2006-2011 Cadillac DTS - Spark Plug Replacement

2006-2011 Cadillac DTS | Advanced | 2-3 hours | $115 DIY

TOOLS

5/8-inch spark plug socket 3/8-inch ratchet with 6-inch and 10-inch extensions Universal joint (swivel) adapter for the rear bank Small socket for coil retaining bolts Feeler gauge set for checking plug gap Long needle-nose pliers Flashlight or shop light and an inspection mirror Compressed air or shop vacuum

PARTS

Correct spark plug set for the gasoline/ICE engine in 2006-2011 Cadillac DTS; 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. **Understand the Northstar layout and let it cool - The 2006-2011 DTS's 4.6L Northstar V8** has eight plugs - four per bank, the rear bank under the windshield cowl. Each plug has its own coil-on-plug coil. Start with a completely cold engine; the aluminum heads must be cool before loosenin...
2. **Remove the engine cover and plan your attack - Lift off the large plastic engine cover to** expose both banks. Disconnect the negative battery terminal. A shop light aimed from the side makes the rear bank far easier.
3. **Remove the front-bank coils first - Start with the accessible front bank to learn the** procedure. Unplug each coil's electrical connector, remove its retaining bolt, and pull the coil straight up out of the well. The coils on these cars are individually replaceable, so if one...
4. **Remove the rear-bank coils - Use a mirror or phone camera - the rear bank is worked by** feel. Unplug each connector (same tabs, harder to reach), remove the bolts, lift the coils. Odd cylinders (1, 3, 5, 7) are on this bank, cylinder 5 third from the passenger side.
5. **Remove the old plugs and install the new ones - Remove the eight plugs with a 5/8-inch** socket. Check each new plug's gap with a feeler gauge. Thread every plug in by hand, tighten until the crush washer seats plus a quarter to a half turn. Aluminum heads strip easily - never force a p...
6. **Reinstall all coils and the engine cover - Seat each coil, reinstall the retaining bolts** snugly, and click every connector home - tug each one to confirm it latched, because a half-connected rear-bank coil is a classic comeback. Refit the engine cover and reconnect the negative b...
7. **Start up and check for misfires - Start the engine: steady idle, no check-engine light.** Test-drive - a flashing check-engine light means a misfire; shut down and recheck coil connectors on the suspect bank. A misfire code on one cylinder after a fresh plug change means t...

TORQUE

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