



How to change your oil filter

To help keep your engine as clean and effective as possible, replace the oil filter each time you change the oil.

What you'll need

- **A new oil filter.** Most vehicles use a "spin-on" oil filter available in various shapes and sizes. Check your owner's manual for the size and type appropriate for your vehicle.
- **A large drain pan** or other container that can hold at least 5 to 7 quarts of fluid
- **An oil filter wrench**
- **A funnel**
- **A rag**
- **Hand-cleaning solution** and/or **disposable latex gloves**
- **Safety glasses**

Safety precautions

- Whenever you work on your car, make sure the engine is off, the car is in park or gear and the key is removed from the ignition.
- Put on latex gloves and safety glasses before starting any work.
- If you need to access your oil filter from the underside of your vehicle, use extreme caution, and follow the manufacturer's instructions related to the use of car ramps, jacks or supports.
- Do not allow oil to come in contact with bare skin. If it does, rinse immediately with soap and warm water.
- Use caution when handling engine oil and engine parts, both of which might be hot.

Step-by-step instructions

1. Place a drain pan under the oil filter, and unscrew the filter. Use the proper filter wrench for easy removal. The oil filter may be filled with oil and feel slightly heavy, so carefully ease it down away from the engine, and tip its contents into the drain pan or other container.
2. Clean the mounting base, making sure the rubber gasket from the old filter is not stuck to the filter mount.
3. Apply a film of clean oil to the filter gasket. Do not use grease.
4. Spin on the new filter until the gasket reaches contact with the base. Then tighten according to instructions on the filter, using tightening guide markers.
5. Check your vehicle's owner's manual for correct oil specification, viscosity and amount as well as the recommended change intervals.
6. Add oil to "full" on dipstick. Idle engine for five minutes, and check for leaks around the oil filter and base plate.
7. Shut off engine, and recheck oil level after five minutes. Top off as necessary.

For more detailed instructions on oil changes, check out our articles on [How to change your oil](#) and [How to choose the right oil](#).

Shop our full selection of oil and oil filters at your local Walmart store or at [Walmart.com/Auto](https://www.walmart.com/Auto)

Important Wal-Mart Disclaimer: Proper service and repair procedures are vital to the safe, reliable operation of all motor vehicles as well as the personal safety of those performing the repairs and those riding in the motor vehicles. Standard safety procedures and precautions (including use of safety goggles and other safety equipment, proper tools and equipment) should be followed at all times to limit the possibility of personal injury or improper service which could damage the vehicle or compromise its safety. Personal injury could result from the failure to take adequate safety precautions when repairing or maintaining your vehicle. Although this material has been prepared with the intent to provide reliable information, no warranty or representation (express or implied), including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, is made as to its accuracy or completeness. Neither is any liability assumed for loss or damage of any kind resulting from reliance on this material and Wal-Mart shall not be liable for any loss or damage of any kind resulting from reliance on this material. Users employ the information contained in this material at their own risk. This material is provided only as a helpful guide and does not replace the information and instructions contained in the motor vehicle's owner's manual and product manufacturer's recommendations. Users are cautioned to consult the motor vehicle's owner's manual and product manufacturer's recommendations for additional information and instructions. Failure to follow the motor vehicle's owner's manual and the product manufacturer's recommendations could result in damage to your vehicle or personal injury.