

**Wheels:** An e-mail from Craig says, “When I take my 2000 Civic to the dealer for an oil change, they overfill the engine. They seem to be putting 4 quarts in when it only needs 3.5 quarts. I have them check it. Sometimes they will give me a new oil change. Other times they will say it is OK to have 4 quarts in it. What do you think?”

**Halderman:** I have not checked the specifications from Honda regarding the specified amount of oil. I am assuming that you are referring to the amount needed with an oil filter. I doubt that overfilling by a half quart will create any problems, but it would slightly increase the resistance in the engine resulting in slightly less fuel economy. I doubt that the change in miles per gallon would be measurable. Overfilling the engine with oil can cause air to be forced into the oil by the rotating crankshaft. This aeration could cause a lack of lubrication. Should it be filled to the full mark and not overfilled? Yes.

