2019-2024 Audi A3 - Spark Plug Replacement

2019-2024 Audi A3 | Advanced | 45 minutes-1 hour | $115 DIY

TOOLS

14mm thin-wall spark plug socket VW/Audi ignition coil puller (recommended)
3/8-inch ratchet 6-inch extension
Feeler gauge Compressed air or shop vacuum Dielectric grease (optional, for coil boots)

PARTS

Correct spark plug set for 2019-2024 Audi A3; verify engine, heat range, gap, and VIN fitment $115.00
Coil-boot seals or ignition coils only if inspection finds damage $35.00

STEPS

1. **Know your A3's EA888 generation - access is the same - The 2019-2024 A3 spans two** generations: the 8V (2019-2020) with the EA888 Gen3 2.0T, and the 8Y (2022-2024) with the EA888 evo4 2.0T. (There was no 2021 A3 in the US.) The good news: plug access is identical on both - four coil-on-...
2. **Disconnect the battery - Loosen the negative battery cable clamp with a 10mm wrench, lift** the cable off the post, and tuck it aside so it cannot spring back onto the terminal. You will lose radio presets and the clock, and the transmission may shift differently du...
3. **Lift the engine cover and release each coil connector - Underneath, the four ignition** coils sit in deep wells in a row. Press each tab and slide the connector straight off; the tabs get brittle with heat and age, so work them gently with your thumb rather than a screwdriver.
4. **Pull the stubborn EA888 coils straight up - a puller helps - Now the part Audi is famous** for: the coils are a press-fit into the wells and they do NOT want to come out. Pull each coil straight up with steady, even force - a dedicated VW/Audi coil puller tool that threads into the coil top makes th...
5. **Extract the plugs with a 14mm thin-wall socket - Blow compressed air into each plug well** first - carbon and grit collect around the plug hex on these engines. The EA888's wells are narrow, so you need a 14mm thin-wall spark plug socket on a 6-inch extension; a standard socket is too...
6. **Gap-check per the manual or emissions sticker - Verify the gap on every new plug with a** feeler gauge against the specification in your owner's manual or the under-hood emissions sticker - do not trust the box gap, and do not invent a number. The EA888 runs fine-wire plugs; adjust on...
7. **Hand-start, seat the washer, and reseat the coils - Lower each plug into its well on the** socket and turn it in BY HAND until the washer seats - fingertip pressure on the extension only. The EA888's cylinder head is aluminum, and a cross-threaded plug here is a head-removal repair.
8. **Start up, watch for misfires, and log the service - Reconnect the battery, start the** engine, and let it idle. The 2.0T should idle smoothly with no flashing check-engine light - a flashing CEL right after a plug job almost always means a coil connector isn't fully seated, so recheck the...

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