

# 1997 Mazda MX-5 Miata

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## MODEL IDENTIFICATION

### VIN LOCATION

The Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is located on the left side of the dash panel at the base of the windshield. The VIN chart explains the code characters.

### VIN CODE ID EXPLANATION

Numbers preceding the explanations in the legend below refer to the sequence of characters as listed on VIN identification label. See VIN example below.

#### VIN Code ID Explanation

(VIN)	J	M	1	N	A	3	5	1	1	L	0	1	3	0	4	7	2
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

- 1 - Manufacturing Country**
  - J \* Japan
- 2 - Make**
  - M \* Mazda Motors Corp., Japan
- 3 - Type**
  - 1 \* Car
- 4-5 - Model**
  - NA \* MX-5 Miata
- 6-7 - Body Style**
  - 35 \* Convertible
- 8 - Modification Code**
  - \* Not Specified By Manufacturer
- 9 - VIN Check Digit**
  - 1 \* Constant For All Models
- 10 - Vehicle Model Year**
  - R \* 1994
  - S \* 1995
  - T \* 1996
  - V \* 1997
  - W \* 1998
- 11 - Assembly Plant**
  - 0 \* Hiroshima, Japan
- 12-17 - Serial Number**
  - \* Sequential Production Number

**Fig. 1: VIN Code ID Explanation**

## MAINTENANCE SERVICE INFORMATION

### SEVERE & NORMAL SERVICE DEFINITIONS

Service is recommended at mileage intervals based on vehicle operation. Service schedules are based on following primary operating conditions:

#### Normal Service

- Driven More Than 10 Miles Daily
- No Operating Conditions From Severe Service Schedule

#### Severe Service (Unique Driving Conditions)

**NOTE: Use the Severe Service schedule if the vehicle to be serviced is operated under ANY (one or more) of these conditions:**

- Repeated Short Distance Driving
- Dusty Conditions
- Extended Use Of Brakes
- Salt Or Other Corrosive Materials On The Roads
- Rough Or Muddy Roads
- Extended Idling Or Low Speed Operation
- Extended Operation In Extreme Temperatures

### CAMSHAFT TIMING BELT

Replace camshaft timing belt at 60,000 mile intervals.

**CAUTION: Failure to replace a faulty camshaft timing belt may result in serious engine damage.**

The condition of camshaft drive belts should always be checked on vehicles which have more than 50,000 miles. Although some manufacturers do not recommend belt replacement at a specified mileage, others require it at 60,000-100,000 miles. A camshaft drive belt failure may cause extensive damage to internal engine components on most engines, although some designs do not allow piston-to-valve contact. These designs are often called "Free Wheeling".

Many manufacturers changed their maintenance and warranty schedules in the mid-1980's to reflect timing belt inspection and/or replacement at 50,000-60,000 miles. Most service interval schedules in this manual reflect these changes.

Belts or components should be inspected and replaced if any of the following conditions exist:

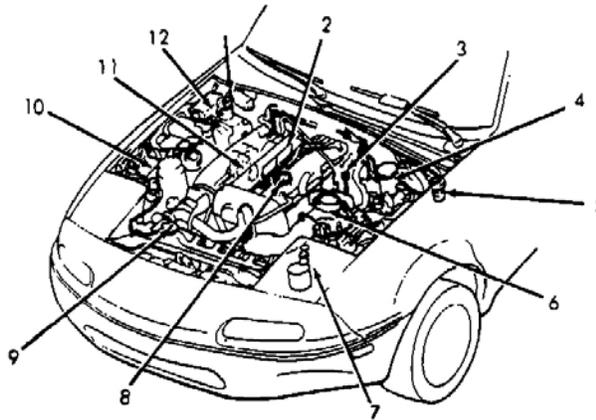
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- Cracks Or Tears In Belt Surface
- Missing, Damaged, Cracked Or Rounded Teeth
- Oil Contamination
- Damaged Or Faulty Tensioners
- Incorrect Tension Adjustment

### SERVICE POINT LOCATIONS

1. Washer Fluid Reservoir
2. Spark Plugs
3. Engine Oil Dipstick
4. Brake Fluid Reservoir
5. Clutch Fluid Reservoir
6. Air Cleaner
7. Power Steering Reservoir
8. Oil Filler Cap
9. Radiator Cap
10. Coolant Reservoir
11. Engine Oil Filter
12. Main Fuse Block



**Fig. 2: Service Point Locations**

Courtesy of MAZDA MOTOR OF AMERICA, INC.

### LUBRICATION SPECIFICATIONS

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Material	Condition	Specification
Engine Oil <sup>(1)</sup>	Ambient Temperature Above -10° F (-23°C) To Over 100°F (38°C)	SAE 10W-30
Engine Oil <sup>(1)</sup>	Ambient Temperature Less Than -10°F (-23°C) To 60°F (16°C)	SAE 5W-30
Engine Coolant	Above 3°F (-16°C) Above -15°F (-26°C) Above -40°F (-40°C)	35/65 Mixture 45/55 Mixture 55/45 Mixture Distilled Water Ethylene Glycol
Brake Fluid	All	DOT 3
Automatic Transaxle Fluid	All	ATF M-III or DEXRON II
Manual Transaxle Fluid	All	Hypoid Gear Oil API Classification GL-4 or GL-5 SAE 75W-90 Above 50°F (10°C): 80W-90
A/C Refrigerant	All	R-134a

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(1) Energy conserving oils are recommended, API classification SG", "SH".

## FLUID CAPACITIES

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Item	Condition	Specification (1)
Engine Oil	Drained, With Filter	4.0 Qts. (3.8L)
Engine Oil	Drained	3.8 Qts. (3.6L)
Engine Coolant	Drained	6.3 Qts. (6.0L)
Automatic Transaxle Fluid	Capacity	7.1 Qts. (6.7L)
Manual Transaxle Fluid	Capacity	2.1 Qts. (2.0L)
Rear Axle Oil	Capacity	1.1 Qts. (1.0L)
A/C Refrigerant	Evacuated	1 lb. 3.4 oz. (0.6kg)
Fuel Tank	Capacity	12.6 Gal. (48.0L)

(1) Capacities are recommended or calculated levels. Always use dipstick (if available) to measure level.

## WHEEL & TIRE SPECIFICATIONS

### WHEEL TIGHTENING

Tighten wheel lug nuts to 65-87 ft. lbs. (88-118 N.m).

## BATTERY SPECIFICATIONS

**CAUTION:** When battery is disconnected, vehicles equipped with computers may lose memory data. When battery power is restored, driveability problems may exist on some vehicles. These vehicles may require a relearn procedure. See **COMPUTER RELEARN PROCEDURES** article in the **GENERAL INFORMATION** Section.

Vehicle is equipped with a special 9 9/16" x 4 3/4" x 7 3/8" 12-volt battery that is vented to outside of vehicle.

## CAUTIONS & WARNINGS

### SUPPLEMENTAL RESTRAINT SYSTEM (AIR BAG)

**NOTE:** See the **AIR BAG RESTRAINT SYSTEM** article in the **ACCESSORIES/SAFETY EQUIPMENT** Section.

Modifications or improper maintenance, including incorrect removal and installation of the Supplemental Restraint System (SRS), can adversely affect system performance. DO NOT cover, obstruct or change the steering wheel horn pad in any way, as such action could cause improper function of the system. Use only plain

water when cleaning the horn pad. Solvents or cleaners could adversely affect the air bag cover and cause improper deployment of the system.

**WARNING:** To avoid injury from accidental air bag deployment, read and carefully follow all warnings and service precautions. See appropriate AIR BAG RESTRAINT SYSTEM article in ACCESSORIES/SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

**CAUTION:** Disconnect negative battery cable before servicing any air bag system, steering column or passenger side dash component. After any repair, turn ignition key to the ON position from passenger's side of vehicle in case of accidental air bag inflation

### AIR CONDITIONING SERVICING

**CAUTION:** Avoid breathing R-134a refrigerant and PAG lubricant vapors, exposure may irritate eyes, nose and throat. To remove R-134a from system use R-134a recycling equipment that meets SAE J2210 specifications. If accidental system discharge occurs, ventilate work area before resuming service.

**WARNING:** R-134a service equipment or vehicle A/C systems SHOULD NOT be pressure tested or leak tested with compressed air. Some mixtures of air/R134a have shown to be combustible at elevated pressures. These mixtures are dangerous and may cause fire and/or explosions. See AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE article in GENERAL INFORMATION section.

### ANTI-LOCK BRAKE SYSTEM

**CAUTION:** The anti-lock brake system contains electronic equipment that can be susceptible to interference caused by improperly installed or high output radio transmitting equipment. Since this interference could cause the possible loss of the anti-lock braking capability, such equipment should be installed by qualified professionals.

On models equipped with anti-lock brake systems, ALWAYS observe the following cautions:

- DO NOT attempt to bleed hydraulic system without first referring to the appropriate ANTI-LOCK BRAKE SYSTEM article in the BRAKES Section.
- DO NOT mix tire sizes. As long as tires remain close to the original diameter, increasing the width is acceptable. Rolling diameter must be identical for all 4 tires. Some manufacturers recommend tires of the same brand, style and type. Failure to follow this precaution may cause inaccurate wheel speed readings.
- Use ONLY recommended brake fluids. DO NOT use silicone brake fluids in an ABS-equipped vehicle.

### BATTERY WARNING

**WARNING:** When battery is disconnected, vehicles equipped with computers may lose memory data. When battery power is restored, driveability problems may exist on some vehicles. These vehicles may require a relearn procedure. See **COMPUTER RELEARN PROCEDURES** article in **GENERAL INFORMATION** section.

### **REPLACING BLOWN FUSES**

**CAUTION:** Before replacing a blown fuse, remove ignition key, turn off all lights and accessories to avoid damaging the electrical system. Be sure to use fuse with the correct indicated amperage rating. The use of an incorrect amperage rating fuse may result in a dangerous electrical system overload.

### **BRAKE PAD WEAR INDICATOR**

**CAUTION:** Indicator will cause a squealing or scraping noise, warning that brake pads need replacement.

### **CATALYTIC CONVERTER**

**CAUTION:** Continued operation of vehicle with a severe malfunction could cause converter to overheat, resulting in possible damage to converter and vehicle.

**CAUTION:** Any modification to the exhaust system on turbo models, which reduces exhaust backpressure, will lead to lean fuel mixtures and excessive spark advance. This could cause serious engine damage.

### **ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE SENSITIVE (ESD) PARTS**

**WARNING:** Many solid state electrical components can be damaged by static electricity (ESD). Some will display a warning label, but many will not. Discharge personal static electricity by touching a metal ground point on the vehicle prior to servicing any ESD sensitive component.

### **ENGINE OIL**

**CAUTION:** Never use non-detergent or straight mineral oil.

### **FUEL SYSTEM SERVICE**

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**WARNING:** Relieve fuel system pressure prior to servicing any fuel system component (fuel injection models).

### HALOGEN BULBS

**WARNING:** Halogen bulbs contain pressurized gas which may explode if overheated. **DO NOT** touch glass portion of bulb with bare hands. Eye protection should be worn when handling or working around halogen bulbs.

### HEADLIGHT RETRACTOR

**CAUTION:** If headlight retractor freezes during cold weather operation, **DO NOT** attempt to force mechanism. Headlights should be kept raised at all times in cold weather. To raise them, use only headlight retractor switch. **DO NOT** use headlight switch.

### RADIATOR CAP

**CAUTION:** Always disconnect the fan motor when working near the radiator fan. The fan is temperature controlled and could start at any time even when the ignition key is in the **OFF** position. **DO NOT** loosen or remove radiator cap when cooling system is hot.

### RADIATOR FAN

**WARNING:** Keep hands away from radiator fan. Fan is controlled by a thermostatic switch which may come on or run for up to 15 minutes even after engine is turned off.

## WARRANTY INFORMATION

**CAUTION:** Always refer to customer's copy of warranty information for specific model application and/or coverage limitations.

### BASIC NEW CAR WARRANTY

Basic components are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for 36 months or 50,000 miles, whichever occurs first. Tires are covered by a separate warranty offered by tire manufacturer.

### ANTI-PERFORATION WARRANTY

Covers body sheet metal panels for 60 months, regardless of mileage, against perforation due to corrosion.

### SAFETY RESTRAINT SYSTEM WARRANTY

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Supplemental air bag system, seat belts and related components are warranted for 5 years or 60,000 miles, whichever comes first, against defects in materials and workmanship.

### **REPLACEMENT PARTS & ACCESSORIES**

Manufacturer-supplied parts and accessories are warranted against defects in material or workmanship for 12 months without regard to mileage. If installed by a Mazda dealer, part or accessory will be repaired or replaced without charge during warranty period. If not installed by a dealer, part or accessory will be repaired or replaced without charge for parts, but labor cost will be responsibility of owner.

### **EMISSION DEFECT WARRANTY (EXCEPT CALIFORNIA)**

Warrants that vehicle was designed, built and equipped to conform with applicable Federal emission regulations at time of sale and that vehicle is free of defects in materials and workmanship which may cause vehicle to fail to conform with applicable regulations for 5 years or 50,000 miles, whichever occurs first.

### **EMISSION PERFORMANCE WARRANTY (EXCEPT CALIFORNIA)**

Covers all repairs, adjustments and replacements if vehicle fails to conform to applicable emission standards and such failure results in vehicle owner bearing a penalty or other sanction under local, state or Federal law. Warranty period is 5 years or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first. After 2 years or 24,000 miles, manufacturer will make necessary adjustments, repairs and replacements at no cost to owner only when noncompliance is caused by failure of components which have been installed in vehicle for sole or primary purpose of reducing vehicle emissions. See copy of warranty for specific components covered.

### **EMISSION DEFECT WARRANTY (CALIFORNIA)**

For 3 years or 50,000 miles, whichever occurs first, any defective emission-related part on vehicle will be repaired or replaced by manufacturer at no cost to owner. Certain emission-related parts are covered for repair or replacement for 7 years or 70,000 miles, whichever occurs first. See copy of warranty for specific components covered.

### **EMISSION PERFORMANCE WARRANTY (CALIFORNIA)**

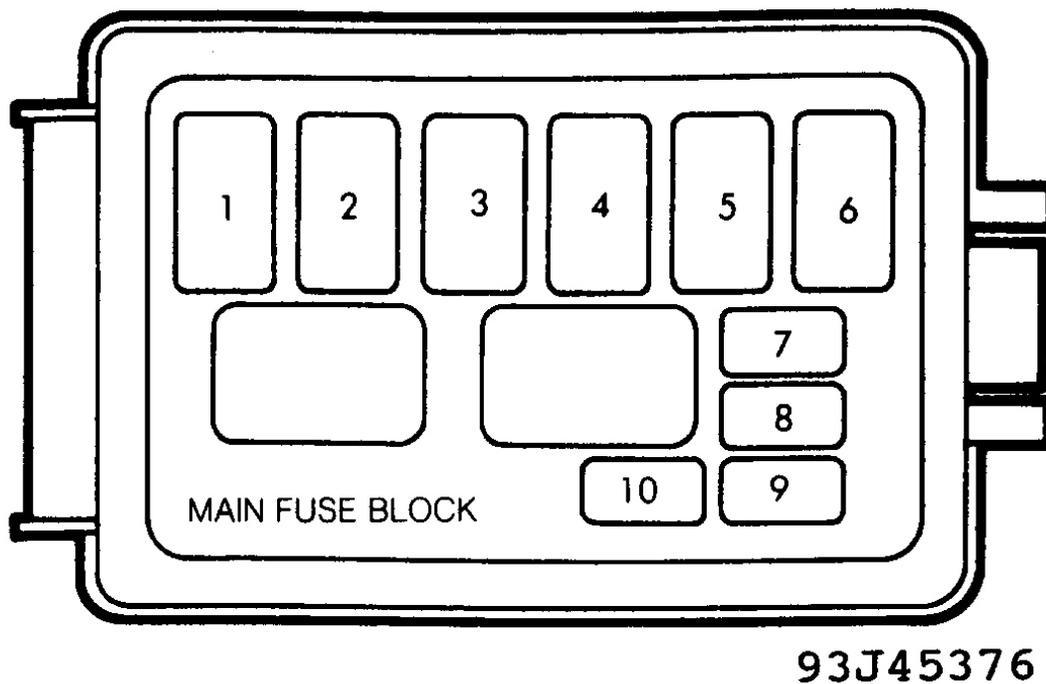
For 3 years or 50,000 miles, manufacturer will make all necessary repairs and adjustments to ensure vehicle passes a required Smog Check inspection.

## **FUSES & CIRCUIT BREAKERS**

### **FUSE PANEL LOCATION**

Fuse box is located above driver's left knee, accessible through a removable cover. The main fuse block is located at the right rear of the engine compartment.

The Trunk Mounted Fuse Panel is located on the right side of the trunk, near the trunk hinge.

**MAIN FUSE BLOCK IDENTIFICATION****Fig. 3: Main Fuse Block Identification**

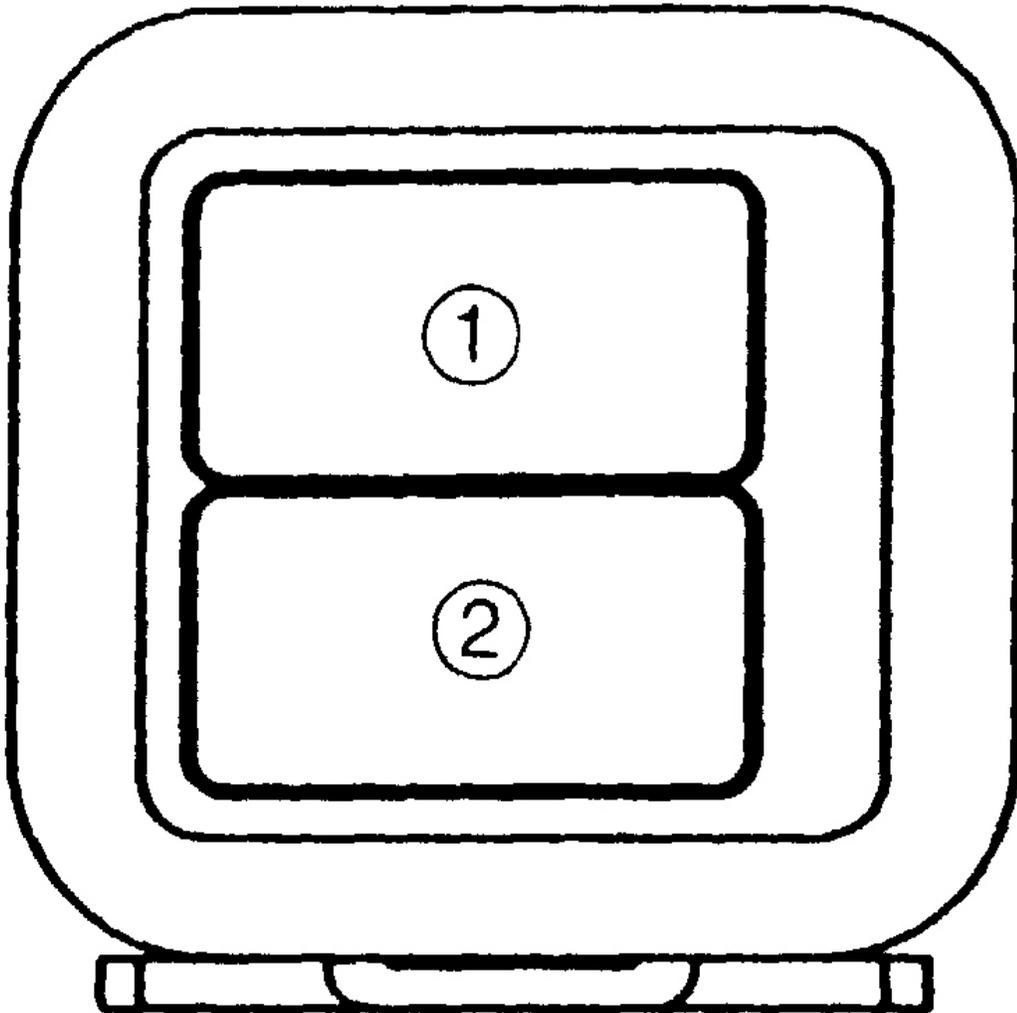
Courtesy of MAZDA MOTOR OF AMERICA, INC.

**WARNING:** Always disconnect battery ground cable before servicing "high-current fuses. It is recommended that "high-current" fuses be replaced by a qualified technician.

**Fuse & Circuit Breaker Identification**

- **1 - 30 Amp (Pink)** Headlights
- **2 - 30 Amp (Pink)** Fuel Injection, Alternator
- **3 - 80 Amp (Black)** Protection Of All Circuits
- **4 - 40 Amp (Green)** Refer to HAZARD (15A), STOP (15A), ROOM (10A), TAIL (15A)
- **5 - 30 Amp (Pink)** Anti-Lock Brake System
- **6 - 30 Amp (Pink)** Cooling Fan
- **7 - Empty**
- **8 - 20 Amp (Yellow)** A/C Additional Fan
- **9 - 10 Amp (Red)** Fuel Injection
- **10 - 30 Amp (Green)** Headlight Retractor

## TRUNK MOUNTED FUSE PANEL IDENTIFICATION



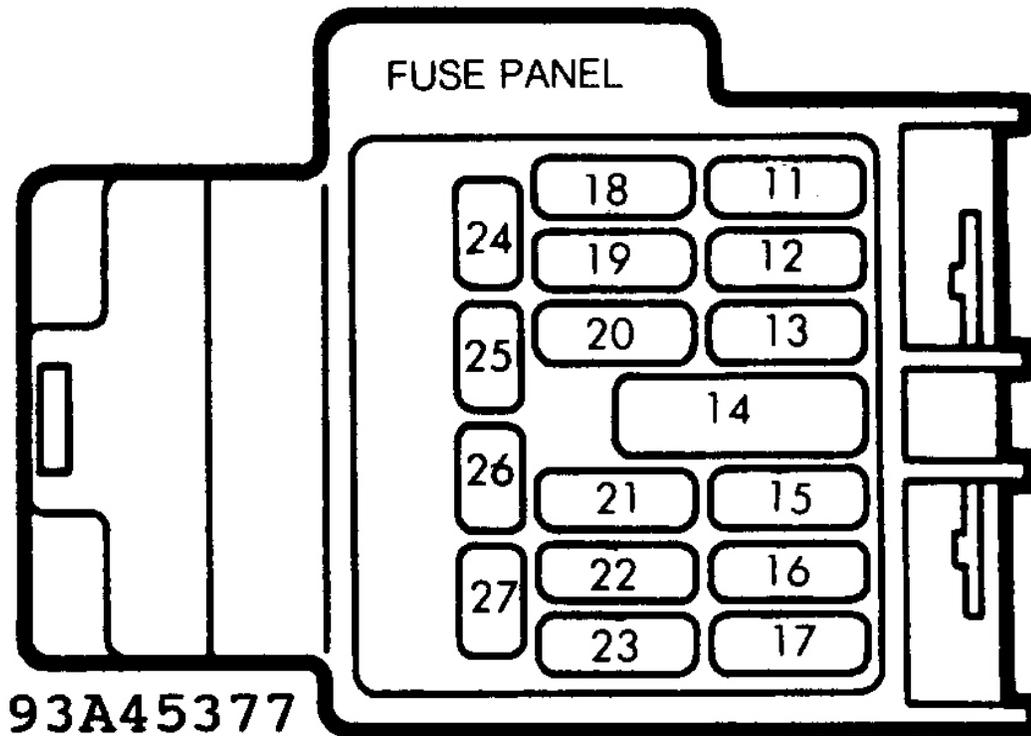
50A11569

**Fig. 4: Trunk Mounted Fuse Panel Identification**  
Courtesy of MAZDA MOTOR OF AMERICA, INC.

### Fuse & Circuit Breaker Identification

- 1 - 10 Amp (Red) Rear Defroster
- 2 - 10 Amp (Red) Auto Antenna

## INTERIOR FUSE PANEL IDENTIFICATION



**Fig. 5: Interior Fuse Panel Identification**  
 Courtesy of MAZDA MOTOR OF AMERICA, INC.

### Fuse & Circuit Breaker Identification

- **1 - 10 Amp (Red)** Interior Light, Warning Buzzers, Radio/Cassette and Compact Disc Player and Clock
- **2 - Empty**
- **3 - Empty**
- **4 - 15 Amp (Blue)** Tail Lights
- **5 - 15 Amp (Blue)** Shift Lock, Cruise Control, Horn, Brakelights
- **6 - 15 Amp (Blue)** Hazard Warning Lights
- **7 - Empty**
- **8 - Empty**
- **9 - 15 Amp (Blue)** Radio/Cassette and Compact Disc Player and Clock, Cigarette Lighter
- **10 - Empty**
- **11 - 20 Amp (Yellow)** Wipers, Washer

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- **12 - 30 Amp (Green)** Power Windows
- **13 - Empty**
- **14 - Empty** 15 - 15 Amp (Blue) Gauges, Warning Lights, Turn-Signal Lights, Cruise Control
- **16 - 15 Amp (Blue)** Cooling Fan
- **17 - 30 Amp (Pink)** Heater
- **18 - Empty**
- **19 - Empty**
- **20 - 10 Amp** Defog (Some Models)
- **21 - 10 Amp** Antenna (Some Models)
- **22 - Empty**