SOFTWARE & TECH

Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram

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Understanding the Acura RSX Engine Mounting System

The Acura RSX, produced between 2002 and 2006, remains a beloved compact sports coupe for enthusiasts and daily drivers alike. Whether you own a base model with the K20A3 engine or the high-revving Type-S with its legendary K20A2 powerplant, maintaining your vehicle requires a solid understanding of its mechanical systems. One component that often gets overlooked until it fails is the engine mounting system. A clear grasp of the **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**is essential for diagnosing vibrations, preventing drivetrain damage, and ensuring your car feels as tight as the day it left the factory. This guide will walk you through every mount position, its function, and what to look for when things go wrong.

Your RSX engine mounts do far more than simply hold the engine in place. They absorb torque from the engine, dampen vibrations from the road, and maintain proper alignment of the drivetrain components. When these mounts fail, the consequences range from annoying cabin shake to serious damage to axles and subframes. By familiarizing yourself with the motor mount layout, you will be better equipped to troubleshoot issues, communicate with your mechanic, or tackle a replacement project yourself.

The Role of Motor Mounts in Your Acura RSX

Before diving into the specific diagram for the Acura RSX, it is helpful to understand what motor mounts actually do. Engine mounts are rubber-and-metal bushings that connect your engine and transmission to the vehicle's chassis or subframe. They serve three primary purposes:

- Support the powertrain weight — The engine and transmission are heavy assemblies that need robust support.
- Absorb engine torque — When you accelerate, the engine rotates slightly under torque. Mounts control this movement to prevent stress on other components.
- Reduce noise and vibration — The rubber portion of each mount isolates the cabin from engine harmonics and road feedback.

The Acura RSX uses a combination of solid rubber mounts and a unique hydraulic mount on certain models. Knowing the location and type of each mount is critical when interpreting an **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram** .

Complete Acura RSX Motor Mount Diagram Overview

If you were to look at an official service manual diagram for the Acura RSX, you would see five distinct mount positions. The engine and transmission are supported at these key points. Understanding this layout helps you pinpoint which mount is causing trouble when symptoms appear.

Mount 1: Front Engine Mount (Radiator Side)

Located on the passenger side of the engine bay, near the radiator, this mount attaches the engine

Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram

block. In the **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**, this is typically labeled as the front engine mount. It bears much of the engine's weight and experiences significant stress during acceleration and deceleration. The front mount is often the first to show signs of wear, especially in vehicles with higher mileage or modified engines.

Mount 2: Rear Engine Mount (Firewall Side)

This mount is positioned near the firewall on the driver's side. It connects the back of the engine or transmission to the rear subframe. The rear mount plays a major role in controlling engine rock during hard acceleration. When this mount fails, you may feel a distinct clunk when shifting gears or when transitioning between throttle and braking.

Mount 3: Transmission Mount (Driver Side)

The transmission mount sits on the driver's side of the vehicle, directly supporting the transmission housing. In the **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**, this mount is often shown as an L-shaped bracket that bolts to the transmission and the chassis rail. This mount takes a lot of abuse because the transmission moves with the engine under load. A worn transmission mount is a frequent culprit for drivetrain vibration in the RSX.

Mount 4: Lower Torque Mount (Rear Lower)

Also called the dogbone mount or lower torque mount, this small but critical component connects the engine to the subframe at a lower point. It is designed specifically to limit engine rotation under torque. On many RSX diagrams, this mount appears separate from the main structural mounts. If this mount fails, you may experience excessive engine movement, which can damage axles and shift cables.

Mount 5: Hydraulic Mount (Some Models)

Certain Acura RSX models, particularly the base automatic transmission variants, came equipped with a hydraulic engine mount. This mount contains fluid that provides superior vibration damping. On an **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**, the hydraulic mount is normally located on the passenger side of the engine. When the hydraulic mount leaks or loses its fluid, the damping ability is lost, and you will feel increased vibration in the cabin at idle and under load.

How to Read the Acura RSX Motor Mount Diagram

When you look at a factory diagram from the Honda service manual or an aftermarket parts catalog, the mounts are usually identified by number or letter codes. Here is a practical breakdown of how to interpret these illustrations:

1. Identify the engine orientation — The diagram usually shows the engine as viewed from the front of the car. The transmission sits on the driver's side (left side in the diagram).
2. Look for color coding or part numbers — Official diagrams often use reference numbers that correspond to a parts list. Match these numbers to the mount names for accurate identification.
3. Note the bolt torque specifications — A good diagram will list torque specs near each mount location. This information is critical during installation to avoid stripping threads or causing premature mount failure.
4. Check for directional arrows — Some mounts are designed to be installed in a specific orientation. The diagram will show alignment marks or arrows indicating the correct position.

Using a reliable **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**from a trusted source, such as the factory service manual or a reputable OEM parts retailer, ensures that you are working with accurate information. Generic diagrams found on forums may not always reflect the exact layout for your specific RSX model year or trim level.

Common Symptoms of Worn or Failed Motor Mounts

Your RSX will tell you when the motor mounts are going bad. Recognizing these signs early can save you from

more expensive repairs down the road. Here are the most common symptoms associated with worn mounts in the context of the motor mount diagram:

- Excessive engine movement — Open the hood and watch the engine while someone revs the engine or shifts from drive to reverse. If the engine rocks more than an inch or two, mounts are likely worn.
- Clunking or banging noises — A dull thud when accelerating, decelerating, or shifting gears points to a mount that has torn through its rubber isolation.
- Cabin vibration — If you feel a constant buzz or shake at idle that smooths out as you accelerate, the rubber in the mounts has hardened or collapsed, transmitting engine harmonics directly to the chassis.
- Uneven tire wear or axle damage — When the engine shifts out of its correct position, drivetrain angles change, leading to premature wear on CV joints, axles, and tires.
- Transmission shifting issues — On manual RSX models, a worn mount can cause the shift linkage to bind, making it hard to engage gears smoothly.

If you experience any of these symptoms, referring to an **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**can help you visually inspect each mount location for cracks, tears, oil leaks, or separation of the rubber from the metal sleeve.

Replacement Considerations and Best Practices

Replacing motor mounts on an Acura RSX is a task that many DIY enthusiasts can handle, but it requires patience, the right tools, and a clear understanding of the mount layout. Here are some important points to consider when using a motor mount diagram for replacement:

Choose the Right Mounts

You have options when replacing mounts. OEM Honda mounts offer a balance of comfort and durability. Aftermarket polyurethane mounts are stiffer and reduce engine movement, but they transmit more vibration into the cabin. For a daily driver, OEM or high-quality aftermarket rubber mounts are usually the best choice. For track use, polyurethane mounts may be preferable.

Support the Engine Properly

Before removing any mount, you must safely support the engine and transmission. Use a floor jack with a wooden block under the oil pan or a transmission jack. Never rely on a single mount to hold the powertrain in place during repairs. Refer to your diagram to identify which mounts are load-bearing and which can be removed without immediate risk.

Replace in Sets

Motor mounts wear out at different rates, but it is wise to replace all mounts at once. If you replace only the front mount but leave the rear mount worn, the new mount will experience uneven stress and may fail prematurely. A full set of mounts for the RSX is relatively affordable and ensures balanced performance.

Torque Bolts to Specification

One of the most critical steps shown on any proper **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**is the torque specification for each bolt. Under-torqued bolts can loosen over time, while over-torqued bolts can strip threads or crush the mount bushings. Use a torque wrench and follow the factory values listed alongside the diagram.

Check Related Components

While addressing your RSX motor mounts, it is a good time to inspect surrounding components. Check the condition of the subframe bolts, the shift cables, the axle boots, and the engine harness routing. A failing mount can cause these parts to rub or stretch, leading to additional problems.

Performance Upgrades and Motor Mount Considerations

For RSX owners who have modified their engines or plan to track their cars, motor mounts become even more important. A tuned engine with increased horsepower and torque output will put greater stress on the factory mounts. Many enthusiasts upgrade to stiffer mounts to reduce wheel hop and improve throttle response. An **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram**is valuable here because it helps you identify which mounting points benefit most from reinforcement.

Popular aftermarket options include mass-produced polyurethane mounts from brands like Innovative Mounts, Hasport, and Avid. These mounts replace the rubber with a stiffer material, reducing engine movement during hard acceleration and aggressive shifting. The trade-off is a noticeable increase in vibration at idle, which some drivers find unacceptable for daily driving. If you are considering this route, study the diagram to understand which mounts are available in performance versions and which ones are best left with rubber for comfort.

Hydraulic Mount Specific Considerations

If your RSX is equipped with a hydraulic mount, pay special attention to it on the diagram. Hydraulic mounts use fluid to dampen vibrations more effectively than solid rubber. Over time, the internal diaphragm can rupture, allowing the fluid to leak out. When this happens, the mount collapses and loses its damping ability. Replacement is the only solution. When sourcing a replacement, ensure that you are getting a hydraulic mount if your vehicle was originally equipped with one. Some aftermarket suppliers sell solid rubber replacements for hydraulic mount positions, which will change the vibration characteristics of your car.

Tools Required for Motor Mount Replacement

Having the right tools on hand before you start will make the job smoother. Based on the typical **Acura Rsx Motor Mount Diagram** and the positions of the bolts, you will need:

- Floor jack and jack stands
- Wooden block or transmission adapter for jack
- Socket set with extensions (12mm, 14mm, 17mm, 19mm sockets are common)
- Breaker bar for stubborn bolts
- Torque wrench
- Penetrating oil (like WD-40 or PB Blaster)
- Pry bar or large screwdriver for alignment
- Safety glasses and gloves

Having the diagram printed out or accessible on your phone will help you locate each bolt and verify the sequence of removal and installation.

Conclusion

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