2009-2014 Ford F-150 - Coolant Flush

2009-2014 Ford F-150 | Moderate | 2-3 hours including flush cycles | $20 DIY

TOOLS

Large-capacity drain pan Funnel Several gallons of distilled water New coolant matching your owner's manual specification Socket set (for the block drain plug, if equipped) Pliers (for spring-style hose clamps) Nitrile gloves Safety glasses Sealed jugs for the old coolant

PARTS

Engine Coolant (50/50 mix) $20.00

STEPS

1. **Start cold with safety gear on - Start with a completely cold engine - the 2009-2014** F-150's radiator cap will vent scalding coolant and steam if opened warm. Park on level ground, set the parking brake, and wear gloves and safety glasses.
2. **Drain the radiator - know its limits - Set the drain pan under the radiator petcock at** the radiator's lower corner, remove the radiator cap to vent, and open the petcock.
3. **Flush with water until it runs clear - Cool completely, drain again, and repeat until the** drained water runs clear.
4. **Replace suspect cooling fittings - This generation's plastic cooling fittings get brittle** with age; replace anything suspect while the system is already empty.
5. **Refill with the manual-specified coolant - Refill the radiator slowly with the coolant** type specified in your owner's manual - Ford used different coolant formulations across these model years, so don't go by color or by what the previous owner poured in. Fill the expansion tank...
6. **Bleed air with the cap off - Bleed the air the way Ford's procedure describes: leave the** radiator cap off and idle the engine with the heater set to full hot until it reaches operating temperature.
7. **Top off over the next few drives - Check the petcock for drips. Seal the old coolant in** jugs and take it to a parts store or hazardous-waste facility; never dump it or leave it where animals can drink it.

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