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Instructions for oiling and cleaning ITG foam air filters

If your ITG filter has not been factory pre-oiled then follow the instructions below. Never use an unoiled or dry foam filter in your vehicle as this will reduce the efficiency and may allow small dust particles to pass through without being trapped by the dust retention oil.

Oiling your filter

Read label on can prior to spraying and use in an open environment. Holding the aerosol about 25mm or 1" from the filter, spray in a circular motion all over the foam surface until the coarse foam pores just start to fill up with oil. Then wearing protective gloves use your finger tips to 'massage' the oil into the depth of the foam whilst it still feels cold to the touch. The aerosol contains a mix of oil concentrate and thinners which assist the oil to penetrate into the foam. The thinners will evaporate off after around 5-10 minutes, so massage the oil into the foam as soon as it is applied, to assist the oil in penetrating through to the fine inner layer of foam. Your filter is now ready to install. If you think you have over oiled your filter, you can dab the surface of the foam with a strong absorbent paper tissue, which will remove most of the excess oil.

Cleaning your filter:-

Using Petrol:

The best and cheapest way to clean your filter is to use normal petrol which is readily available. Using a shallow, petrol resistant tray, fill with around 10mm depth of petrol. Dip the filter in the petrol and agitate so that the petrol goes into the filter foam and draws the dirt/dust out into the tray. The petrol will dissolve the oil instantly and will also help draw out the dust. Once you are happy that the entire oil residue and dirt has been removed by the petrol dispose of the petrol in the appropriate manner (at a recycling tip or similar but not down the household drain system). Only repeat this process with clean petrol if necessary. Immediately refill the tray with cold water plus 5ml of washing up detergent and agitate the filter in the solution for a couple of minutes. This process helps remove any remaining oil/dust and also removes cleaning solution residue. Rinse the filter in cold water until none of the soap suds remain and then shake the filter to remove excess water. Leave the filter to air dry in an open environment, but away from any ignition source or naked flame for a minimum of 24 hours, then re oil using instructions above.

Using a proprietary foam air filter cleaner:

These products are generally a little more time consuming than using petrol, although the results are similar. Read instructions and safety warnings on product before use. Using a petrol resistant tray, fill with around 10mm depth of cleaning fluid then place complete filter in tray and agitate and compress the foam until the oil is dissolved. The cleaning solution will generally go a milky colour when it contains dissolved oil. Massage the foam to assist in releasing the dust out of the filter. Dependant on how dirty the filter is you may have to repeat this process if necessary, although once is normally sufficient. This process should take no longer than 5 minutes. Dispose of the used cleaning solution in the appropriate manner (at a recycling tip or similar but not down the household drain system).

Immediately refill the tray with cold water plus 5ml of washing up detergent and agitate the filter in the solution for one minute. This process helps remove any remaining oil/dust and also removes cleaning solution residue. Rinse the filter in cold water until none of the soap suds remain and then shake the filter to remove excess water. Leave to dry fully for a minimum period of 24 hours, then re oil using instructions above.

Note:

Under no circumstances use cotton gauze filter oil or any other oil not specifically manufactured for foam air filters, as the oil will not stick to the foam and thus may allow dust through the filter with the risk of causing engine or MAF sensor damage.

Under no circumstances use a highly alkaline cleaner above PH-8, such as powder based cleaners or a clothes detergent, to clean a foam filter. Using a highly alkaline cleaner will breakdown the foam structure and destroy the effectiveness of the filter. If in doubt of what is safe to use, contact ITG or your local dealer for advice.