2012-2015 Scion iQ - Spark Plug Replacement

2012-2015 Scion iQ | Moderate | 30-45 minutes | $41 DIY

TOOLS

16 mm (5/8 in) spark plug socket Ratchet with extension 10 mm socket Torque wrench Gap gauge 14mm spark-plug socket with rubber insert

PARTS

4 spark plugs (correct for 2012-2015 Scion iQ 1.3L) $41.20

STEPS

1. **Let the engine cool - Cool the 1.3L 1NR-FE - aluminum plug threads strip when hot. Scan** for misfire codes, then gather four Denso 3499 plugs (NGK ILKAR7B11 equivalent) pre-gapped at 0.044" (1.1 mm), plus a 14 mm deep socket with long and short extensions.
2. **Access the coils - Remove the engine cover to expose the four coil-on-plug units. Release** each locking electrical connector - pull the connector body, never the wiring. Photograph the layout first; in the cramped bay it’s easy to mix up which connector goe...
3. **Remove the coils - Remove each coil’s small bolt and lift it out of its well, keeping the** coils in cylinder order. If a coil resists, twist gently - the rubber boot can stick to the plug. Set them where they can’t roll away.
4. **Clear the wells - Blow or brush debris out of each exposed plug well before loosening any** plug. Anything left in a well drops into the cylinder when the plug comes out. Shine a light down each well after cleaning to confirm it’s clear.
5. **Match the socket and compare the old plugs - Use the 14 mm deep socket - a 5/8" socket** won’t fit the slim 12 mm plugs. Compare each plug’s wear to the new Denso 3499; even wear is normal, but an oil-fouled plug points at that cylinder’s tube seal.
6. **Install the new plugs - Start every plug by hand, turning it back a half-turn until the** threads click. Tighten to spec - 12 mm plugs take less torque than 14 mm ones. Never re-gap the 0.044" electrodes, and skip anti-seize on the factory-plated threads. Never u...
7. **Reinstall the coils - Push each coil fully onto its plug until the boot settles,** reinstall each bolt, and reconnect every connector until it clicks. Double-check each lock - an unlocked connector backs out with vibration and sets a misfire. Refit the engine c...
8. **Verify - Start the iQ and confirm a smooth idle with no check-engine light. After a short** test drive with some acceleration, scan for misfire codes (P0300-P0304). Stop and recheck if a thread bound during installation or a misfire code returns.

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