

# PIT TECHNICIAN






# **Common vehicles with skid plates**

- Audi
- Chrysler 300
- Dodge Charger
- Dodge Magnum
- Nissan Titan
- Toyota Tundra
- Toyota 4Runner
- Ford F-150 Ecoboost
- Ford Fusion
- Ford Escape
- Hyundai Sonata
- Hyundai Elantra
- Hummers
- Volkswagen

**What is the proper  
process to guide in a  
customer?**

- 
1. Position your feet outside of the vehicle's tires, to the side of the car.
  2. Never stand between the headlights.
  3. Use over-exaggerated hand motions bending your wrist and elbows. No spirit fingers!
  4. Point in the direction you need the vehicle to turn with the command, "Turn your wheels this way."
  5. Stop the car by saying, "STOP" and giving the customer the 5's.

**Where do you position  
a car for a top off or tire  
check?**

Position the car fully over the pit

**Who is responsible for  
raising the hood and  
taking the cap off?**



The Pit Tech

# **How to identify each of the following engine fluids:**

Engine Oil

Transmission Fluid

Power Steering Fluid


Brake Fluid

Coolant

- **Engine Oil:** Light brown to black.
- **Transmission Fluid:** Reddish and thin **or** brown and thick.
- **Power Steering Fluid:** Reddish or light brown and thin.
- **Brake Fluid:** Clear to brown in color, slick to the touch.
- **Coolant:** Yellow, green, or pink and slimy to touch. Sweet smelling.

**What is the difference  
between a steel and  
aluminum pan and how  
can you tell the difference  
between them?**

- **Steel pans** typically have rounded sides, and are less likely to crack or become stripped. They are usually black or darker color.
- **Aluminum pans** are lighter in color, have sharp corners, and are known to become stripped easily when the plug is cross threaded.



# **How to identify common plugs**

- 3 of the most commonly used plugs:

**GM**



12 x 1.75

Coarse Thread

**Nissan/Toyota**



12 x 1.25

**Ford**



14 x 1.5

- Honda** plugs are popular as well. They have the same thread pattern as Ford plugs, but are not as long.

**What manufacturers  
require a metal gasket for  
the oil plug and how often  
should they be replaced?**



- Hyundai and Kia specifically. They need to be replaced at every oil change.
- Any other vehicle that has a metal gasket upon arrival should be replaced with a new metal gasket as well. This is regardless of the plug being replaced.

**Why is it important to  
communicate any and all  
out of line conditions to  
the Service Writer?**

Any out of line condition could become a potential claim. If we do not comment these on the work order, as to determine the condition was pre-existing on arrival, we could be held liable.

**What should you do if you  
remove the oil filter and  
find out you do not have  
another in stock?**

Order the oil filter from O'Reilly's or AutoZone Pro.

**You must always do what  
before entering the pit?**

- Make sure the hood is open and the vehicle is turned off
- Make sure the oil cap has been removed and is on the hood latch

**After getting into the  
pit, what must you  
locate before starting  
the oil change?**



The plug and oil filter.

**After the plug has been removed, inspect the plug and gasket for what?**

Make sure they are in good condition. If there is any damaged to the plug or gasket, make sure to replace them.

**Before installing the  
new filter, what must  
you do to the base plate  
and filter stud?**

- **Wipe the base plate!!!** If the gasket on the old filter was not intact, it might be stuck to the base plate. If you don't remove it before installing the new filter, the oil will leak and likely cause engine damage. (It happens - don't let it happen to you!)
- **Check the filter stud to see if it is tight.** If it is loose, tighten it hand tight & inform the Service Writer.

**Once a new gasket is placed on a canister filter, what must we do before the filter is installed?**

Show the new gasket to another tech for verification that it is installed properly.



**Do we replace all  
gaskets for canister  
filters?**



Yes, if they are supplied

**Where should you  
NEVER leave tools?**

- **On the floor**  
(safety hazard)
- **On the customer's vehicle**  
(impolite and could scratch/dent vehicle)

**A Subaru pulls into the  
shop. You're in the pit.  
What do you do?**

**\*Inform a Grey Shirt before working the Pit\***

**Find the OIL drain plug and leave the TRANSMISSION drain plug ALONE.**

They look the same - do not be fooled. The oil drain plug is toward the front of the vehicle, whereas the transmission plug is closer to the middle.

If you see the transmission plug, **do not drain it** or it will have to be towed to the dealership for repairs.

**You're working the pit  
on a Ford F-150 with a  
yellow plastic drain  
plug. What do you do?**

**When you reinstall the plug, twist until you hear it click.**

If you look closely, you will see the 2 tabs have snapped into place. If the tabs don't snap into place, the oil will leak which will damage the engine.