1994-2004 GMC Sonoma - Spark Plug Replacement

1994-2004 GMC Sonoma | Advanced | 1-2 hours | $115 DIY

TOOLS

5/8-inch spark plug socket with rubber insert 3/8-inch ratchet 3-inch, 6-inch, and 10-inch extensions Universal (wobble/swivel) joint Wire-type feeler gauge Spark plug wire puller pliers (optional but helpful) Masking tape and marker for labeling wires Compressed air or a small brush Floor jack and jack stands Penetrating oil

PARTS

Correct spark plug set for the gasoline/ICE engine in 1994-2004 GMC Sonoma; verify engine, heat range, gap, and VIN fitment $115.00

Coil-boot seals or ignition coils only if inspection finds damage $35.00

STEPS

1. **Identify your engine and plug layout - Pop the hood and confirm which engine your Sonoma** has, because the plug count and ignition layout are completely different. The 2.2L four-cylinder uses a distributorless waste-spark system: two small coil packs bolted to the side of the en...
2. **Get access to the plugs - On the 2.2L, the plugs sit along the side of the cylinder head** and are reachable from above once each wire boot is pulled. On the 4.3L V6, the middle plug on the driver’s side - cylinder #3 - hides directly behind the steering shaft, a...
3. **Remove the plug wires or coil leads - Work one plug at a time so the wires cannot get** crossed. Never yank the cable itself, or you will tear the wire. Inspect every boot for cracks, brittleness, or carbon tracking, and check the coil pack towers on the 2.2L for corrosion.
4. **Remove the old spark plugs - Fit a 5/8-inch spark plug socket fully onto the plug so it** engages the hex squarely, then break it loose with steady pressure. Never jerk the ratchet on an aluminum head. Keep the old plugs in order so you can compare cylinders.
5. **Gap and install the new plugs - Check the gap on every new plug with a wire feeler gauge** before it goes in - find the correct spec on the emissions sticker under the hood or in the owner’s manual, and do not trust the box or a listing. Adjust only by bending the ground...
6. **Reinstall wires, coil leads, and wheel - Push each wire boot firmly onto its plug until** it seats with a click, and route each wire back to its original coil tower or distributor cap tower - double-check the firing order on the 4.3L before you call it done, because two crossed w...
7. **Verify the job and note the interval - Start the engine and listen for a smooth, even** idle - a fresh misfire almost always means a wire is crossed or a boot is not fully seated. Take a short test drive and watch for a check-engine light. These trucks originally called for con...

TORQUE

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