2008-2014 Scion xD - Spark Plug Replacement

2008-2014 Scion xD | Moderate | 45-60 minutes | $54 DIY

TOOLS

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

PARTS

4 spark plugs for the 2ZR-FE 1.8L $54.00

STEPS

1. **Let the engine cool - Let the 1.8L 2ZR-FE cool - a hot head with a cool plug damages the** aluminum threads. Gather four Denso Iridium SC20HR11 plugs (factory-gapped 1.1mm/0.043"), a 16mm magnetic plug socket, 10mm socket, and torque wrench.
2. **Remove the engine cover - Unclip the plastic engine cover along its front edge and lift** it off to expose the four ignition coils in a row on the valve cover. Set it aside on a clean surface.
3. **Remove the coils - Unplug each coil connector (squeeze the tab until it clicks free),** remove the 10mm hold-down bolt, and pull each coil straight up. Keep the coils in order so each returns to its original cylinder.
4. **Clear debris from the wells - Blow or vacuum dirt out of each plug well before removing** the plugs - debris falling into an open cylinder causes scoring and misfires. A shop vacuum with a crevice tool works well in the narrow wells.
5. **Remove the old plugs - Remove all four old plugs with the 16mm socket and extension.** Inspect them - heavy deposits or oil points to engine issues - and confirm each old plug's reach matches the new SC20HR11; even wear across all four is ideal.
6. **Install the new plugs - Verify the 1.1mm (0.043") gap on each new plug - check it, don't** force the iridium tip. Thread each plug in by hand until it seats, then torque to the manual's spec; Denso threads come coated, so no anti-seize.
7. **Reinstall the coils - Seat each coil onto its plug in its original cylinder, refit the** 10mm bolts, and click each connector home; a loose connector causes a misfire code, so tug-test each one. Dielectric grease goes on the boot, never the plug threads.
8. **Reassemble and verify - Refit the engine cover, start the xD, and confirm a smooth idle** with no check-engine light. Take a short drive to verify full power under load, then recheck for codes once the engine is fully warm.

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