

Oxygen Sensor (O2 Sensor)

The oxygen sensor is screwed into the exhaust pipe and monitors the oxygen content of the exhaust. This sensor monitors the oxygen in exhaust gases. This sensor generates a voltage signal to the ECM. The signal sent to the ECM allows it to make adjustments in the fuel to air mixture to adjust for a lean or rich condition. You should never attempt to measure the output of this sensor; the current from the voltmeter will damage the sensor.

Do not use jumpers, testing leads or any other connector to the sensor, it will damage it.

To remove the sensor

Oxygen sensors do go bad over time. It has been suggested in some manuals to replace them every 30 to 40 thousand miles. I'm not one to believe this so you may do as you please. The sensors can be removed and cleaned upon inspection. However, excess carbon on the sensor can and usually is an indication of another issue present in the car.

The sensor can be hard to remove from the exhaust pipe and it is suggested that you only remove them when the engine is in a warmed up condition. You will have to be careful not to get burned while doing this, but it always makes the removal easier!

1. Find the sensor in the exhaust pipe, it should look like an older style spark plug and it screws straight in the pipe. Once located, remove the connector lead from it.
2. You can spray something like liquid wrench on the threads and allow it to penetrate a few minutes before removing if you choose. The liquid wrench will usually burn off the hot pipe before it has a

chance to do any good. I like to try them hot first since they will usually come out with ease. You have to be careful not to damage the female threads on the pipe, so if you have a difficult time removing you may want to allow the engine to cool back down and then spray it with rust. If the sensor comes out you are ready to replace.

Install

1) Coat the new sensor's threads with GM anti-seize compound Number 5613695 or equivalent electrical conductive anti-seize compound. If you use the old standard Anti-Seize on the sensor it will not allow the sensor to ground and thus your new sensor will be rendered useless. You must coat the threads with an electrically conductive anti-seize compound. **DO NOT INSTALL** sensor without this product!

2) Once installed, torque the sensor to 30 ft. lbs. or 42 Nm. Be careful not to damage the electrical connector.