1993-2006 Ford Mondeo - Spark Plug Replacement

1993-2006 Ford Mondeo | Moderate | 45-70 minutes | $70 DIY

TOOLS

16mm spark plug socket Long extension Ratchet Wire feeler gauge Compressed air Torque wrench Masking tape and marker

PARTS

Spark plugs (4, per Mondeo Mk3 specification) $57.00
Dielectric grease $13.00

STEPS

1. **Access and mark the plug leads - With the engine cold, remove the engine cover to access** the coil pack and leads on the Zetec. Mark each lead with its cylinder number from the timing-belt end. Twist each boot to break the seal, then pull straight off.
2. **Clear wells and remove old plugs - Blow compressed air down each plug well to eject grit.** Loosen each plug with a 16mm plug socket on a long extension and lift it out. Inspect the old plugs for soot, oil, or eroded electrodes.
3. **Gap and hand-fit the new plugs - Gap each new plug to spec (typically 1.3mm for the** Zetec) with a wire feeler gauge. Apply anti-seize only if the plug manufacturer recommends it. Thread each plug in by hand to prevent cross-threading the aluminum head.
4. **Torque the plugs - Tighten each plug to the specified torque, about 15 Nm (11 ft-lbs),** using a torque wrench on the extension. Overtightening strips the head's threads, a major repair on the Zetec. The plug should seat firmly without excessive force.
5. **Refit leads and verify - Grease each plug boot with dielectric grease and push the leads** on in original numbered order. Refit the engine cover and start the engine - smooth idle with no flashing engine light means healthy ignition.
6. **Road-test for misfires - Road-test through the rev range, checking for hesitation or** misfire under load. Recheck that all leads are fully seated after the drive - the service is complete when acceleration is smooth and no fault codes appear.

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