remember to also close the fuel door.

How Much Money to Bring

If you do not intend to pay in cash, you can safely skip this part.

The 2006 Honda Accord can hold 17.1 gallons of fuel. At the time of writing this guide, fuel prices in the United States are hovering around two to three dollars. So, a full tank of gas could cost upwards towards \$50. Most likely you do not need to refill your entire gas tank when

refueling your vehicle, so an easy rule of thumb, with an average gas price of \$2.50 per gallon, is \$10 per quarter tank. So, if you're at three quarters of a tank, then \$10 will get you close to full. If you're at half, you'll want \$20 worth of gas, etc. Make sure to check your local gas prices online (to find the best deal) before leaving for the gas station.

Arriving at the Gas Station

Most gas stations in the United States are "drive-in," meaning that you physically drive your car up to the pump that you get the gas out of. The pumps are usually machines with LCD or LED screens that collect payment from the consumer and regulate the amount of gas dispensed. Configurations of said pumps vary, but are usually arranged in rows for the convenience of the consumer. Rows make it easier for cars to drive along side of them.

Approaching the Pump

Since we located our fuel cap earlier, we now know that the entrance to the fuel tank is on the driver's side of the car. So...

1. As you pull into the station from the street, choose a row of pumps. Make sure that your fuel door is facing the row of pumps that you chose, because the hoses that carry the fuel are relatively short.
2. As you pull into the row, make sure to go to the last available pump in said row. This makes sure that cars behind you also are able to pull up to a pump.
3. As you pull up to your pump, make sure you leave enough between the pump and your car for you to comfortably pump the fuel, but are close enough that the hose will reach.

Assessing the Type of Gas Station

In the United States, there are two types of gas stations: self serve and full service. **Self serve** means that you pump the gas yourself, and **full service** means that someone will approach the window of your car and pump the fuel for you.

Pumping and Payment

Most gas stations have you pay before you can begin pumping. This is to prevent the "pump and dump" scam where a customer will pump the gasoline and then quickly leave before paying. If you are paying with a credit or debit card, then you can pay at the pump. If you are paying cash, you will need to speak to an attendant.

Self Serve

1. Before getting out of your car, remember to open the fuel door in preparation for fueling.
2. Pay for the fuel.

- a. If you are using a card, this means you can swipe it at the pump. I like to check the credit card scanner for a electronic skimmer. Since gas station pumps are pretty public machines, some scammers will put a “skimmer” on card slots. You can thoroughly check for one of these by grasping the scanner and shaking it back and forth. If there is a skimmer on it, it will likely come off.
 - b. If you are using cash, you need to go inside the station store to speak to an attendant. *Before* going inside, note the number of the pump that you pulled up to. If you do not use all the gas that you paid for at the end, you can get your change from the attendant.
3. Once you have paid and are standing in front of the pump, it should prompt you to *choose your fuel grade*. The 2006 Honda Accord takes regular fuel. You can get premium if you really want to, but the car’s old engine is not equipped to fully take advantage of it.
4. Once you selected your fuel grade, turn your attention back to the fuel door. It should be open now, since we opened it before exiting our vehicle. Remove the fuel cap, exposing the entry point of the fuel tank.
5. Looking back at the pump, you can now remove the nozzle of the fueling hose from its holster. The nozzle is the end of the hose with the handle and the curved spout. It should be clearly marked on the pump. Place the spout of the nozzle into the entry point of the fuel tank and squeeze the handle to begin fueling.
6. While fueling, keep an eye on the meter at the top of the pump.
 - a. If you paid cash, you’ll notice it slow down as the price of the fuel dispensed approaches how much you paid.
 - b. If you paid with a card, the meter won’t slow down because you never specified how much fuel you wanted. You can stop whenever you feel like you have bought enough fuel.
7. Once you are done fueling, make sure to place the nozzle back into its holster. The pump will probably ask you if you want a receipt, it’s up to you if you do. Make sure to get your change from inside if you paid in cash!

Full Service

1. The attendant will approach your driver’s side window in order to collect payment for the fuel.
 - a. If you are paying with a card, be careful who you trust handing it to. An attendant walking inside to scan your card can easily lead to a stolen credit card number.