2008-2014 Smart Fortwo - Transmission Fluid Change

2008-2014 Smart Fortwo | Moderate | 1 hour | $55 DIY

TOOLS

8mm Hex Wrench 17mm Wrench Torque Wrench Drain Pan Funnel Fluid Pump

PARTS

Transmission Fluid $50.00
Transmission Drain Plug Gasket $5.00

STEPS

1. **Prepare (GEAR OIL, not ATF!) - It takes MANUAL GEAR OIL (75W-90 GL-4, MB 235.72) - NOT** ATF. You'll need: 75W-90 GL-4 gear oil meeting MB 235.72 (buy 3 liters - capacity is 2.3L), fluid pump/syringe, drain pan. Park on level ground.
2. **Crack Fill Plug FIRST - This is critical: if you drain first and can't open the fill** plug, you're stranded with an empty gearbox. The 451's gearbox is splash-lubricated (no pump) - the fill hole is the level gauge. Ensure the fill plug opens before you touch th...
3. **Drain the Gear Oil - Now locate the DRAIN plug. Position the drain pan. Remove the drain** plug - let the gear oil drain (expect ~2.3 liters). The 451's manual gearbox drains by gravity - no pump, no filter. There's no torque converter holding extra fluid.
4. **Reinstall Drain Plug - Reinstall the drain plug with a new crush washer - tighten firmly** but don't over-tighten. The 451's gearbox casing is aluminum, so don't strip the threads. Torque spec wasn't verified; 'firmly with new washer' is the guidance (no factory...
5. **Fill Until It Trickles Out - Pump 75W-90 GL-4 gear oil (MB 235.72) into the FILL hole** using a fluid pump/syringe - until oil starts to trickle back out of the fill hole. The fill hole IS the level gauge - fill-to-overflow.
6. **Reinstall Fill Plug - Reinstall the fill plug. The fill-to-overflow with no temp** procedure is the manual-gearbox simplicity - no scan tool, no temp window, fill until it drips.

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