2011-2015 Chevrolet Cruze - Thermostat Replacement

2011-2015 Chevrolet Cruze | Moderate | 2-3 hours | $180 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket Flathead Screwdriver Jack Stands Drain Pan Torque Wrench E10 external-Torx socket 7mm Socket T20 Torx Bit Hose Clamp Pliers

PARTS

Thermostat Housing Assembly 55579010 $150.00
Coolant 12346290 $30.00

STEPS

1. **Prepare (housing assembly, 1.4T!) - The 2011-2015 Chevrolet Cruze (1.4L turbo LUJ/LUV -** the most common) thermostat replacement: the thermostat is INTEGRATED into a plastic water outlet/housing assembly on the DRIVER'S side - serviced as a complete housing, NOT a separ...
2. **Access the Driver's-Side Housing - Drain the coolant via the surge tank. Remove the air** intake duct. Note the 4 hoses attached: radiator inlet, oil cooler inlet, heater inlet, and the air bleed hose. Disconnect the ECT sensor electrical connector on the housing - check th...
3. **Remove the Housing Assembly - Remove the E10 housing bolts. Remove the housing with the** integrated thermostat. The old unit is electronic - disconnect its heater element wiring. The unit is designed to fail OPEN (P0128, low gauge, weak heat = stuck open).
4. **Install New Housing (8 Nm max!) - Install the new housing assembly (55579010 or** equivalent). Torque the E10 bolts to 8 Nm (71 lb-in) - service-table value; the housing is PLASTIC and cracks if over-tightened. Reconnect the ECT sensor connector and the thermostat heater...
5. **Refill Dex-Cool, Bleed Carefully - Refill with Dex-Cool (orange OAT) through the SURGE** TANK - not the radiator (no cap). Use 50/50 Dex-Cool/distilled or concentrate 12346290 + distilled. Do NOT mix with green or Asian coolants. Fill to the surge tank seam/MAX line. The 1....
6. **Verify, Bleed, Recheck Level - Start the engine - check for leaks at the housing. Watch** for 'AC OFF DUE TO HIGH ENGINE TEMP' - if it appears, you have an air pocket or a leak. Cool fully, recheck the surge tank level, top off. Let it reach operating temp and confirm...

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