- AUTODOC CLUB

How to change brake fluid on a car – replacement tutorial



VIDEO TUTORIAL



TO CHANGE THE BRAKE FLUID ON MOST CARS YOU WILL NEED:



- New brake fluid of a suitable type
- Tools to loosen the bleeder screw
- A wrench to remove the wheel fasteners
- A syringe to extract the brake fluid from the expansion tank
- A brake bleeder
- You will also need a car lift or jack with jack stands and wheel chocks
- Alternatively, you can place the vehicle on a ramp or over an inspection pit





Please note!

- Changing the brake fluid is essential for the proper functioning of the braking system
- There are several types of brake fluid such as DOT 3, DOT 4, DOT 5, and DOT 5.1
- Every vehicle uses a particular brake fluid type
- The fluids vary in composition and properties
- They also have different lifespans
- It is very important to use appropriate brake fluid

Access the expansion tank and pump out of it as much old fluid as possible



Please note!

- There are several ways to change the brake fluid; the following method is the easiest
- It is suitable for vehicles both with and without ABS or its equivalents
- It is not suitable for cars whose braking system uses a hydraulic pressure accumulator. Changing the brake fluid on this type of vehicle requires special equipment

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Remove the strainer that prevents dirt from entering the tank



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Rinse it, dry it, and put it back in place



AUTODOC recommends:

• Take care to prevent dirt from entering the expansion tank

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Pour new brake fluid into the reservoir



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During replacement, constantly check the fluid level and top it up from time to time







Extract the old fluid from the tank and fill it with new fluid



Important!

- Change your brake fluid in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended schedule
- Only use new brake fluid

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Use the brake pedal and brake master cylinder to force any remaining old fluid out of the circuits



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Start bleeding the system from the longest brake circuit which extends farthest from the tank





Important!

- For left-hand drive vehicles, the most distant point is the rear right wheel
- The order of bleeding depends on the brake line length
- Take into account the location of the ABS unit and its distance from the brake master cylinder



Access the bleeder screw on the right rear wheel and clean it



Please note!

- The procedure for brake system bleeding varies depending on whether you have someone to assist you
- When bleeding the brake system on your own, you will need a special tool. It has a check valve that prevents air from entering the system when the pedal is released



Position the brake bleeder close to the caliper







Place a wrench on the bleeder screw and then connect the hose of the brake bleeder



The brake bleeder includes:

- a tight rubber element, which is fitted over the bleeder screw
- a transparent hose for monitoring the fluid's condition and the presence of air bubbles in it
- a check valve that only allows fluid to flow in one direction



Slightly loosen the bleeder screw and press the brake pedal several times



Important!

- When the brake pedal is pressed and the bleeder screw is loosened, brake fluid flows through the transparent hose
- When the pedal is released, the check valve keeps the fluid in the brake bleeder and its level is compensated



Visually assess the condition of the brake fluid in the hose: new fluid is always lighter than old fluid



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Check that there are no air bubbles and tighten the screw



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Check the brake fluid level in the expansion tank and top it up if necessary



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Disconnect the brake bleeder hose from the caliper, remove the tool, and clean the working area





Tighten the fasteners to the manufacturer's specified torque



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Perform the procedure on all calipers in order of decreasing distance from the expansion tank



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Top up the brake fluid reservoir to the maximum level



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Make sure the cap is clean, then screw it on





Caution!

• Let's consider changing brake fluid using a jack and with the help of an assistant

• The assistant sits inside the car to press the brake pedal at your signal

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Loosen the bleeder screw and check whether brake fluid is flowing



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Tighten it and give the assistant a signal



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The assistant presses the brake pedal, which creates pressure in the system





Slightly loosen the bleeder screw to allow brake fluid to flow under the action of the brake master cylinder



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At the same time, the assistant should keep the brake pedal pressed



26

Tighten the bleeder screw and ask your assistant to release the brake pedal



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Brake fluid flows out of the bleeder screw and a new portion of it is supplied from the expansion tank



Be careful!

 If the brake pedal is pressed and released while the bleeder screw is loosened, air will enter the system



Ensure that the wheel mounting surface and the mating surface on the wheel rim are smooth and clean



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Treat the surfaces with an anti-corrosion agent



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Repeat the steps on each wheel of your car, following the recommended order





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