

2011-2013 Subaru Forester | Moderate | 30-60 minutes | \$55 DIY

TOOLS

DIY AC recharge kit with gauge for the correct refrigerant type Safety glasses and chemical-resistant gloves Cabin thermometer Flashlight and leak-inspection light

PARTS

Correct refrigerant DIY kit with gauge (R-134a or R-1234yf as labeled) \$45.00
AC leak-detect dye (optional) \$12.00

STEPS

- 1 Confirm refrigerant type and symptoms - Find the under-hood A/C specification sticker on the 2011-2014 Subaru Forester and note R-134a or R-1234yf and the capacity. Confirm warm vents, compressor behavior, and that the cabin filter is not blocked.**
- 2 Find the low-side service port - With the 2011-2014 Subaru Forester switched off,** identify the LOW-side larger-line service port. A DIY coupler must fit only the low side; do not force an adapter onto the high side.
- 3 Take a baseline reading - Start the 2011-2014 Subaru Forester, select MAX A/C,** recirculate, and high blower, then confirm compressor operation. Read low-side pressure against the kit chart for ambient temperature.
- 4 Add refrigerant cautiously - If the system is not near-empty and the kit instructions** permit topping off the 2011-2014 Subaru Forester, add short bursts through the low side while watching the chart and vent temperature. Do not empty cans blindly.
- 5 Stop and verify cooling - Stop when the gauge and vent temperature reach the specified** range, cap the port, and inspect for leaks. If cooling returns only briefly, stop recharging and arrange a leak test or professional repair.