2012-2020 Chevrolet Sonic - Engine Air Filter

2012-2020 Chevrolet Sonic | Easy | 15-20 minutes | $35 DIY

TOOLS

T25 Torx socket and ratchet (airbox lid screws) Small flathead screwdriver (helps slide the red MAF locking tab on 1.4L Turbo cars) Clean rag for wiping the housing and lid

PARTS

Engine air filter for 2012-2020 Chevrolet Sonic; verify engine, housing shape, and VIN fitment $35.00

STEPS

1. **Find the housing on the passenger side of the bay - Park on level ground, shut the engine** off, let it cool, and pop the hood. Identify the MAF sensor’s electrical connector now, because it comes off before the lid.
2. **Disconnect the MAF sensor connector (watch for the red tab) - On many Sonics - especially** the 1.4L Turbo cars - the connector has a small red locking tab: slide the red tab back first, then squeeze the release and pull the connector straight off.
3. **Remove the lid screws with a T25 Torx - Back them all out with a T25 Torx socket and set** them aside somewhere safe; they’re small and love to drop into the engine bay. There’s no need to disconnect the intake duct for a filter swap.
4. **Lift the lid and pull the old element - Lift the lid straight up off the housing and pull** the old filter out, noting which way it faced. On 1.4L Turbo cars the lower box itself sits in three push-in mounts - if the whole base starts lifting with the lid, hold the base down wit...
5. **Wipe the box and drop in the new filter - Wipe the inside of the lower housing and the** lid with a clean rag to clear dust and grit before the new element goes in.
6. **Reassemble: lid, screws, then the MAF plug - Set the lid straight down on the housing and** run all the T25 screws back in until snug - the screws thread into plastic, so don’t overtighten or you’ll strip them and the lid will never seal again. Then push the MAF connector back on unt...
7. **Start it up and verify - Start the engine and check for a smooth idle, no whistle or** sucking sound at the box, and no check-engine light. A CEL right after this job almost always means the MAF plug isn’t fully seated or the red tab isn’t locked - recheck those b...

TORQUE

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