

## 2004 DRIVE AXLES

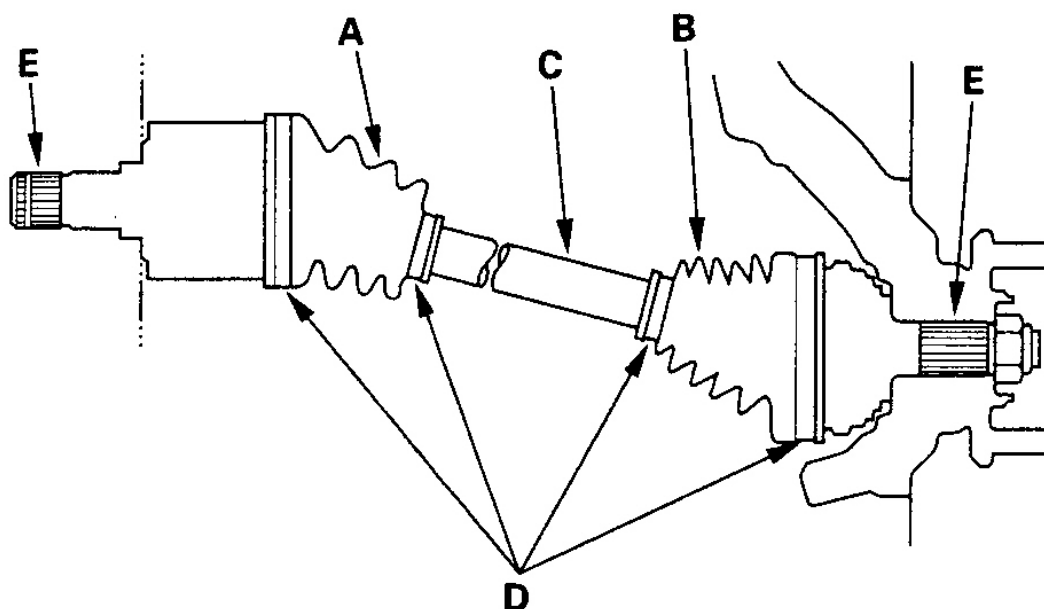
### Axle Shafts - Front - TSX

## INSPECTION

### AXLE SHAFT INSPECTION

**NOTE:** Letters in parenthesis correspond to letters in illustrations.

1. Check the inboard boot (A) and the outboard boot (B) on the axle shaft (C) for cracks, damage, leaking grease, and loose boot bands (D). If any damage is found, replace the boot and boot bands. See **Fig. 1**.
2. Turn the axle shaft by hand, and make sure the splines (E) and joint are not excessively loose.
3. Make sure the axle shaft is not twisted or cracked. If it is, replace it.



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**Fig. 1: Inspecting Boot & Boot Bands**  
Courtesy of ISUZU MOTOR CO.

## TROUBLE SHOOTING

**NOTE:** See appropriate table in TROUBLE SHOOTING article in GENERAL INFORMATION.

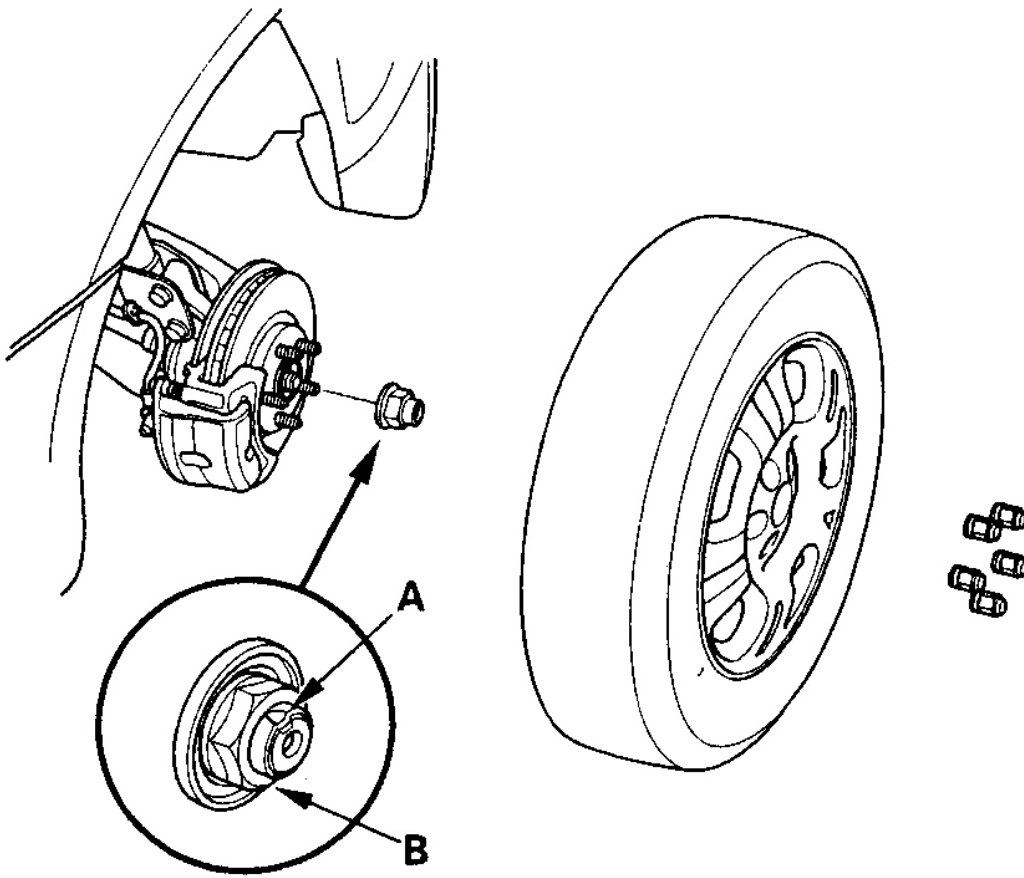
## REMOVAL & INSTALLATION

### FRONT AXLE SHAFTS

**NOTE:** Letters in parenthesis correspond to letters in illustrations.

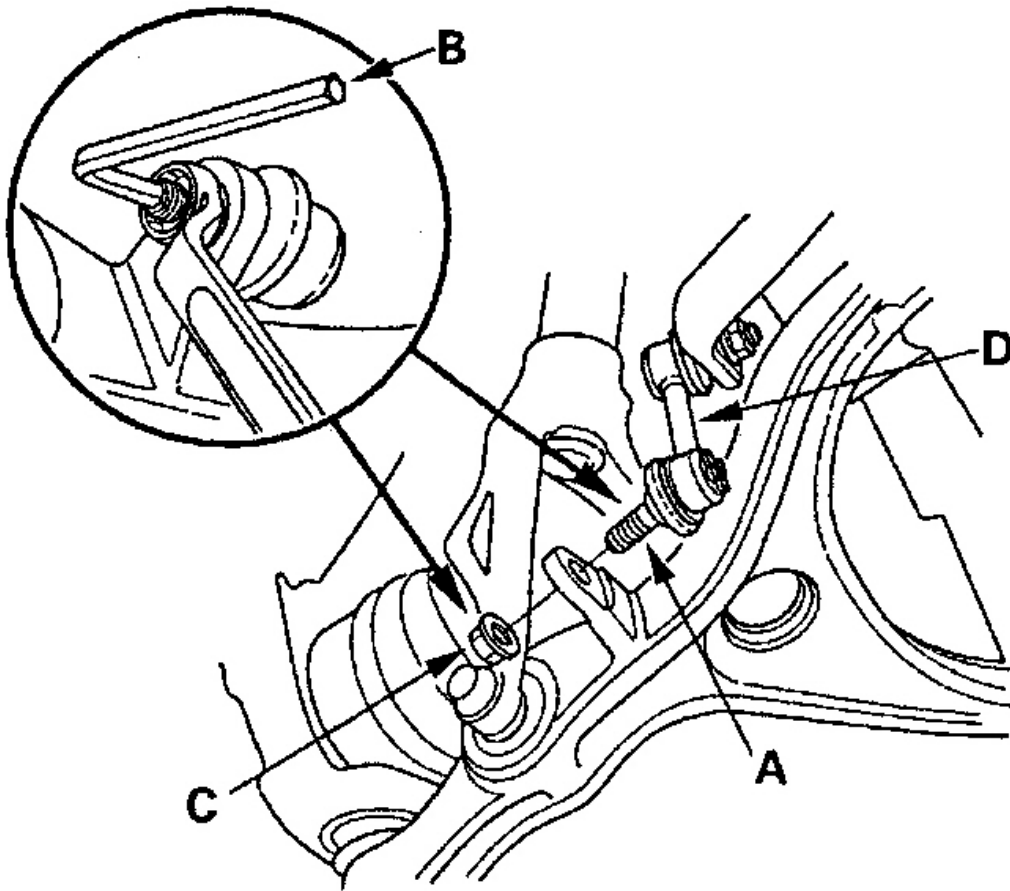
#### Removal

1. Raise the front of the vehicle, and support it with safety stands in the proper locations.
2. Remove the wheel nuts and front wheels.
3. Lift up the locking tab (A) on the spindle nut (B), then remove the nut. See **Fig. 2**.
4. Drain the transmission fluid. Reinstall the drain plug using a new washer:
  - Manual transmission. See appropriate **SERVICING** in **MANUAL TRANSMISSIONS**.
  - Automatic transmission. See appropriate **SERVICING** in **AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS**.
5. Hold the stabilizer ball joint pin (A) with a hex wrench (B), and remove the flange nut (C). See **Fig. 3**. Separate the front stabilizer link (D) from the lower arm.
6. Remove the self-locking nut (A) and 12 mm flange bolts (B), and 10 mm flange bolt (C), then remove the damper fork (D). See **Fig. 4**.
7. Remove the cotter pin (A) from the lower arm ball joint castle nut (B), and remove the nut. See **Fig. 5**.
8. Separate the ball joint from the lower arm (C) with the ball joint remover.
9. Pull the knuckle outward, and remove the outboard joint from the front wheel hub using a plastic hammer. See **Fig. 6**.
10. Remove the axle shaft as an assembly. See **Fig. 7**. **DO NOT** pull on the axle shaft (B), because the inboard joint may come apart. Pull the axle shaft straight out to avoid damaging the oil seal.
  - Left: Pry the inboard joint (A) from the differential case with a prybar.
  - Right: Drive the inboard joint (A) off of the intermediate shaft with drift and hammer.



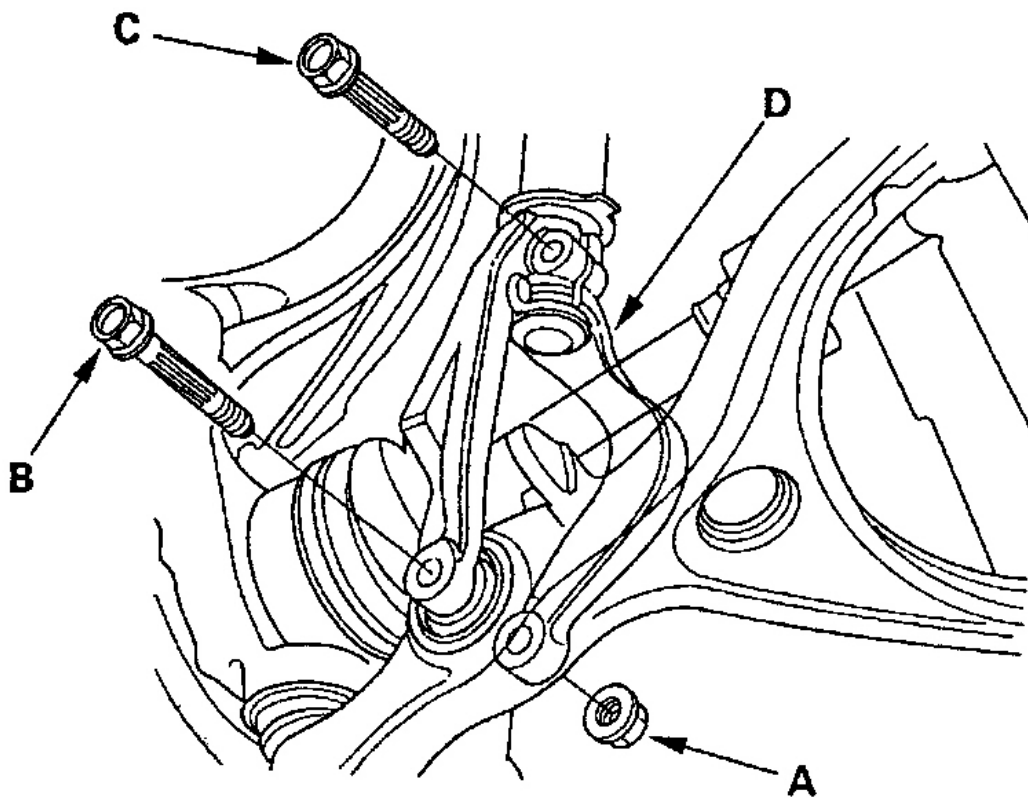
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**Fig. 2: Removing & Installing Axle Nut**  
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA CO., INC.



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**Fig. 3: Holding Stabilizer Ball Joint Pin With Hex Wrench**  
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.



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**Fig. 4: Removing Self-Locking Nut & Flange Bolts**  
Courtesy of AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.