2008-2012 Ford Escape - Windshield Washer Fluid

2008-2012 Ford Escape | Easy | 10-15 minutes | $5 DIY

TOOLS
Funnel Clean rag Fine pin for clearing clogged nozzles (if needed)

PARTS
Windshield Washer Fluid (winter-rated in freezing climates) $5.00

STEPS

1. **Open the hood the old-fashioned way - Park the 2008-2012 Escape on level ground and turn** the engine off.
2. **Find the filler neck on the driver's-side inner fender - Look for the cap marked with the** windshield-spray symbol. Tracing the neck down with your hand confirms you're at the washer tank and not at some other reservoir.
3. **Confirm it's the washer cap, not coolant - Before pouring anything, double-check the cap:** the washer filler carries the windshield-and-spray icon, while the nearby coolant degas bottle and power-steering reservoir have their own distinct caps and warnings.
4. **Fill the neck with a funnel - Remove the cap and set a funnel in the neck - the filler** opening sits at an awkward angle against the fender, and pouring straight from the jug almost guarantees a spill down the inner fender.
5. **Close the hood - Lower the hood and press it closed until the latch catches solidly; give** it a tug to confirm. A hood that isn't fully latched will trigger the ajar warning or, worse, lift at speed.
6. **Note the single reversible washer pump - Here's the Escape-specific part: the 2008-2012** models use a single washer pump that runs in one direction for the front windshield and reverses polarity to pump to the rear window.
7. **Diagnose weak or missing spray - If the pump hums but little or nothing comes out, the** nozzles are the usual culprit - clear a clogged jet gently with a fine pin, don't ream it out.

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