

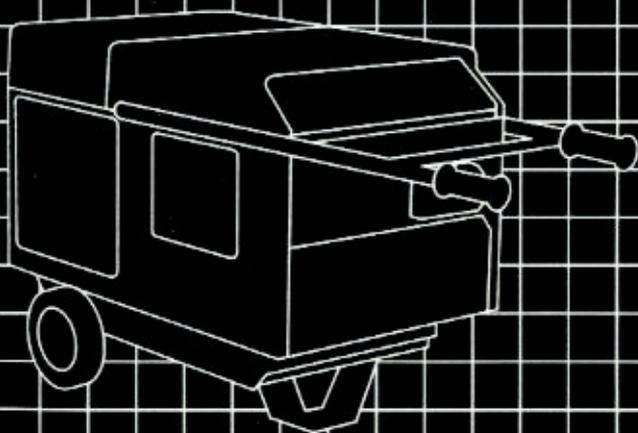
**HONDA**

**Power**

**Equipment**

# Owner's Manual

## EX5500



**⚠ WARNING**

**The generator is a potential source of electrical shock if misused. Do not expose the generator to moisture, rain or snow. Do not let the generator get wet, and do not operate it with wet hands.**

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Thank you for purchasing a Honda generator.

We want to help you get the best results from your new generator and to operate it safely. This manual contains the information on how to do that; please read it carefully.

This owner's manual describes the operation and maintenance of the Honda Generator: **EX5500**.

All information in this publication is based on the latest product information available at the time of printing.

Honda Motor Co., Ltd. reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice and without incurring any obligation.

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission.

This manual should be considered a permanent part of the generator and should remain with it if it is resold.

### **Safety Messages**

Your safety and the safety of others is very important. We have provided important safety messages in this manual and on the generator. Please read these messages carefully.

A safety message alerts you to potential hazards that could hurt you or others. Each safety message is preceded by a safety alert symbol



and one of three words: DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION.

These mean

**▲DANGER** You WILL be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.

**▲WARNING** You CAN be KILLED or SERIOUSLY HURT if you don't follow instructions.

**▲CAUTION** You CAN be HURT if you don't follow instructions.

Each message tells you what the hazard is, what can happen, and what you can do to avoid or reduce injury.

### **Damage Prevention Messages**

You will also see other important messages that are preceded by the word NOTICE.

This word means:

**NOTICE** Your generator or other property could be damaged if you don't follow instructions.

The purpose of these messages is to help prevent damage to your generator, other property, or the environment.

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# SAFETY

## SAFETY LABEL LOCATIONS

These labels warn you of potential hazards that can cause serious injury.

Read them carefully.

If a label comes off or becomes hard to read, contact your Honda Generator dealer for a replacement.

### CAUTION

**BE SURE TO FILL CRANKCASE WITH RECOMMENDED OIL AND RESERVE TANK OF RADIATOR WITH RECOMMENDED COOLANT BEFORE USING.**

**FOR DETAILED EXPLANATION, SEE THE OWNER'S MANUAL.**

### WARNING

**DO NOT USE INDOORS DUE TO DANGER OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING.**

## GASOLINE CAUTION LABEL



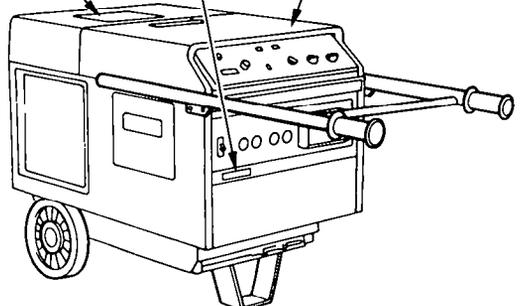
■ CHECK FOR SPILLED FUEL OR FUEL LEAKS  
STOP ENGINE BEFORE REFUELING

■ CONTRÔLER S'IL Y A MI FUIITE MI ESSENCE  
ARRÊTER LE MOTEUR AVANT DE REFAIRE LE PLEIN

■ INSPECCIONAR PARA COMBUSTIBLE DERRAMADO  
O ESCAPE  
PARAR MOTOR ANTES DE RECAR

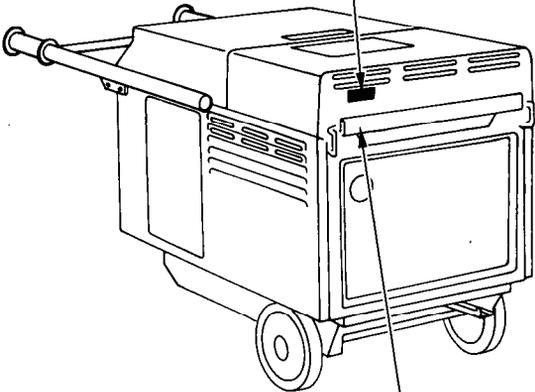
### ⚠ WARNING

ELECTROCUTION OR PROPERTY DAMAGE CAN OCCUR.  
DO NOT CONNECT THIS GENERATOR TO ANY  
BUILDING'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM UNLESS AN  
ISOLATION SWITCH HAS BEEN INSTALLED  
BY A LICENSED ELECTRICIAN.  
READ OWNER'S MANUAL CAREFULLY.



---

<b>AC</b>	<b>EX5500</b>
VOLTAGE	120 V/240 V
FREQUENCY	60 Hz
RATED OUTPUT	5.0 KVA
MAX OUTPUT	5.5 KVA
PHASE	1 Ø
<hr/>	
FUEL	GASOLINE (PETROL)
<hr/>	
HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.	MADE IN JAPAN 



EXHAUST CAUTION LABEL

 **HOT • EXHAUST**  
**ECHAPPEMENT • CHAUD**

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## **SAFETY INFORMATION**

Honda generators are designed to give safe and dependable service if operated according to instructions. Read and understand this owner's manual before operating your generator. You can help prevent accidents by being familiar with your generator's controls, and by observing safe operating procedures.

### **Operator Responsibility**

- Know how to stop the generator quickly in case of emergency.
- Understand the use of all generator controls, output receptacles, and connections.
- Be sure that anyone who operates the generator receives proper instruction. Do not let children operate the generator without parental supervision.

### **Carbon Monoxide Hazards**

- Exhaust contains poisonous carbon monoxide, a colorless and odorless gas. Breathing exhaust can cause loss of consciousness and may lead to death.
- If you run the generator in an area that is confined, or even partially enclosed, the air you breathe could contain a dangerous amount of exhaust gas. To keep exhaust gas from building up, provide adequate ventilation.

### **Electric Shock Hazards**

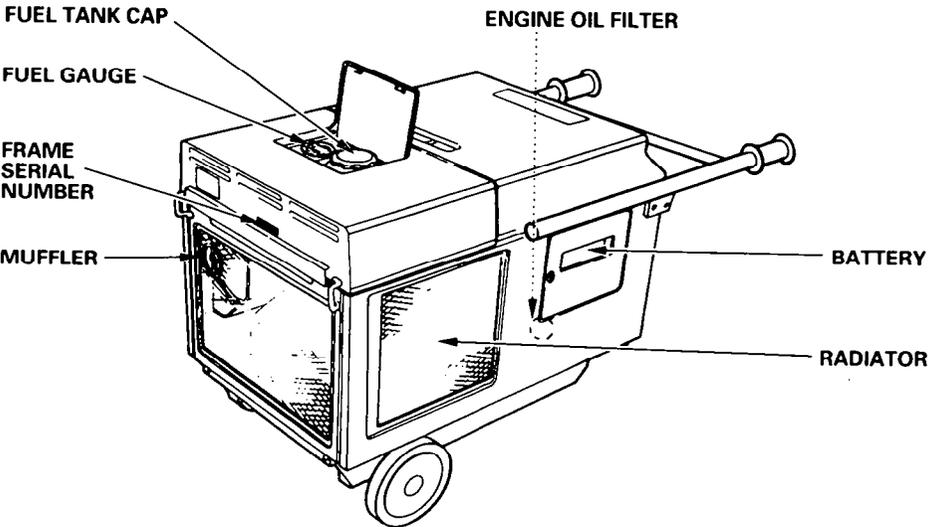
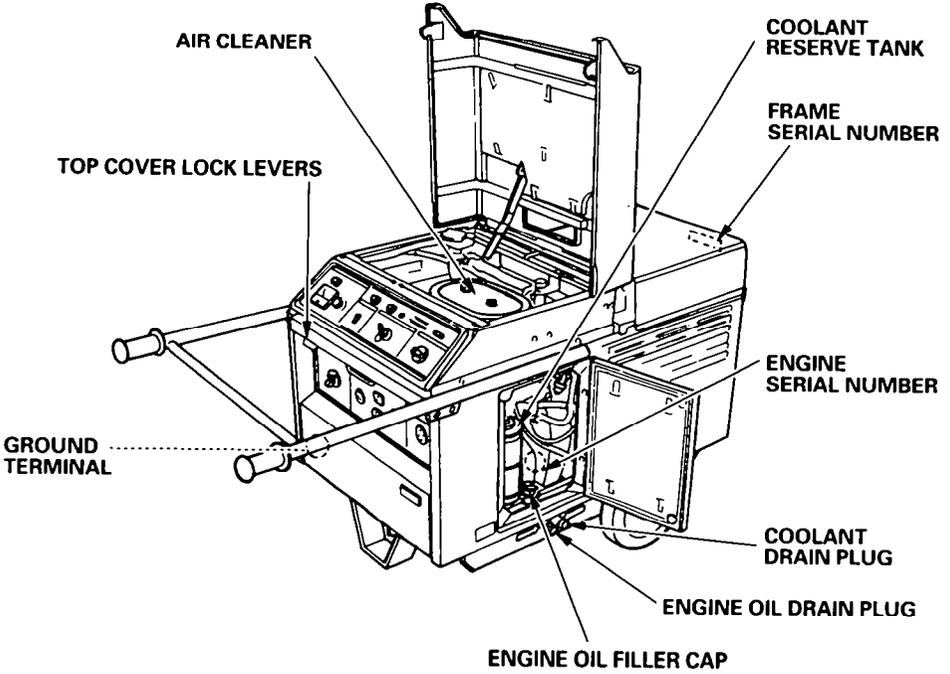
- The generator produces enough electric power to cause a serious shock or electrocution if misused.
- Using a generator or electrical appliance in wet conditions, such as rain or snow, or near a pool or sprinkler system, or when your hands are wet, could result in electrocution. Keep the generator dry.
- If the generator is stored outdoors, unprotected from the weather, check all electrical components on the control panel, before each use. Moisture or ice can cause a malfunction or short circuit in electrical components which could result in electrocution.
- Do not connect to a building's electrical system unless an isolation switch has been installed by a qualified electrician.

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## **Fire and Burn Hazards**

- The exhaust system gets hot enough to ignite some materials.
  - Keep the generator at least 1 meter (3 feet) away from buildings and other equipment during operation.
  - Do not enclose the generator in any structure.
  - Keep flammable materials away from the generator.
- The muffler becomes very hot during operation and remains hot for a while after stopping the engine. Be careful not to touch the muffler while it is hot. Let the engine cool before storing the generator indoors.
- Gasoline is extremely flammable and is explosive under certain conditions. Do not smoke or allow flames or sparks where the generator is refueled or where gasoline is stored. Refuel in a well-ventilated area with the engine stopped.
- Fuel vapors are extremely flammable and may ignite after the engine has started. Make sure that any spilled fuel has been wiped up before starting the generator.

# COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION



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## CONTROL BOX

VOLTAGE  
ADJUSTMENT KNOB

OIL LAMP

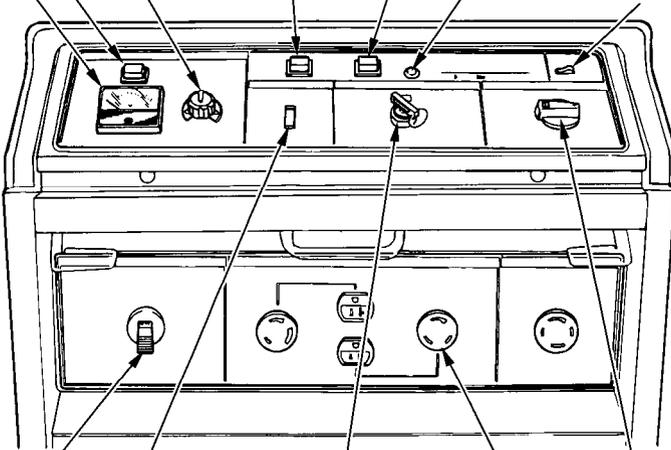
COOLANT LAMP

PILOT LAMP

RESET BUTTON

VOLT METER

REMOTE  
CONTROL SWITCH



CIRCUIT BREAKER

FUEL VALVE KNOB

AUTO-THROTTLE SWITCH

ENGINE SWITCH

AC RECEPTACLES

\*Record the engine and frame serial numbers for your future reference. Refer to these serial numbers when ordering parts, and when making technical or warranty inquiries (see page 49 ).

Frame serial number: \_\_\_\_\_

Engine serial number: \_\_\_\_\_

# CONTROLS

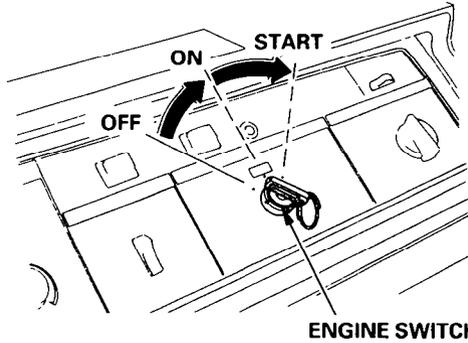
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## Engine Switch

To start and stop the engine.

### Key position:

- OFF:** To stop the engine. Key can be removed/inserted.  
**ON:** To run the engine after starting.  
**START:** To start the engine by operating the starter motor.

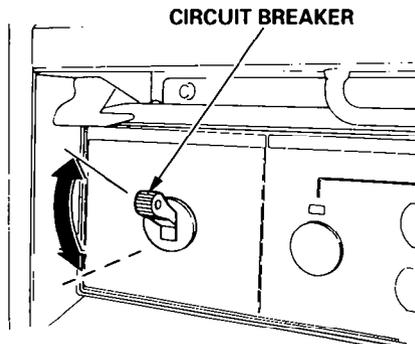


Return the key to the ON position once the engine has started. Do not use the starter for more than 5 seconds at a time. If the engine fails to start, release the switch and wait 10 seconds before operating the starter again.

## Circuit Breaker

The circuit breaker will automatically switch OFF if there is a short circuit or a significant overload of the generator at the receptacle. If the circuit breaker is switched OFF automatically, check that the appliance is working properly and does not exceed the rated load capacity of the circuit before switching the circuit breaker ON again.

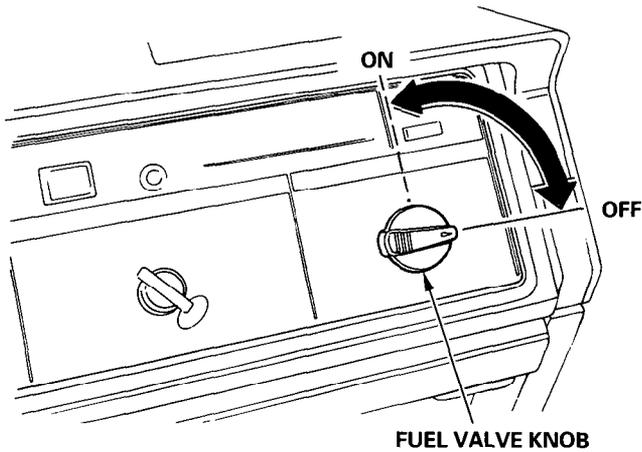
The circuit breaker may be used to switch the generator power on or off.



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## Fuel Valve

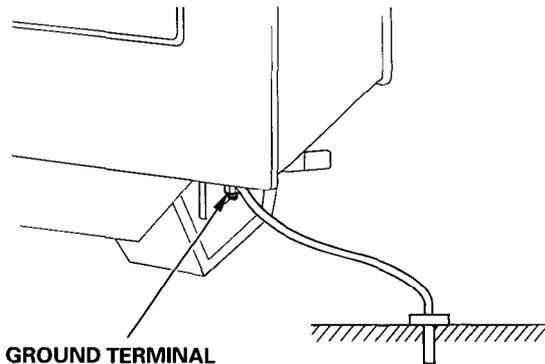
The fuel valve is located between the fuel tank and carburetor. When the knob is in the ON position, fuel is allowed to flow from the fuel tank to the carburetor. Be sure to return the knob to the OFF position after stopping the engine.



## Ground Terminal

The generator ground terminal is connected to the frame of the generator, the metal non-current carrying parts of the generator, and the ground terminals of each receptacle.

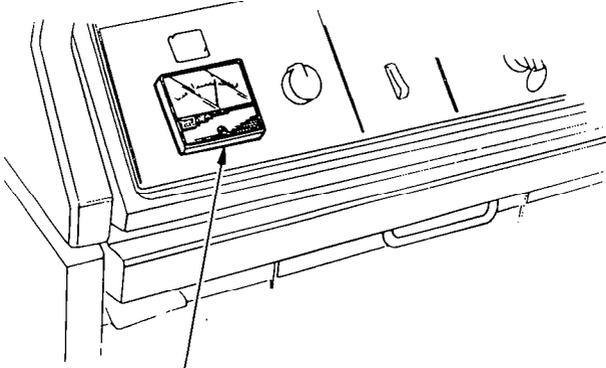
Before using the ground terminal, consult a qualified electrician, electrical inspector or local agency having jurisdiction for local codes or ordinances that apply to the intended use of the generator.



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## Volt Meter

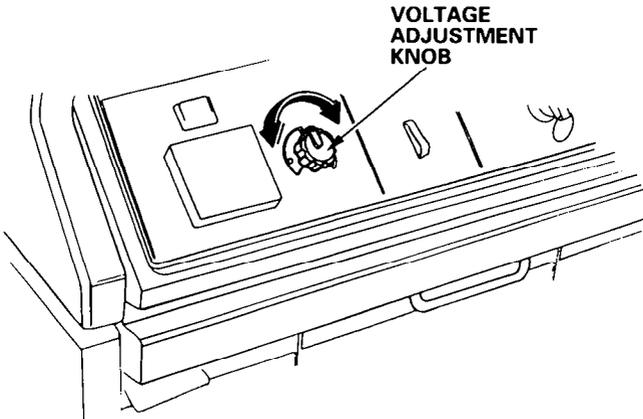
The volt meter shows output voltage on a dual scale that is calibrated for both 120V and 240V operation.



VOLT METER

## Voltage Adjustment Knob

The voltage adjustment knob can be used to make fine adjustments in output voltage. Set output voltage at 120V/240V, as shown on the volt meter.



VOLTAGE  
ADJUSTMENT  
KNOB

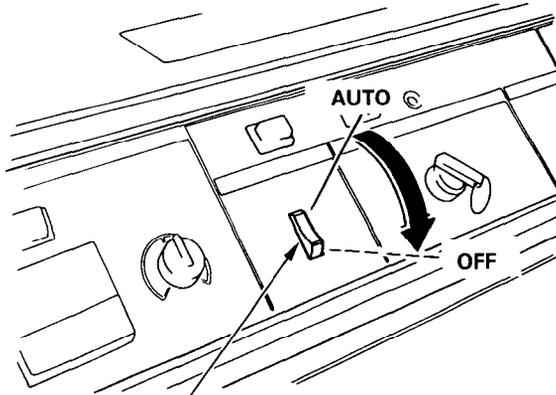
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## Auto-throttle System

The auto-throttle system automatically reduces engine speed when all loads are turned off or disconnected. When appliances are turned on or reconnected, the engine returns to the rated speed.

**AUTO:** Recommended to minimize fuel consumption and further reduce noise levels when no load is applied to the generator.

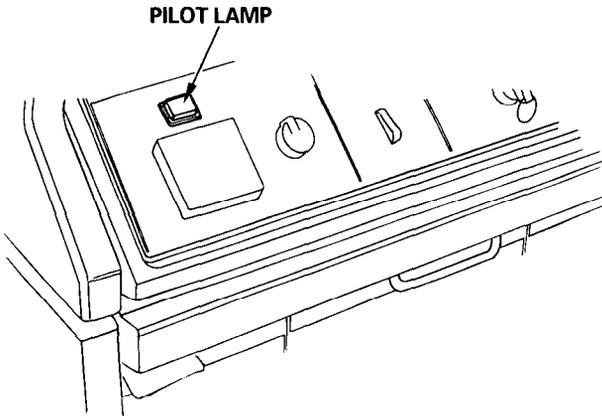
**OFF:** The auto-throttle system does not operate. Recommended to minimize warm-up time when the generator is started.



**AUTO-THROTTLE SWITCH**

## Pilot Lamp

The pilot lamp is illuminated when the generator is operating normally. It indicates that the generator is providing electrical power at the receptacles. When the pilot light is illuminated, the voltmeter should read 120/240 volts.



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## Oil Pressure Lamp

Lights when the engine oil level is low or the engine lubrication system is not working properly. The engine will stop automatically when the light comes on.

If this occurs:

- Check the engine oil level, and add the correct engine oil if necessary (see page 21 ).
- To restart the engine, turn the engine switch to the OFF position. Next, push the reset button and start according to the starting procedure (see page 26 ).
- If the oil pressure indicator light continues to light even though the engine oil level is correct, stop operating the generator and see an authorized Honda generator dealer.

## Coolant Temperature Lamp

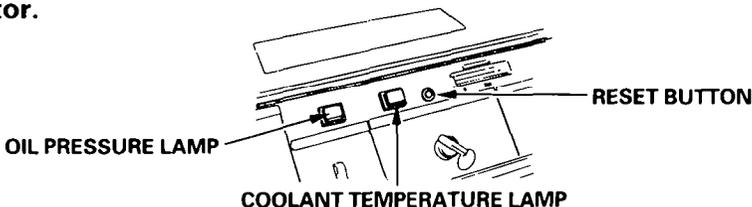
Lights when the coolant temperature becomes higher than normal. The engine will stop automatically when the light comes on.

If this occurs:

- Check the coolant level, and add coolant if the level is low (see page 24 ).
- Check the cooling air openings and the radiator for obstructions that would restrict air flow.
- To restart the engine, first turn the engine switch to the OFF position. Next, push the reset button, turn the engine switch to the ON position, and observe the coolant temperature indicator light. If the light remains on, allow the engine to cool before attempting to start the engine.
- If the coolant temperature indicator light continues to come on even though the coolant level is correct, discontinue operation and see an authorized Honda generator dealer.

### NOTICE

**Check the coolant level before each use. The coolant temperature indicator light may not function if there is insufficient coolant in the radiator.**



## Connections to a Building's Electrical System

Connections for standby power to a building's electrical system must be made by a *qualified electrician*. The connection must isolate the generator power from utility power, and must comply with all applicable laws and electrical codes.

### **▲WARNING**

**Improper connections to a building's electrical system can allow electrical current from the generator to backfeed into the utility lines. Such backfeed may electrocute utility company workers or others who contact the lines during a power outage. Consult the utility company or a qualified electrician.**

### **NOTICE**

**Improper connections to a building's electrical system can allow electrical current from the utility company to backfeed into the generator. When utility power is restored, the generator may explode, burn, or cause fires in the building's electrical system.**

## Ground System

Honda portable generators have a system ground that connects generator frame components to the ground terminals in the AC output receptacles. The system ground is *not connected to the AC neutral wire*. If the generator is tested by a receptacle tester, it will not show the same ground circuit condition as for a home receptacle.

## Special Requirements

There may be Federal or State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, local codes, or ordinances that apply to the intended use of the generator. Please consult a qualified electrician, electrical inspector, or the local agency having jurisdiction.

- In some areas, generators are required to be registered with local utility companies.
- If the generator is used at a construction site, there may be additional regulations which must be observed.

---

## AC Applications

Before connecting an appliance or power cord to the generator:

- Make sure that it is in good working order. Faulty appliances or power cords can create a potential for electrical shock.
- If an appliance begins to operate abnormally, becomes sluggish or stops suddenly, turn it off immediately. Disconnect the appliance, and determine whether the problem is the appliance, or if the rated load capacity of the generator has been exceeded.
- Make sure that the electrical rating of the tool or appliance does not exceed that of the generator. Never exceed the maximum power rating of the generator. Power levels between rated and maximum may be used for no more than 30 minutes.

### NOTICE

**Substantial overloading will open the circuit breaker. Exceeding the time limit for maximum power operation or slightly overloading the generator may not switch the circuit breaker OFF, but will shorten the service life of the generator.**

Limit operation requiring maximum power to 30 minutes.

Maximum power is:

5.5 kVA

For continuous operation, do not exceed the rated power.

Rated power is:

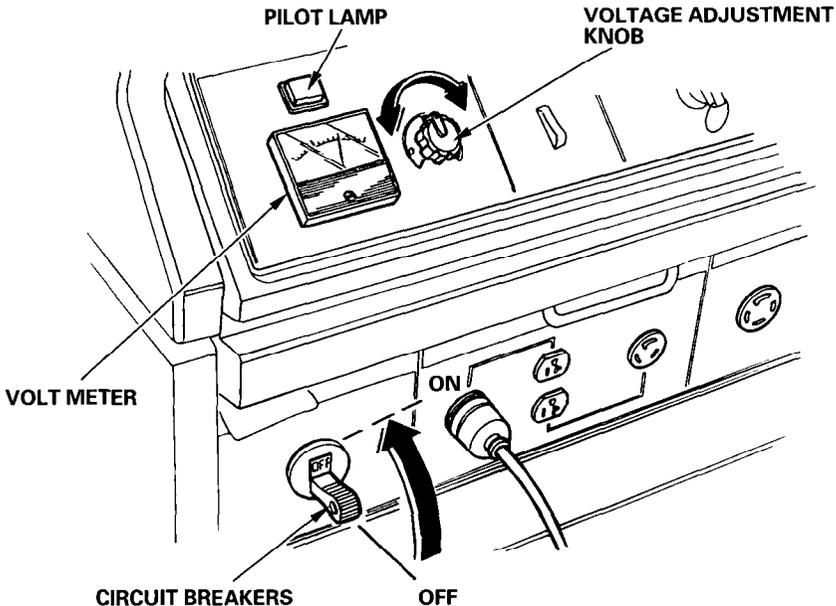
5.0 kVA

In either case, the total power requirements (VA) of all appliances connected must be considered. Appliance and power tool manufacturers usually list rating information near the model number or serial number.

## AC Operation

1. Start the engine (see page 26 ).
2. Switch the AC circuit breaker ON.
3. Plug the appliance into the appropriate AC receptacle.
4. Make sure that the voltmeter indicates the specified voltage.  
If not, adjust with the voltage adjustment knob.

Do not exceed the current limit specified for any one receptacle. If an overloaded circuit causes the AC circuit breaker or circuit protector to switch OFF, reduce the electrical load on the circuit, wait a few minutes and then reset the circuit breaker.



## AC Receptacle Selection

The generator has two separate main power producing circuits. These two circuits supply equal power to different receptacles shown.

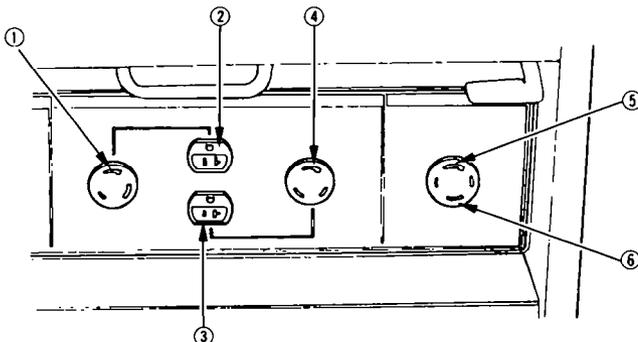
When two or more receptacles are used; prevent overloading by dividing the load between the two power circuits. The chart below shows the rated load in amperes that can be connected to each receptacle to balance the generator load. The total rated ampere draw is 41.7A.

Main power circuit	Receptacles powered by each main circuit	Power distribution
Main Circuit I	1, 2 and 5	$1+2+5=20.8A$ rated.
Main Circuit II	3, 4 and 6	$3+4+6=20.8A$ rated.

\*The table shows the specifications when the 120/240V locking plug receptacle is used for 120V.

Example:

Receptacle 3 has a 10A load connected to it. Receptacle 4 has a 15A load connected to it. Both receptacles are powered by main power circuit II. The equation tells us that the total power draw on circuit II is 25A. This is a substantial overload of this circuit. To eliminate the excess power draw on circuit II, the load from receptacle 3 should be switched to receptacle 2. Now circuit I is powering the 10A load (less than 20.8A) and circuit II is powering a 15A load (less than 20.8A).



- ① 120V 20A
- ② 120V 20A
- ③ 120V 20A
- ④ 120V 20A
- ⑤&⑥ 120/240V 30A (LOCKING PLUG)

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## Auto-throttle System

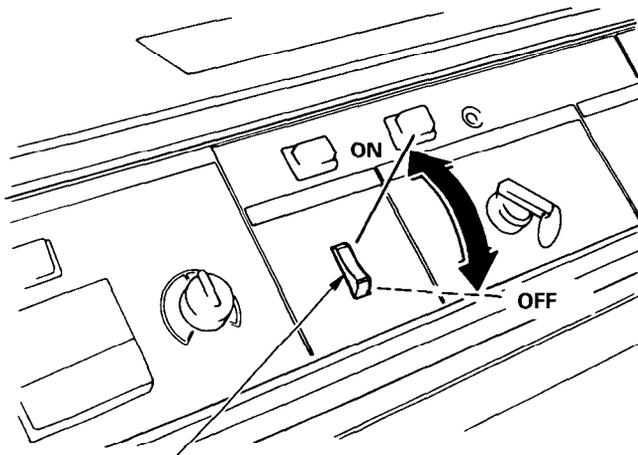
With the switch in the AUTO position, engine speed is automatically reduced when ALL loads are turned OFF or disconnected. When appliances are turned ON or reconnected, the engine returns to rated speed. In the OFF position, the auto-throttle system does not operate.

The auto-throttle system will not respond to electrical loads of less than 1 ampere. Turn the auto-throttle to the OFF position to operate loads of less than 1 amp.

Appliances with large start-up power demands may not allow the engine to reach normal operating rpm when they are connected to the generator. Turn the auto-throttle to the OFF position and connect the appliance to the generator. If the engine still will not reach normal operating speed, check that the appliance does not exceed the rated load capacity of the generator.

To avoid extended warm-up periods, keep the switch OFF until the engine reaches operating temperature.

The auto-throttle system is not effective for use with appliances that require only momentary power. If the tool or appliance will be turned ON and OFF quickly, the auto-throttle switch should be in the OFF position.



**AUTO-THROTTLE SWITCH**

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- **High Altitude Operation**

At high altitude, the standard carburetor air-fuel mixture will be too rich. Performance will decrease, and fuel consumption will increase. A very rich mixture will also foul the spark plug and cause hard starting.

High altitude performance can be improved by specific modifications to the carburetor. If you always operate your engine at altitudes above 1,800 meters (6,000 feet), have your dealer perform this carburetor modification.

Even with carburetor modification, engine horsepower will decrease about 3.5% for each 300 meter (1,000 foot) increase in altitude. The effect of altitude on horsepower will be greater than this if no carburetor modification is made.

**NOTICE**

**When the carburetor has been modified for high altitude operation, the air-fuel mixture will be too lean for low altitude use. Operation at altitudes below 1,800 meters (6,000 feet) with a modified carburetor may cause the engine to overheat and result in serious engine damage. For use at low altitudes, have your dealer return the carburetor to original factory specifications.**

# PRE-OPERATION CHECK

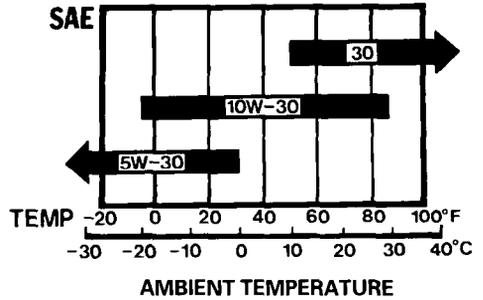
## Engine Oil

### NOTICE

Engine oil is a major factor affecting engine performance and service life. Non-detergent and 2-stroke engine oils will damage the engine and are not recommended.

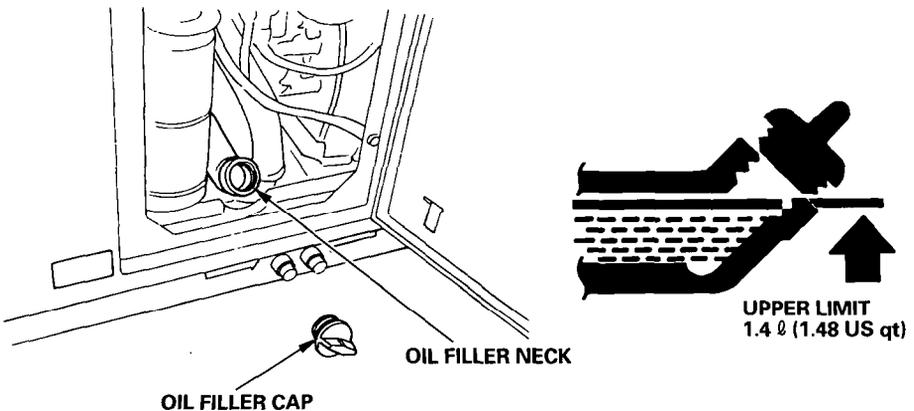
Check the oil level BEFORE EACH USE with the generator on a level surface and the engine stopped.

Use 4-stroke motor oil that meets or exceeds the requirements for API service classification SF or SG. Always check the API SERVICE label on the oil container to be sure it includes the letters SF or SG.



SAE 10W-30 is recommended for general, all-temperature use. Other viscosities shown in the chart may be used when the average temperature in your area is within the indicated range.

1. Remove the oil filler cap, and check the oil level.
2. If the level is low, fill to the top of the oil filler neck with the recommended oil.



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## Fuel Recommendation

Check the fuel gauge, and refill the tank if the fuel level is low.

Use unleaded gasoline with a pump octane rating of 86 or higher.

This engine is certified to operate on unleaded gasoline.

Unleaded gasoline produces fewer engine and spark plug deposits and extends exhaust system life.

Never use stale or contaminated gasoline or oil/gasoline mixture. Avoid getting dirt or water in the fuel tank.

Refuel carefully to avoid spilling fuel. Do not fill above the fuel strainer shoulder.

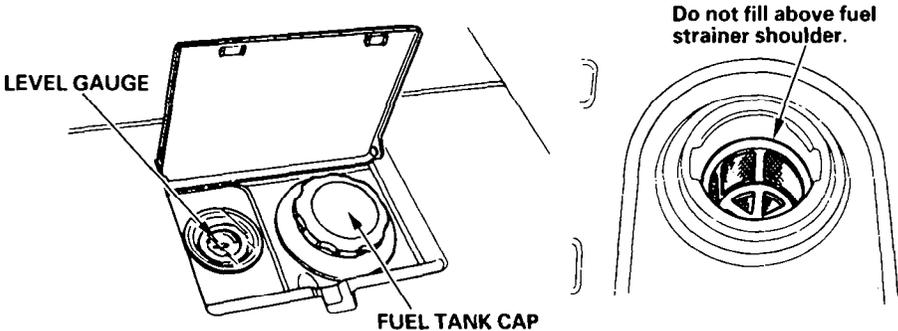
### **▲WARNING**

**Gasoline is highly flammable and explosive, and you can be burned or seriously injured when refueling.**

- Stop engine and keep heat, sparks, and flame away.
- Refuel only outdoors.
- Wipe up spills immediately.

### Fuel tank capacity:

16.5 ℓ (4.36 US gal , 3.63 Imp gal)



### **NOTICE**

**Fuel can damage paint and plastic. Be careful not to spill fuel when filling your fuel tank. Damage caused by spilling fuel is not covered under warranty.**

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Occasionally you may hear light “spark knock” or “pinging” (metallic rapping noise) while operating under heavy loads. This is no cause for concern.

If spark knock or pinging occurs at a steady engine speed, under normal load, change brands of gasoline. If spark knock or pinging persists, see an authorized Honda generator dealer.

**NOTICE**

**Running the engine with persistent spark knock or pinging can cause engine damage.**

Running the engine with persistent spark knock or pinging is misuse, and the Distributor’s Limited Warranty does not cover parts damaged by misuse.

**Oxygenated Fuels**

Some conventional gasolines are being blended with alcohol or an ether compound. These gasolines are collectively referred to as oxygenated fuels. To meet clean air standards, some areas of the United States and Canada use oxygenated fuels to help reduce emissions.

If you use an oxygenated fuel, be sure it is unleaded and meets the minimum octane rating requirement.

Before using an oxygenated fuel, try to confirm the fuel’s contents. Some states/provinces require this information to be posted on the pump.

The following are the EPA approved percentages of oxygenates:

**ETHANOL** – (ethyl or grain alcohol) 10% by volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 10% ethanol by volume. Gasoline containing ethanol may be marketed under the name “Gasohol”.

**MTBE** – (methyl tertiary butyl ether) 15% by volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 15% MTBE by volume.

**METHANOL** – (methyl or wood alcohol) 5% by volume

You may use gasoline containing up to 5% methanol by volume as long as it also contains cosolvents and corrosion inhibitors to protect the fuel system. Gasoline containing more than 5% methanol by volume may cause starting and/or performance problems. It may also damage metal, rubber, and plastic parts of your fuel system.

If you notice any undesirable operating symptoms, try another service station or switch to another brand of gasoline.

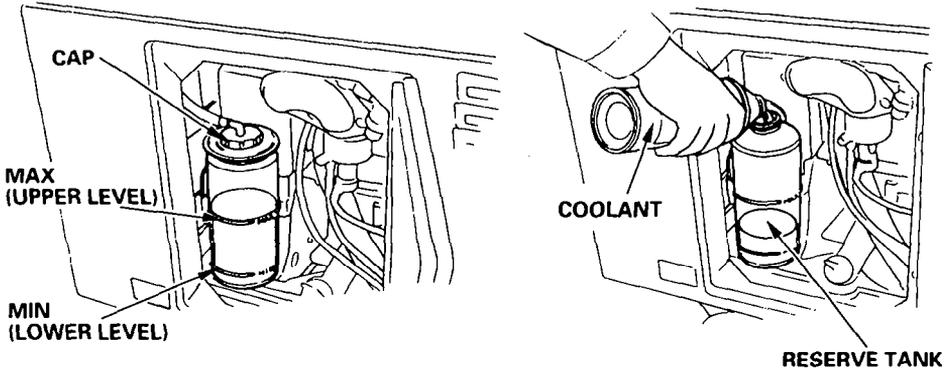
Fuel system damage or performance problems resulting from the use of an oxygenated fuel containing more than the percentages of oxygenates mentioned above are not covered under warranty.

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## Coolant

Check the coolant level in the reserve tank while on a level surface.

When the engine is at operating temperature, the coolant level should be between the MIN and MAX marks on the reserve tank. If the level is near the MIN mark, add coolant to bring the level up to the MAX mark.



The engine protection system will automatically stop the engine if the coolant gets too hot, which may occur if the coolant level is too low. To avoid the inconvenience of an unexpected shutdown, inspect the coolant level in the reserve tank regularly.

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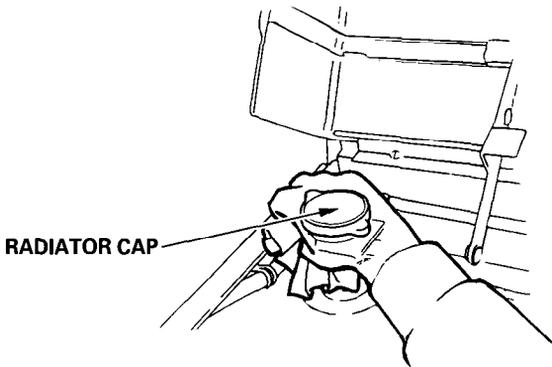
## If there is no coolant in the reserve tank:

Make sure the engine is cool, then check the coolant system for leaks and have repairs made if needed. Add coolant to the radiator and reserve tank before starting the engine.

### **▲WARNING**

**Hot coolant is under pressure. If you remove the radiator cap when the engine is hot, you may be scalded. Wait for the engine to cool.**

1. When the engine is cool, relieve any remaining coolant pressure by turning the radiator cap counterclockwise until it reaches its stop; **DO NOT PRESS DOWN WHILE TURNING THE CAP.** After all pressure has been relieved, press the cap down, and continue turning the cap to remove it.



2. Fill the radiator with coolant, and reinstall the radiator cap. Tighten the cap securely.
3. Fill the reserve tank to the MAX mark with coolant.

### **Antifreeze/Coolant Recommendation**

Use high quality ethylene glycol coolant that is specifically formulated for aluminum engines. Mix the coolant with low-mineral drinking water or distilled water.

A 50/50 mixture of ethylene glycol coolant and water is recommended for most temperatures, and it provides good corrosion protection. A higher concentration of coolant decreases cooling efficiency and is recommended if additional protection against freezing is needed. A concentration of less than 40% antifreeze will not provide enough corrosion protection.

### **NOTICE**

**The wrong type of coolant, hard water, or salt water can cause corrosion damage in the engine.**

# STARTING THE ENGINE

---

## Starting the engine

1. Turn the fuel valve ON.
2. Make sure that the circuit breaker is OFF.  
The generator may be hard to start if a load is connected.
3. Make sure the auto-throttle switch is off, or more time will be required for warm up.
4. Turn the engine switch to START and hold it there until the engine starts.  
Do not use the electric starter for more than 5 seconds at a time. If the engine fails to start, release the switch and wait 10 seconds before operating the starter again.

### NOTICE

**When the speed of the starter motor drops after a period of time, it is an indication that the battery should be recharged.**

5. After the engine starts, let the engine switch return to ON.
6. Warm up the engine for 2-3 minutes. Turn the auto-throttle switch to AUTO after the engine has warmed up.

# STOPPING THE ENGINE

---

## **Stopping the engine**

### **In an emergency:**

1. To stop the engine in an emergency, move the engine switch to the OFF position.

### **In normal use:**

1. Turn the AC circuit breaker to the OFF position.
2. Move the engine switch to the OFF position.
3. Turn the fuel valve to the OFF position.

# MAINTENANCE

Periodic maintenance and adjustment is necessary to keep the generator in good operating condition. Perform the service and inspection at the intervals shown in the maintenance schedule below.

## ▲WARNING

Exhaust gas contains poisonous carbon monoxide. Shut off the engine before performing any maintenance. If the engine must be run, make sure the area is well-ventilated.

## NOTICE

Use only genuine HONDA parts or their equivalent for maintenance or repair. Replacement parts which are not of equivalent quality may damage the generator.

## Maintenance Schedule

REGULAR SERVICE PERIOD (3)		ITEM	Each use	First month or 20 Hrs	Every 3 months or 50 Hrs	Every 6 months or 100 Hrs	Every year or 300 Hrs
Performed at every indicated month or operating hour interval, whichever comes first.							
•	Engine oil	Check level	○				
		Change		○		○	
•	Air cleaner	Check	○				
		Clean			○ (1)		
		Replace					○ (*)
	Radiator screen	Clean	○				
	Radiator coolant	Check	○				
		Change		Every 2 years			
•	Spark plug	Check-Adjust				○	
		Replace					○
	Spark arrester (option)	Clean				○	
•	Idle speed	Check-Adjust					○ (2)
•	Engine oil filter	Change					○ or 200hrs
•	Valve clearance	Check-Adjust					○ (2)
•	Fuel filter	Check				○	
		Change					○ (2)
•	Fuel line	Check		Every 2 years (Replace if necessary) (2)			

**NOTE:** • Emission related items.

(\*)Replace paper element only.

(1)Service more frequently when used in dusty areas.

(2)These items should be serviced by an authorized Honda generator dealer, unless the owner has the proper tools and is mechanically proficient. See the Honda Shop Manual.

(3)For commercial use, log hours of operation to determine proper maintenance intervals.

---

## **Emission Control System**

### **Source of Emissions**

The combustion process produces carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, and hydrocarbons. Control of hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen is very important because, under certain conditions, they react to form photochemical smog when subjected to sunlight. Carbon monoxide does not react in the same way, but it is toxic. Honda Motor Co., Ltd, utilizes lean carburetor settings and other systems to reduce the emissions of carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, and hydrocarbons.

### **The California Clean Air Act**

California regulations require all manufacturers to furnish written instructions describing the operation and maintenance of emission control systems. The following instructions and procedures must be followed in order to keep the emissions from your Honda engine within the emission standards.

Proper Maintenance is The Owner's Responsibility

#### **Replacement Parts**

The emission control systems on your new Honda were designed, built, and certified to conform with the California regulations. Honda recommends only the use of new, genuine Honda parts or their equivalent. The use of other replacement parts which are not of equivalent quality may impair the effectiveness of your emission control system.

#### **Maintenance**

Follow the maintenance schedule on page 28 . Remember that this schedule is based on the assumption that your machine will be used for its designed purpose. Sustained high-load or high-temperature operation or use in unusually wet or dusty conditions will require more frequent service.

#### **Tampering and Altering**

Tampering or altering the emission control system may increase emissions beyond the legal limit. Among those acts presumed to constitute tampering are:

- Removal or alteration of any part of the intake, fuel, or exhaust systems.
- Altering or defeating the governor linkage or speed-adjusting mechanism to cause the engine to operate outside its design parameters.

#### **Problems That May Affect Emissions**

If you are aware of any of the following symptoms, have your engine inspected and repaired by your authorized Honda dealer:

- Hard starting or stalling after starting.
- Rough idle.
- Misfiring or backfiring under load.
- After burning (backfiring).
- Black exhaust smoke or high fuel consumption.

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## Engine Oil and Oil Filter Change

Drain the oil while the engine is warm to assure rapid and complete draining.

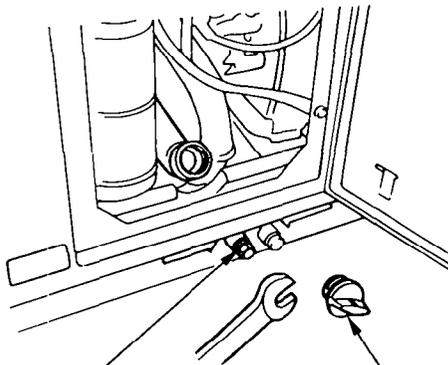
1. Remove the drain plug and filler cap, and drain the oil. Retighten the plug securely, and reinstall the filler cap.
2. Remove the oil filter with a filter wrench and let the remaining oil drain out.
3. Apply a thin coat of engine oil to the filter rubber seal and screw it in by hand until you feel it seat against the engine, then turn it 3/4 of a turn more.
4. Fill the crankcase with the recommended oil (See page 21) and check the level. Recheck the level after running the engine for a few minutes.

### Oil refill capacity without filter change:

1.1 ℓ (1.2 US qt, 1.0 Imp qt)

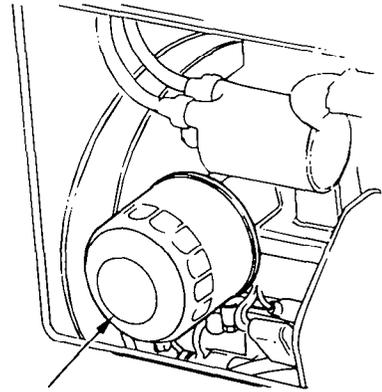
### Oil refill capacity with filter change:

1.4 ℓ (1.5 US qt, 1.2 Imp qt)



DRAIN PLUG

OIL FILLER CAP



OIL FILTER

Wash your hands with soap and water after handling used oil.

Please dispose of used motor oil in a manner that is compatible with the environment. We suggest you take it in a sealed container to your local service station or recycling center for reclamation. Do not throw it in the trash, pour it on the ground or down a drain.

## Air Cleaner Service

A dirty air cleaner will restrict air flow to the carburetor. To prevent carburetor malfunction, service the air cleaner regularly. Service more frequently when operating the generator in extremely dusty areas.

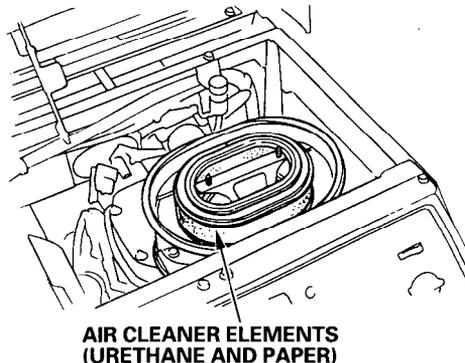
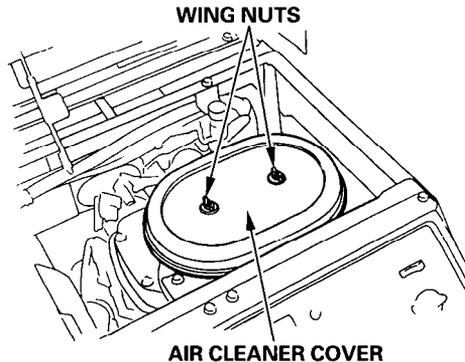
### **▲WARNING**

Using gasoline or flammable solvent to clean the filter element can cause a fire or explosion. Use only soapy water or nonflammable solvent.

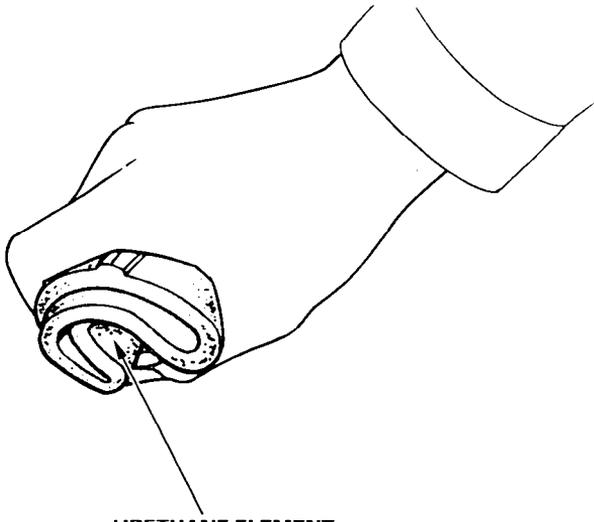
### **NOTICE**

Never run the generator without the air cleaner. Rapid engine wear will result.

1. Pull the lock levers out and open the top cover.
2. Remove the wing nuts and air cleaner cover. Remove the elements and separate them. Carefully check both elements for holes or tears, and replace if damaged.



- 
3. Foam element: Clean in warm soapy water, rinse, and allow to dry thoroughly. Or clean in nonflammable solvent and allow to dry. Dip the element in clean engine oil and squeeze out all excess oil. The engine will smoke during initial running if too much oil is left in the foam.
  4. Paper element: Tap the element several times on a hard surface to remove excess dirt, or blow compressed air [not exceeding 207 kPa (30 psi)] through the filter from the inside. Never try to brush off dirt; brushing will force dirt into the fibers.
  5. Reinstall the air cleaner elements and the cover.
  6. Reinstall the top cover.



**URETHANE ELEMENT**

## Spark Plug Service

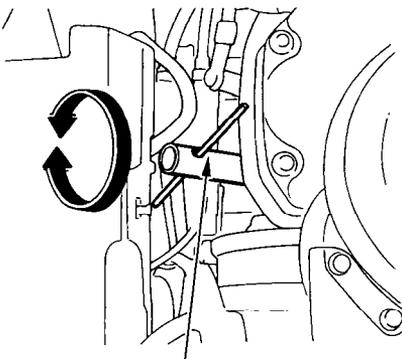
**Recommended spark plug:** BPR6HS (NGK)

To ensure proper engine operation, the spark plug must be properly gapped and free of deposits.

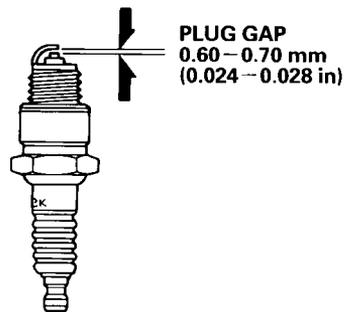
1. Pull the lock levers out and open the top cover.
2. Remove the spark plug cap.
3. Use a plug wrench to remove the spark plug.
4. Visually inspect the spark plug. Discard it if the insulator is cracked or chipped.
5. Measure the plug gap with a feeler gauge.  
Correct as necessary by carefully bending the side electrode.  
**The gap should be:**  
0.60–0.70 mm (0.024–0.028 in)
6. Attach the plug washer. Thread the plug in by hand to prevent cross-threading.
7. Tighten a new spark plug 1/2 turn with the wrench to compress the washer. If you are reusing a plug, it should only take 1/8–1/4 turn after the plug seats.
8. Reinstall the top cover.

### NOTICE

**The spark plug must be securely tightened. An improperly tightened spark plug can become very hot and could damage the engine. Never use spark plugs which have an improper heat range. Use only the recommended spark plugs or equivalent.**



PLUG WRENCH

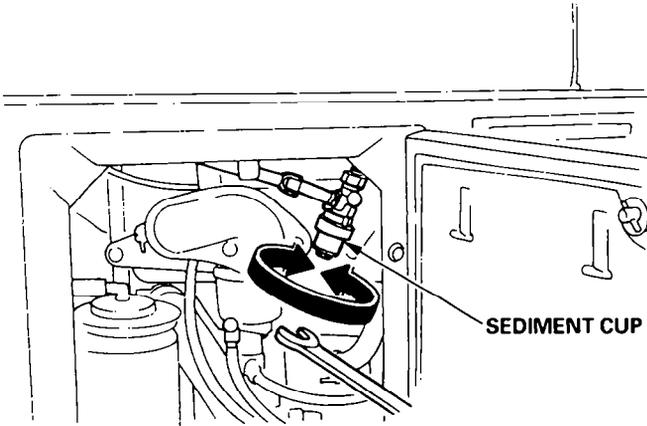


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## Fuel Sediment Cup Cleaning

The sediment cup prevents dirt or water which may be in the fuel tank from entering the carburetor. If the engine has not been run for a long time, the sediment cup should be cleaned.

1. Turn the two lock pins and open the side cover.
2. Turn the fuel valve OFF. Remove the sediment cup.
3. Clean the cup thoroughly.
4. Reassemble. Do not damage the O-ring.
5. Close the carburetor cover and lock with the lock pins.



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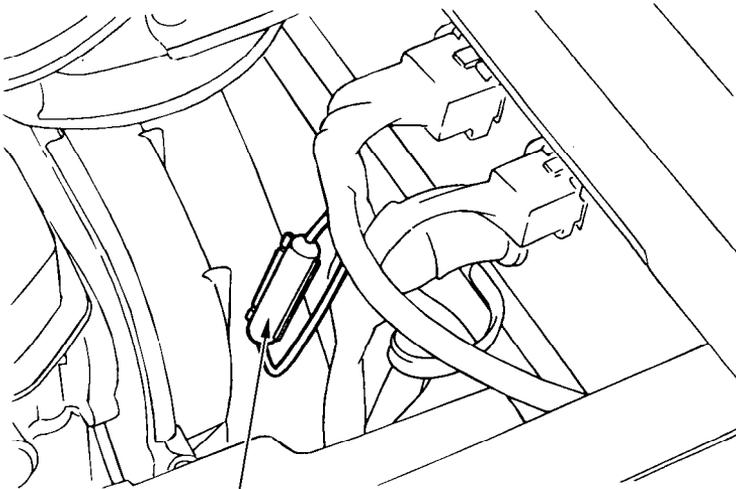
## Fuse Replacement

If the fuse is blown, the engine will not start until it is replaced.

1. Pull the lock levers out and open the top cover.
2. Turn the engine switch OFF.
3. Remove the fuse holder and replace the fuse. Use only a 10A fuse.
4. Close the top cover.

### NOTICE

- If frequent fuse failure occurs, determine the cause and correct the problem before attempting to operate the generator further.
- Never use a fuse with a rating other than 10A. Serious damage to the electrical system or a fire may result.



FUSE HOLDER

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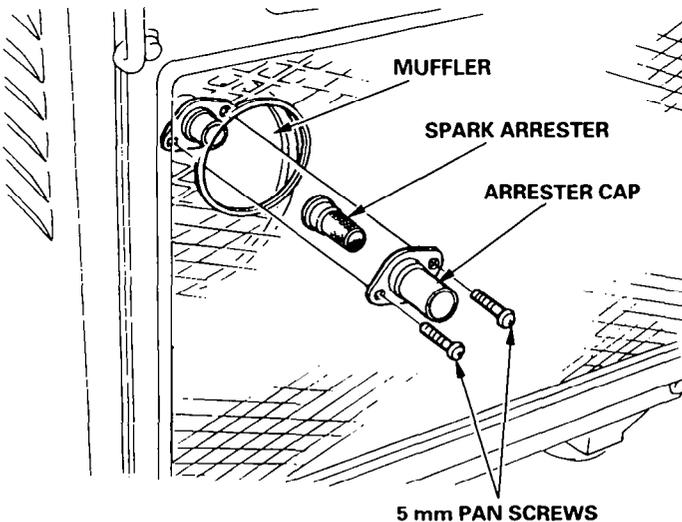
## Spark Arrester Maintenance

If the generator has been running, the muffler will be very hot. Allow it to cool before proceeding.

**NOTICE**

**The spark arrester must be serviced every 100 hours to maintain its efficiency.**

1. Loosen two 5 mm pan screws on the arrester cap.
2. Remove the arrester cap, then pull out spark arrester, taking care not to damage the wire mesh.
3. Inspect the spark arrester, and clean if necessary. Use a brush to remove deposits from the spark arrester screen. The spark arrester must be free of breaks and holes. Replace if necessary.
4. Check the muffler exhaust port for carbon deposits; clean if necessary.
5. Install the spark arrester and arrester cap on the muffler.
6. Tighten two 5 mm pan screws to the arrester cap.



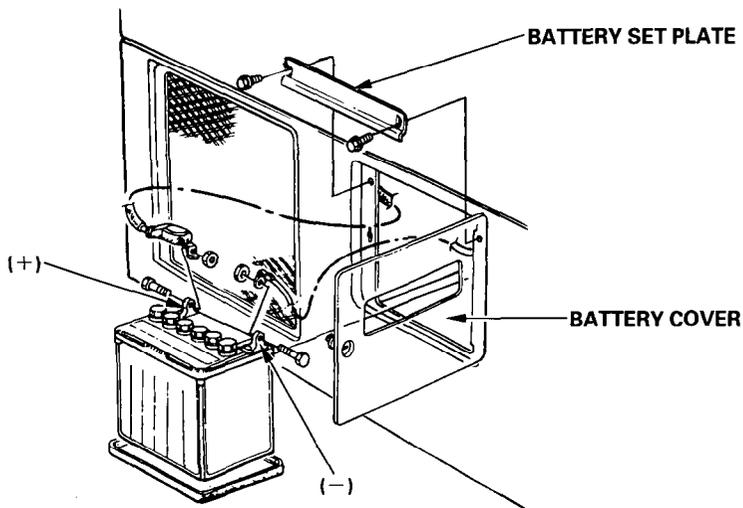
## Battery

The generator's engine has a 1 amp charging system to charge the battery while the engine is running. If the generator is only used periodically, the battery must be charged monthly to maintain the battery service life.

A lead acid battery self discharges at a rate of 0.5–1.0% per day. This means that the battery, if the generator is not operated in a month, can discharge as much as 30% in the same period. This could cause the engine not to crank or shorten the service life of the battery. To charge the battery, follow the procedures below.

### Removal:

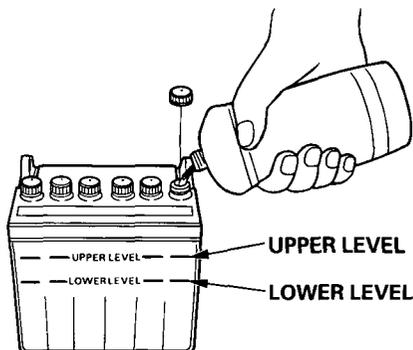
1. Open the battery cover.
2. Remove the battery set plate.
3. Remove the negative (–) cable from the battery negative (–) terminal; then remove the positive (+) cable from the battery positive (+) terminal.



4. Remove the battery from the battery tray.

### Inspection:

1. Remove the battery cell caps.
2. Inspect the electrolyte level of each cell. The electrolyte level must be maintained between the UPPER and LOWER level marks.
3. If the electrolyte level is near the LOWER mark, add distilled water as necessary.



---

### **Charging:**

The battery is rated at 14AH (ampere-hour). 10% of the ampere-hour rating should be used as the charging current. A battery charger should be used that can be adjusted to deliver 1.4 amps.

### **▲WARNING**

**The battery gives off explosive gasses; keep sparks, flames and cigarettes away from the battery while charging. Provide adequate ventilation when charging.**

- **The battery contains sulfuric acid (electrolyte). Contact with skin or eyes may cause severe burns. Wear protective clothing and a face shield.**
  - **If electrolyte gets on your skin, flush with water.**
  - **If electrolyte gets in your eyes, flush with water for at least 15 minutes and call a physician immediately.**
- **Electrolyte is poisonous.**
  - **If swallowed, drink large quantities of water or milk and follow with milk of magnesia or vegetable oil and call a physician.**
- **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

1. Remove the battery cell caps.
2. Connect the battery charger following the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Charge the battery 3–4 hours.
4. After the battery is charged, inspect the electrolyte level in each of the cells. Add distilled water as necessary.
5. Install the battery caps.
6. Clean the outside of the battery and the battery tray compartment with a solution of baking soda and water.

### **Installation:**

1. Install the battery in the generator.
2. Install the positive (+) cable to the battery positive (+) terminal; then install the negative (–) cable to the battery negative (–) terminal.
3. Install the battery set plate.
4. Close and latch the battery cover.

# TRANSPORTING/STORAGE

When transporting the generator, turn the engine switch and the fuel valve OFF. Keep the generator level to prevent fuel spillage. Fuel vapor or spilled fuel may ignite.

## **▲WARNING**

**Contact with a hot engine or exhaust system can cause serious burns or fires. Let the engine cool before transporting or storing the generator.**

Take care not to drop or strike the generator when transporting. Do not place heavy objects on the generator.

Before storing the unit for an extended period:

1. Be sure the storage area is free of excessive humidity and dust.
2. Service according to the table below:

STORAGE TIME	RECOMMENDED SERVICE PROCEDURE TO PREVENT HARD STARTING
Less than 1 month	No preparation required
1 to 2 months	Fill with fresh gasoline and add gasoline conditioner *.
2 months to 1 year	Fill with fresh gasoline and add gasoline conditioner *. Drain the carburetor float bowl. (page 40). Drain the fuel sediment cup. (page 34).
1 year or more	Fill with fresh gasoline and add gasoline conditioner *. Drain the carburetor float bowl. (page 40). Drain the fuel sediment cup. (page 34). Remove the spark plugs. Pour a tablespoon (5–10 cc) of clean engine oil into each cylinder. Using the electric starter, crank the engine a few revolutions to distribute the oil in the cylinders. Reinstall the spark plugs. Change the engine oil. (page 30). After removal from storage, drain the stored gasoline into a suitable container, and fill with fresh gasoline before starting.

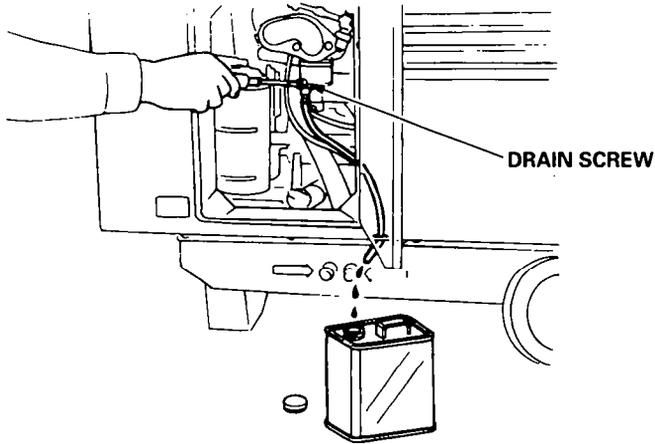
\* Use gasoline conditioners that are formulated to extend storage life.  
Contact your authorized Honda generator dealer for conditioner recommendations.

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1. Drain the carburetor by loosening the drain screw. Drain the gasoline into a suitable container.

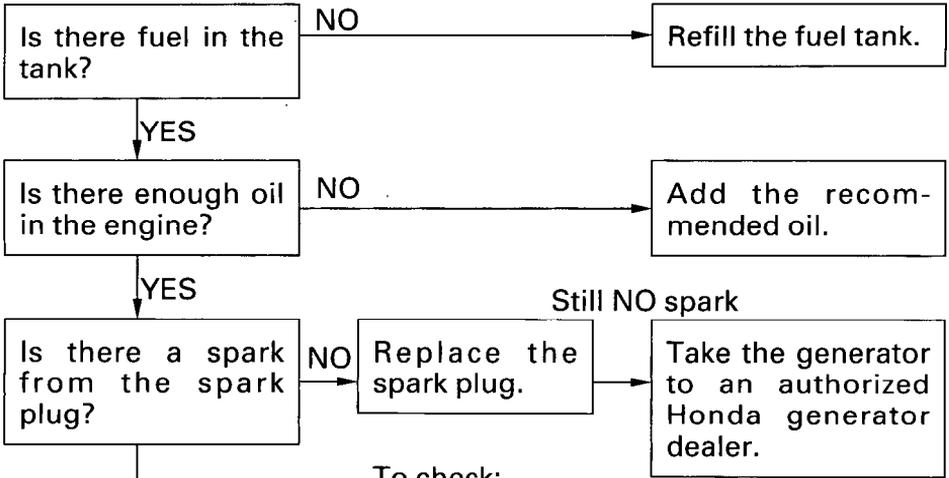
**▲WARNING**

Gasoline is extremely flammable and is explosive under certain conditions. Perform this task in a well-ventilated area with the engine stopped. Do not smoke or allow flames or sparks in the area during this procedure.



2. Change the engine oil.
3. Remove the spark plugs, and pour about a tablespoon of clean engine oil into each cylinder. Crank the engine several revolutions to distribute the oil, then reinstall the spark plugs.
4. Once a month, recharge the battery (see page 38).

When the engine will not start:

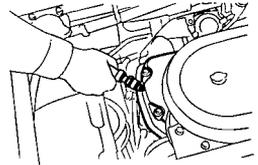


**⚠ WARNING**

**Be sure there is no spilled fuel around the spark plug. Spilled fuel may ignite.**

To check:

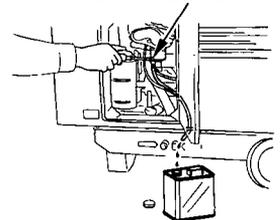
- 1) Remove one spark plug cap and clean any dirt from around the spark plug.
- 2) Remove the spark plug and install the spark plug in the plug cap.
- 3) Set the plug side electrode on the cylinder head.
- 4) Crank the engine, sparks should jump across the gap.



To check:

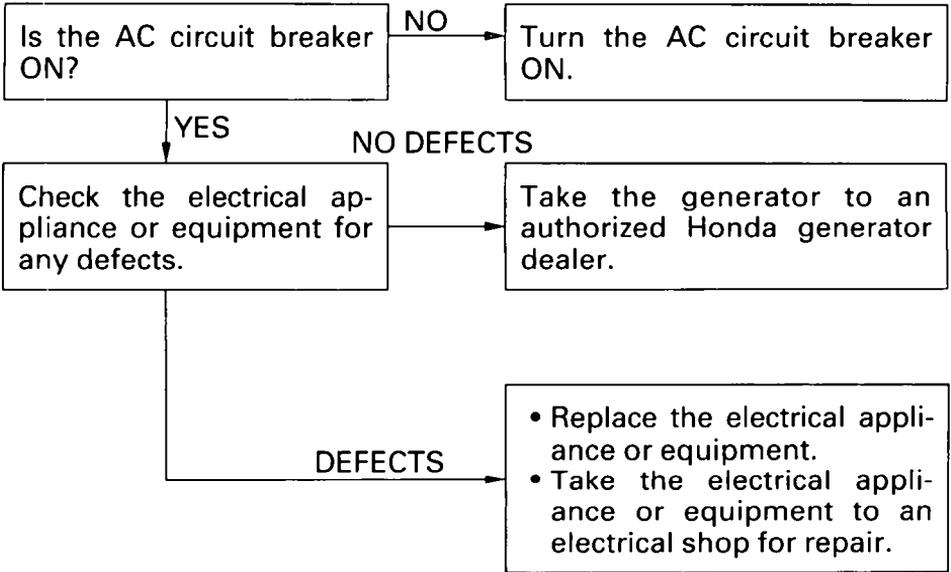
- 1) Turn off the fuel valve and loosen the drain screw.
- 2) Turn the fuel valve to ON. Fuel should flow from the drain when the fuel valve is turned ON.

**DRAIN SCREW**

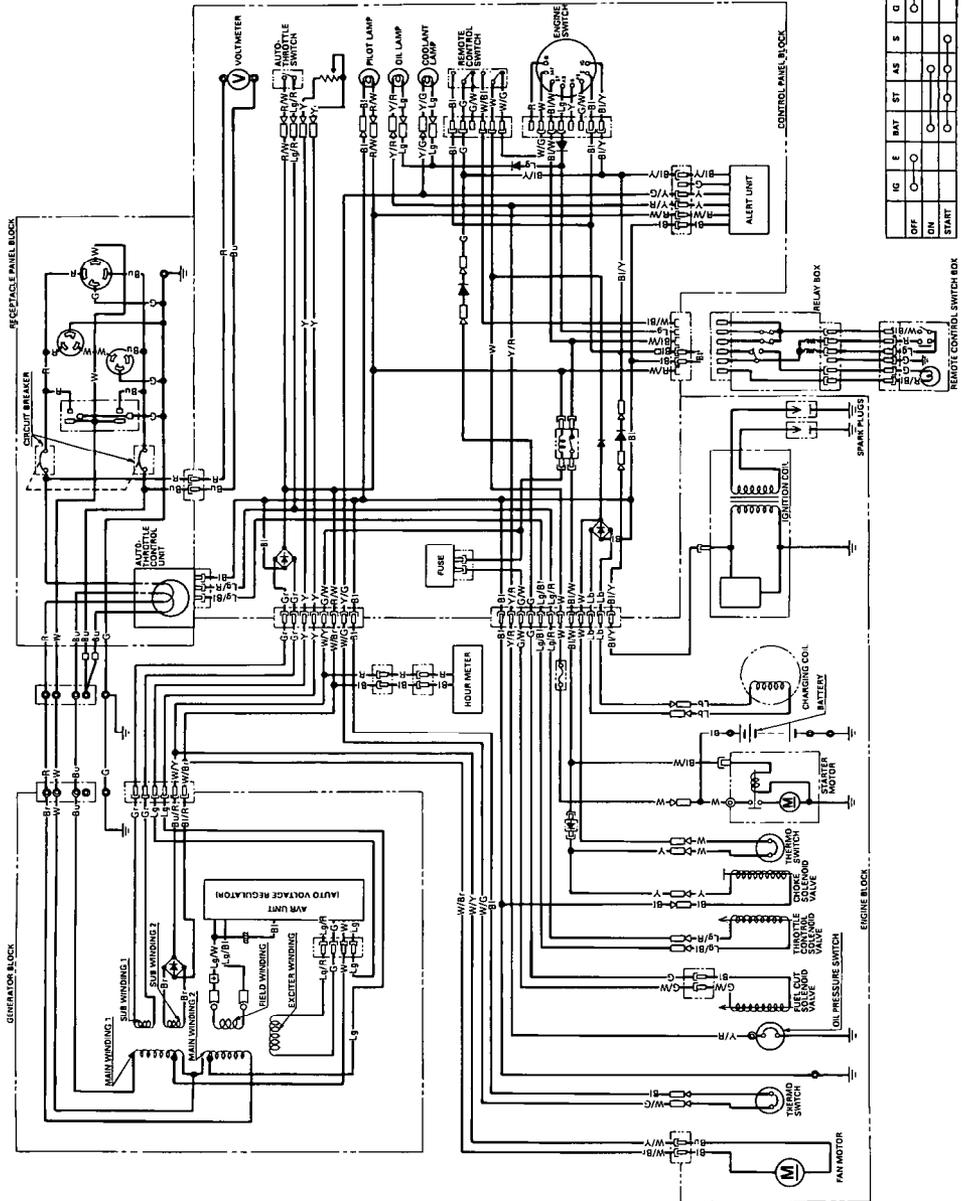


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No electricity at the AC receptacles:



# WIRING DIAGRAM



# SPECIFICATIONS

## Dimensions

Model	EX5500
Power product description code	EA1
Length	965 mm (38.0 in)
Width	590 mm (23.2 in)
Height	730 mm (28.7 in)
Dry weight	175 kg (386 lbs)

## Engine

Model	GX360 K1
Engine Type	4-Stroke, O. H. C. 2 cylinder
Displacement [Bore x Stroke]	359 cm <sup>3</sup> (21.9 cu-in) [58 x 68 mm (2.3 x 2.7 in)]
Compression Ratio	8.5 : 1
Engine Speed	3,600 rpm
Cooling System	Liquid-cooling
Coolant Capacity	2.0 ℓ (2.1 US qt , 1.8 Imp qt)
Ignition System	Transistorized magneto
Oil Capacity	1.4 ℓ (1.5 US qt , 1.2 Imp qt)
Fuel Tank Capacity	16.5 ℓ (4.36 US gal , 3.63 Imp gal)
Spark Plug	BPR6HS (NGK)

## Generator

Model	EX5500	
Type	A	
AC output	Rated voltage	120/240 V
	Rated frequency	60 Hz
	Rated ampere	41.7/20.8 A
	Rated output	5.0 kVA
	Maximum output	5.5 kVA

## Tune-up Specification

ITEM	SPECIFICATION	MAINTENANCE
Spark plug gap	0.60–0.70 mm (0.024–0.028 in)	Refer to page: 33
Valve clearance	IN: 0.10 – 0.14 mm cold EX: 0.18 – 0.22 mm cold	See your authorized Honda dealer
Other specification	No other adjustments needed.	

### NOTE:

Specifications may vary according to the types, and are subject to change without notice.

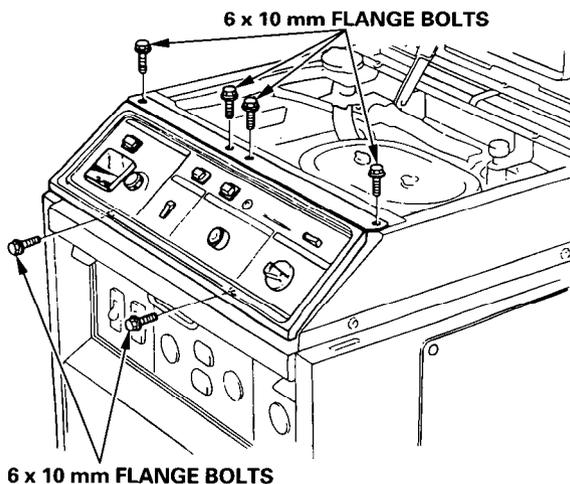
# INSTALLATION OF OPTIONAL PARTS

## Remote Control Kit

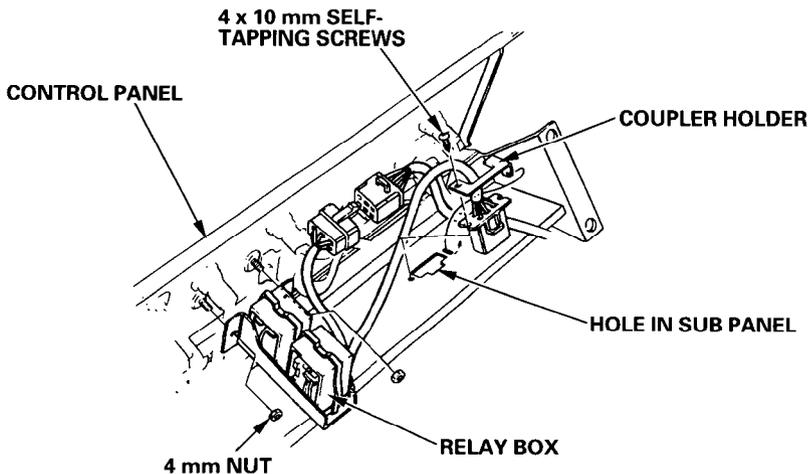
The generator may be adapted for remote control operation by use of an optional kit.

## INSTALLATION

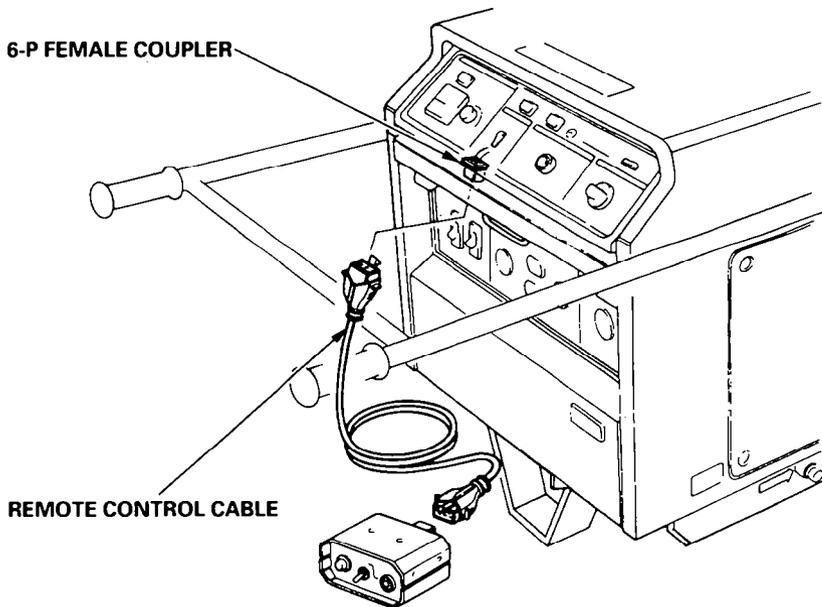
1. Remove the six 6 x 10 mm flange bolts that attach the control panel. Remove the control panel.



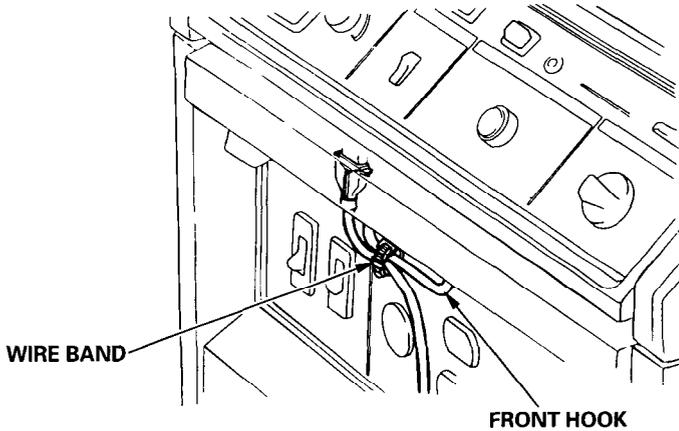
2. Position the relay box on the back of the control panel with the studs inserted through the holes in the relay box flange. Install a 4 mm nut and lock washer on each stud and tighten securely.



- 
3. Remove the 6-P coupler with a jumper wire from the wire harness female coupler. Connect the relay box 6-P male coupler to the wire harness female coupler.
  4. Insert the relay box 6-P female coupler in the hole in the subpanel below the control panel, and install with the two self-tapping screws and coupler holder.



- 
5. Reinstall the control panel with the 6 x 10 mm flange bolts.
  6. Connect the remote control 6-P male coupler to the 6-P coupler on the subpanel. Secure the remote control cable to the front hook with a wire band positioned where shown.

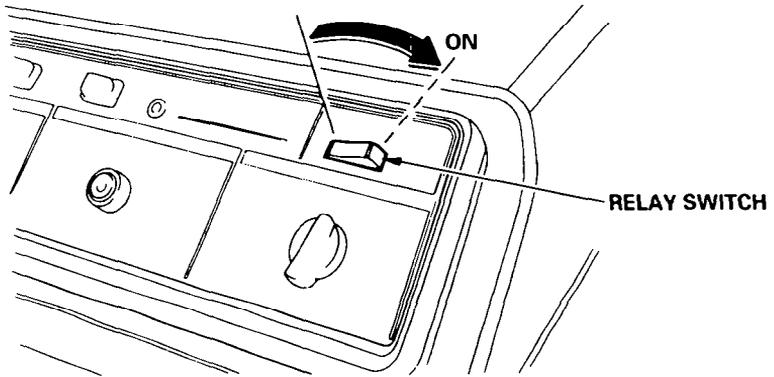


7. Connect the remote control 6-P male coupler to the switch box.

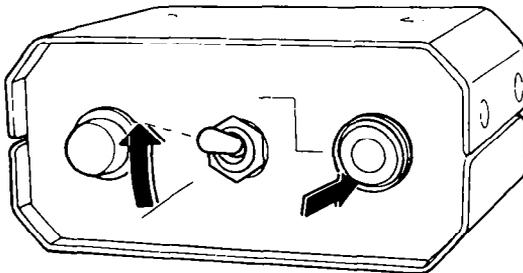
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## OPERATION

1. Turn the fuel valve on.
2. Turn the auto-throttle switch to AUTO.
3. Turn the ignition switch key off or remove it from the generator.
4. Turn the relay switch on.



5. Flip the remote control engine switch up to ON.



6. Depress the starter button until the pilot lamp is on.
7. To stop the engine, flip the remote control engine switch down to OFF. When the generator is not in use, turn the fuel valve off.

# **CUSTOMER SERVICE INFORMATION**

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Honda power equipment dealership personnel are trained professionals. They should be able to answer any question you may have. If you encounter a problem that your dealer does not solve to your satisfaction, please discuss it with the dealership's management. The Service Manager or General Manager can help. Almost all problems are solved in this way.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by the dealership's management, contact the Honda Power Equipment Customer Service Office. You can write to:

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
Honda Power Equipment Division  
Customer Service Office  
4475 River Green Parkway  
Duluth, Georgia 30136-2565

Or telephone: (404) 497-6400

When you write or call, please give us this information:

- Model and serial number (see pages 8 and 9 )
- Name of dealer who sold the generator to you
- Name and address of dealer who services your generator
- Date of purchase
- Your name, address, and telephone number
- A detailed description of the problem

## **Current customer service contact information:**

### **United States, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands:**

Honda Power Equipment dealership personnel are trained professionals. They should be able to answer any question you may have. If you encounter a problem that your dealer does not solve to your satisfaction, please discuss it with the dealership's management. The Service Manager or General Manager can help. Almost all problems are solved in this way.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by the dealership's management, contact the Honda Power Equipment Customer Relations Office. You can write:

American Honda Motor Co., Inc.  
Power Equipment Division  
Customer Relations Office  
4900 Marconi Drive  
Alpharetta, GA 30005-8847

Or telephone: (770) 497-6400 M-F, 8:30 am - 7:00 pm EST

When you write or call, please provide the following information:

- Model and serial numbers
- Name of the dealer who sold the Honda power equipment to you
- Name and address of the dealer who services your equipment
- Date of purchase
- Your name, address, and telephone number
- A detailed description of the problem

# INDEX

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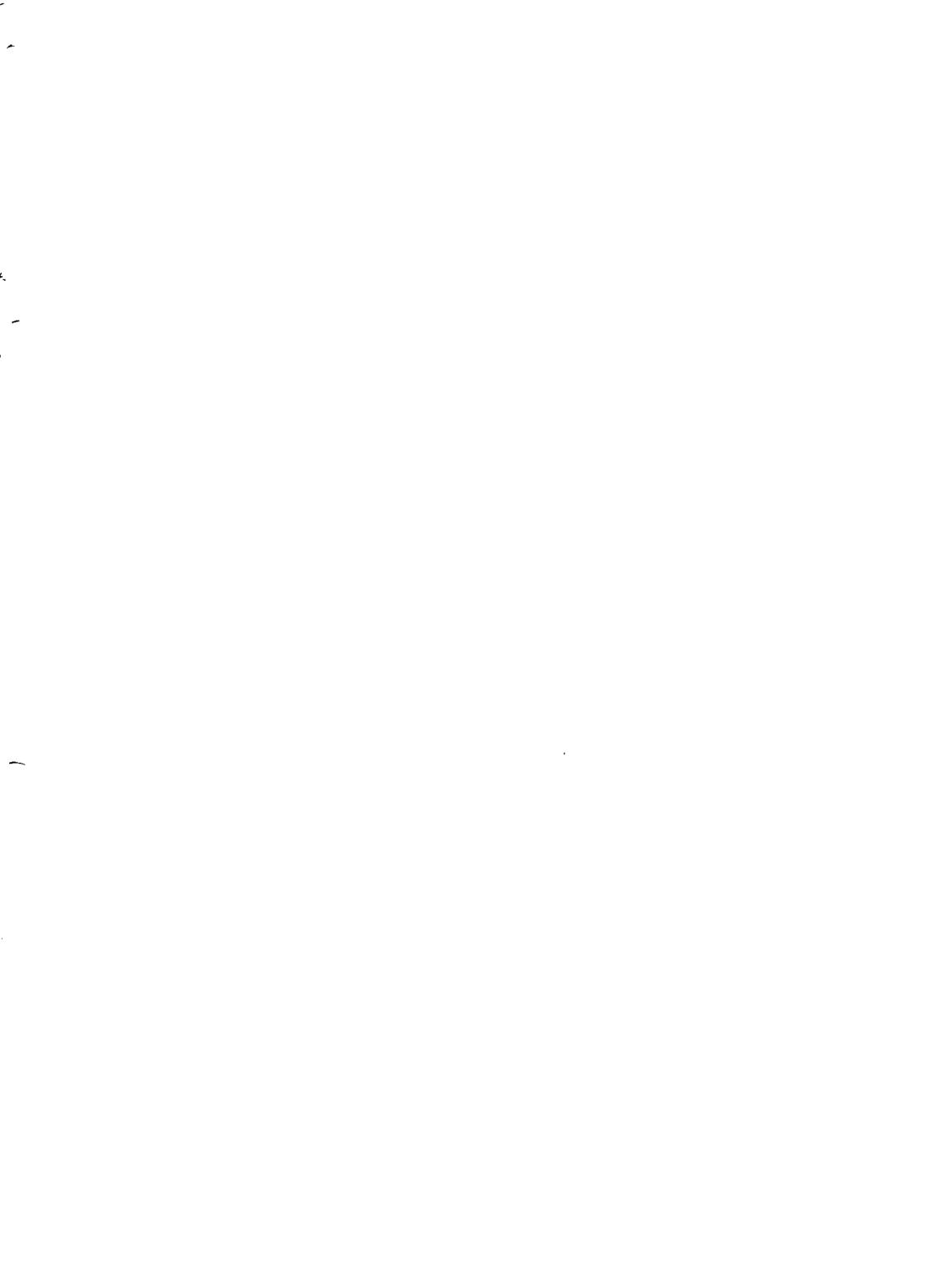
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**MEMO**



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