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## Honda Decides to Build Its Own Electric Vehicles in the Future

July 02, 2021

Japanese automaker Honda plans to design and manufacture its own electric vehicles (EVs) in the coming years.

Company officials say they will begin building their own electric vehicles after two EVs made by American automaker General Motors (GM) go on sale in 2024.

“It’s absolutely our **intention** to produce in our factories,” said Honda of America Executive Vice President Dave Gardner. He added that Honda has developed **battery** manufacturing technology from building gas-electric **hybrid** vehicles.

Honda and GM have been partners in making hydrogen and electric powered vehicles. Earlier this year, the companies announced that GM would build two sport utility vehicles (SUVs): one Honda sport SUV and one Acura SUV. Both would use GM’s electric vehicle design and battery system. The company said the Honda SUV would be named the Prologue. Both SUVs will have bodies, **interiors** and driving elements designed by Honda.

Honda then plans to manufacture most of its own electric vehicles. The company has not decided if it will use GM parts.

Gardner said Honda expects to sell between 40,000 and 150,000 Prologue EVs a year. But he did not predict when those numbers would be reached.

In April, the company said it plans to stop producing gasoline-powered vehicles in North America by 2040. Honda wants 40 percent of the vehicles it sells in North America to be powered by batteries or fuel-cells by 2030. The company also wants 80 percent of all the vehicles it sells to run on batteries or hydrogen by 2035.

Earlier, Honda had planned to meet stronger government fuel economy and pollution requirements by adding hybrid vehicles. But government actions across the world meant to fight climate change have moved the company more toward fully electric vehicles, Gardner said.

Electric vehicles made up less than two percent of new vehicle sales in the U.S. last year. But experts predict huge growth as automakers develop new models. Car industry advisor LMC Automotive expects 359,000 to be sold this year. They also expect sales to reach 1 million in 2023 and 4 million in 2030. That is about 25 percent of yearly new vehicle sales.

I'm Jonathan Evans.

*Jonathan Evans adapted this story for Learning English from an article by the Associated Press. Mario Ritter, Jr. was the editor.*

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## Words in This Story

**intention** *-n.* the thing that you plan to do or goal you want to reach; an aim or purpose

**battery** *-n.* a device that is linked to a machine that stores and supplies electricity

**hybrid** *-n.* something that is formed by combining two or more things such as a car that runs on both electric and gasoline power

**interior** *-n.* the inner parts; the inside of something such as a car or house