2007-2012 Nissan Sentra - Oil and Filter Change

2007-2012 Nissan Sentra | Moderate | 30-45 minutes | $58 DIY

TOOLS

Floor jack and two jack stands (or car ramps) Oil drain pan (at least 5-quart capacity) Wrench or socket for the drain plug (typically 14mm on Nissan drain plugs) Oil filter wrench (cap or strap type, only if the old filter is stuck) Funnel Gloves and rags Sealed container for used oil

PARTS

5W-30 engine oil (approx. 4 US quarts) $46.00

Spin-on oil filter compatible with 2007-2012 Nissan Sentra 2.0L $10.00

Oil drain plug crush washer $2.00

STEPS

1. **Warm the engine and park on level ground - Drive the Sentra for 5 to 10 minutes, or idle** it for 2 to 3 minutes, so the 5W-30 oil is warm and flows freely. Warm oil drains faster and carries more sludge and contaminants out of the 2.0L MR20DE engine.
2. **Raise the front and vent the crankcase - Lift the front of the car with a floor jack and** support it securely on two jack stands placed on solid frame points. Venting the crankcase lets the old oil drain out in a smooth, complete stream.
3. **Remove the drain plug and drain the oil - Slide the drain pan under the oil pan and** loosen the drain plug with a wrench, finishing by hand so the plug does not drop into the hot oil.
4. **Reinstall the drain plug with a new crush washer - Fit a new crush washer onto the drain** plug - the washer, not brute force, is what seals the plug against the pan. Thread the plug in by hand to avoid cross-threading the aluminum oil pan, then tighten it snugly with a wrench.
5. **Remove the old spin-on oil filter - Reposition the drain pan under the oil filter and** unscrew the old spin-on filter, using a filter wrench only if it will not budge by hand. Tip the filter open-end-up into the pan to catch the oil trapped inside it. Wipe the filter mounting...
6. **Install the new oil filter - Dip a finger in fresh 5W-30 and coat the new filter’s rubber** gasket lightly so it seats without binding. Hand-tight plus three-quarters turn seals the gasket without crushing it or making the next change a wrestling match.
7. **Refill with fresh 5W-30 oil - Place a funnel in the filler neck and pour in about four** quarts of 5W-30, which is the refill quantity for the B16 Sentra’s 2.0L engine with a filter change. Wait a minute for the oil to settle, then check the dipstick and top up gradually...
8. **Run the engine and check for leaks - Reinstall the oil filler cap and dipstick, then** start the engine and let it idle for 30 to 60 seconds while you watch the drain plug and oil filter for any seepage. The oil pressure light should go out within a couple of seconds. Shut the...
9. **Lower the car and recycle the used oil - Lower the Sentra off the jack stands and take a** final dipstick reading on level ground. Reset the oil maintenance reminder if your Sentra is equipped with one. Pour the used oil from the drain pan into a sealed container and take it and th...

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