Install Tips

Oil Filter Housing 03L 115 389C

Certain Audi & VW TDI engines are notorious for oil pump failure due to worn hex drive shafts, including CBEA, CKRA, BHW, BKP, and BLB variants equipped with Oil Pump Carrier Hex Shaft 03G115281E, 03G115281D, 03G115281F, etc.



Once the hex shaft becomes rounded and the oil pump no longer generates adequate oil pressure, engine failure can occur quickly. Repair technicians and DIY enthusiasts often replace the oil filter housing assembly hoping to resolve mysterious low oil pressure issues, without realizing the true cause of the problem.

Eventually the low oil pressure damages the engine bearings, resulting in:

- Metal debris buildup in the filter element, which can force contaminated oil to be redirected through the filter bypass valve
- Overheating that can cause leakage or melt the plastic filter housing and/or gaskets
- Catastrophic bearing or piston seizure

Owners of these vehicles must shut down the engine IMMEDIATELY upon any instrument panel warnings, engine overheating, or indications of lubrication system issues. Disregarding these warnings and choosing to continue operating the vehicle will quickly destroy the engine.

STEP 1

Prior to installing the new oil filter housing, follow the factory repair manual instructions to remove and carefully evaluate wear in the hex drive system for the oil pump. Replace hex drive and oil pump components as necessary to restore proper lubrication system performance.

STEP 2

Install new oil filter housing per the factory repair manual instructions and thoroughly test for leaks and function prior to operating vehicle.

STEP 3

Periodically inspect oil filter housing for leakage and continue to carefully monitor lubrication and cooling system performance. IMMEDIATELY cease operation of the vehicle if any issues arise, and do not attempt to restart engine until all deficiencies are fully resolved.

Installation by a professional technician is recommended. Refer to the factory repair manual for vehicle-specific service procedures for this part. Tighten all hardware to factory torque specifications and observe all repair manual cautions and warnings. Use safety stands whenever beneath a vehicle and always wear protective eyewear.

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