2013-2016 Mazda CX-5 - Spark Plug Replacement Easy

2013-2016 Mazda CX-5 | Moderate | 1 hour | $40 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket Ratchet Wrench Spark Plug Socket Extension Bar Torque Wrench Dielectric Grease Compressed Air Blow Gun Gloves Safety Glasses Flathead Screwdriver

PARTS

NGK Laser Iridium Spark Plugs ILKAR7L11 $35.00
Dielectric Grease $5.00

STEPS

1. **Cool the engine (use genuine NGK!) - The 2013-2016 Mazda CX-5 (2.0L or 2.5L SkyActiv-G)** uses NGK iridium plugs. 2.5L: NGK ILKAR7L11. 2.0L: different part (verify). Gap: 1.05-1.15mm (pre-gapped, do not adjust). Torque: 12-14 ft-lbs. You'll need: 4x correct NGK plugs for...
2. **Access the ignition coils - Remove the engine cover. No intake removal. The 2.0L and 2.5L** have the same layout - just different plug parts. Unplug any connectors blocking access. The CX-5's bay is straightforward - this is a quick job.
3. **Remove one coil at a time - Unplug the connector, unbolt the coil, pull it straight out.** The SkyActiv's high compression (13:1) means the plugs work hard - but the coils are up to it. Don't mix up the coils.
4. **Remove the old spark plug - Remove the old NGK plug with your socket. The old ILKAR7L11** (2.5L) should show normal SkyActiv wear. If a plug is oil-fouled, check the valve cover. The CX-5's plug wells are shallow - easy removal. Don't drop anything in. Note: the ECU'...
5. **Gap and hand-thread (genuine NGK only!) - The new NGK iridium comes pre-gapped at** 1.05-1.15mm - DO NOT re-gap (iridium). Verify it's genuine NGK - counterfeits are common and the CX-5's knock-sensing ECU will malfunction with fake plugs. Hand-thread the new plug until it sea...
6. **Torque to 12-14 ft-lbs - Torque to 12-14 ft-lbs. Use a torque wrench. Do not over-torque** - the aluminum head strips. The easy top access means precise torquing is simple. The knock-sensing plug needs proper torque for good electrical contact - don't under-to...
7. **Reinstall the coil - Reinstall the coil - seat it firmly, bolt it down, reconnect the** connector (click). Repeat for all 4, one at a time. Reinstall the engine cover. Verify all connectors are clicked.
8. **Reassemble and test - Start the engine - the SkyActiv should idle smoothly with its** high-compression character. Check for misfire or knock-sensor codes. The CX-5's ECU uses the plug for knock detection - if you used counterfeit plugs, you'll get knock-senso...

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