

2006-2009 Mazda Mazda3 | Easy | 30-60 minutes

TOOLS

Floor jack and two jack stands (or car ramps) Socket set (8mm and 10mm) for splash shield Oil filter cap wrench (75.6mm, 14 flute) Oil drain pan (at least 5 quarts) Funnel Nitrile gloves Safety glasses Shop rags

PARTS

5W-20 engine oil (approx. 4.4 US quarts for 2.3L, 4.0 quarts for 2.0L; verify with dipstick)
Cartridge oil filter element with O-ring kit
Oil drain plug washer

STEPS

- 1 Warm the engine and set up - Drive the Mazda3 for about 5 minutes so the 5W-20 oil warms** up and drains quickly, then park on a level surface and engage the parking brake. Pop the hood and remove the oil filler cap so air enters the crankcase and the oil flows out free...
- 2 Raise the front and support it safely - Raise the front of the car with a floor jack on** the front subframe and set jack stands under the reinforced pinch welds, then lower the car onto them. The Mazda3 sits fairly low, so ramps are a convenient alternative. Give the car a solid...
- 3 Remove the engine splash shield - The first-generation Mazda3 has a plastic splash shield** under the engine held by several 8mm or 10mm bolts and plastic clips, so remove the fasteners and drop the shield to expose the drain plug and oil filter housing. Keep the fasteners i...
- 4 Drain the oil from the pan - Slide a drain pan under the oil drain plug on the oil pan** and loosen it with a socket or 8mm Allen key, finishing by hand while pressing the plug inward so oil does not splash. Let the oil drain for a full 10 to 15 minutes until it slows t...
- 5 Remove the cartridge filter housing cap - The MZR engine in this Mazda3 uses a cartridge** filter in a plastic housing on the front of the engine, so place the drain pan under it and loosen the housing cap with a 75.6mm 14-flute oil filter wrench. Unscrew the cap slowly, letting the...
- 6 Install the new filter element and O-ring - Seat the new O-ring from the kit into its** groove on the housing cap, lightly coat it with fresh oil, and press the new cartridge element into place. Thread the cap back on by hand first to avoid cross-threading the plastic, then snug it wi...
- 7 Reinstall the shield and refill the oil - Reinstall the splash shield with its bolts and** clips, then lower the Mazda3 back onto level ground. Place a funnel in the filler neck and pour in 5W-20, roughly 4.4 US quarts for the 2.3L or 4.0 quarts for the 2.0L, then reinstall the fill...
- 8 Check for leaks and log the service - Let the engine idle while you look underneath for** drips at the drain plug and filter housing, then shut it off and do one final dipstick check. The first-generation Mazda3 has no electronic oil life monitor to reset, so simply record the m...