2017-2020 Acura MDX A-Spec - Replace Timing Belt

2017-2020 Acura MDX | Advanced | 4-6 hours | $455 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket Flathead Screwdriver Jack Stands Torque Wrench Timing Light Crankshaft Pulley Holder Socket Wrench Set Pry Bar Engine Support Bar Harmonic Balancer Puller

PARTS

Timing Belt 14400-R9P-A01 $125.40
Water Pump 19200-RCA-A01 $150.00
Timing Belt Tensioner 14510-RCA-A01 $100.00
Idler Pulley 14550-RCA-A01 $50.00
Crankshaft Seal 91212-RCA-A01 $30.00
Engine coolant (correct type)
Water pump gaskets/O-rings

STEPS

1. **Disconnect the battery and drain the cooling system - Work only on a cold engine and** disconnect the negative battery cable. Drain the coolant if the water pump is serviced with the timing belt. This is a precision job - have the service-manual timing procedure and locking tools ready.
2. **Set the engine to TDC and lock the timing - Remove covers, belts, and accessories as** required for access. Rotate the crankshaft to TDC for cylinder 1 and install crank/cam locking tools per the procedure. Confirm all timing marks align before loosening the tensioner.
3. **Relieve tension and remove the old belt - Release the timing-belt tensioner, then** carefully remove the old belt without rotating the cams or crank. If marks move, stop and re-establish TDC before continuing. Inspect idlers, tensioner, and seals for leakage or play.
4. **Install the new water pump and timing components - Replace the water pump, idlers, and** tensioner if included in the kit - many failures recur if only the belt is changed. Clean sealing surfaces, install new gaskets/O-rings as specified, and torque fasteners evenly.
5. **Set tension, verify marks, and reassemble - Install the new timing belt with correct** routing and tooth engagement. Set tensioner preload per the manual, then rotate the engine by hand at least two full crank revolutions and re-check all timing marks. Refit covers, accessories, and t...
6. **Refill coolant, start, and verify - Refill with the correct coolant, bleed air, and** reconnect the battery. Start the MDX and listen for unusual noise. Confirm stable idle, no coolant leaks, and no immediate timing-related codes before a careful road test.

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