2015-2019 Ford Explorer - Thermostat Replacement

2015-2019 Ford Explorer | Advanced | 2-4 hours | $85 DIY

TOOLS

Floor jack, jack stands, and wheel chocks
Drain pan rated for coolant Metric/SAE socket set, ratchet, and extensions
Torque wrench and hose-clamp pliers
Plastic scraper, funnel, and shop towels
Safety glasses and chemical-resistant gloves

PARTS

Thermostat and sealing gasket for 2015-2019 Ford Explorer; verify engine and opening temperature $65.00
Vehicle-approved premixed coolant or concentrate; match the owner manual $20.00

STEPS

1. **Confirm fitment and prepare - Park on level ground, set the parking brake, let the engine** cool completely, and compare the replacement thermostat and seal with the removed parts. Confirm the engine and the manufacturer procedure before draining.
2. **Drain the cooling system - Remove the reservoir or radiator cap only when cold. Place a** drain pan under the approved drain point and drain enough coolant to lower the level below the thermostat housing; cap and label the coolant container.
3. **Gain access to the housing - Remove the engine cover, air-intake pieces, brackets, or** shields that obstruct the thermostat housing. Keep connectors and fasteners organized and do not pull on wiring or plastic fittings.
4. **Remove the old thermostat - Mark hose and connector positions, release the relevant hose** clamp, and remove the housing fasteners with the correct socket. Separate the housing carefully, capture residual coolant, remove the old thermostat and gasket, and clean the mat...
5. **Install the new thermostat - Install the new thermostat in the exact orientation shown by** the service information, fit a new gasket or O-ring, and seat the housing evenly. Start every fastener by hand, then torque in the specified sequence and value for the installed...
6. **Refill and bleed the system - Reconnect hoses, sensors, intake parts, and shields. Fill** with the specified coolant using a spill-free funnel if appropriate, then follow the vehicle-specific air-bleeding procedure. Do not substitute a generic bleed method for a hybrid o...
7. **Verify operation and leaks - Start the engine and monitor the temperature, heater output,** reservoir level, and housing for leaks. Let it cool fully, recheck the level, inspect again, and do not drive if it overheats, the heater stays cold, the warning light remains on...

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