2004-2011 Mazda RX-8 - Spark Plug Replacement

2004-2011 Mazda RX-8 | Advanced | 2-3 hours | $115 DIY

TOOLS

21mm (13/16-inch) spark plug socket
Ratchet with extension Floor jack and two jack stands Wheel chocks and lug wrench
Wire-style gap gauge

PARTS

Correct spark plug set for the gasoline/ICE engine in 2004-2011 Mazda RX-8; 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. **Prep - understand the rotary’s four plugs - Two different plug types: leading (marked** "L") and trailing (marked "T") on the 1.3L 13B Renesis - never swap them. Plugs are on the driver’s side, easiest to reach with the front driver’s-side wheel removed. Work on a cold engine.
2. **Access - remove the driver’s-side front wheel - Jack the front onto stands and remove the** driver’s-side front wheel. The plugs face sideways out of the rotor housings - peel back the inner fender splash shield to expose the four plug leads. Never work under a car supported only by a j...
3. **Ignition lead removal - one plug at a time - Change ONE plug at a time - pull the boot,** remove the plug, install its replacement, and reconnect the same wire before moving on. Housing stamps read "L" or "T" (leading lower, trailing upper).
4. **Plug removal - 21mm socket - The plugs use a 21mm (13/16-inch) hex - fit the socket** squarely to avoid rounding, break loose, and spin out by hand. Expect some carbon, but a plug dripping with fuel or oil points to flooding or a seal problem.
5. **Install new plugs - iridium only, gap per the manual - Iridium plugs only - conventional** plugs foul quickly. Match leading to "L" and trailing to "T". Check the gap against the manual with a wire gauge. Thread in by hand and tighten per the maker’s instructions - most go in dry.
6. **Reassembly - wires, shield, and wheel - Push each boot onto its plug and double-check the** L1/L2/T1/T2 wires against the housing stamps. Reinstall the splash shield and clips, remount the wheel, torque the lug nuts in a star pattern, and lower the car off the stands before starti...
7. **Verification - start, rev check, and interval note - Start the engine - fresh plugs** should idle smoothly and rev cleanly toward the 9,000-rpm redline. If it misfires, suspect the coils and wires first: they die faster than the plugs. Mazda calls for new plugs roughly every 25,000 miles.

ezcarfix.com