2005-2009 Subaru Legacy - Oil and Filter Change

2005-2009 Subaru Legacy | Easy | 30-60 minutes | $48 DIY

TOOLS

Socket wrench and socket for the drain plug Oil filter wrench Oil drain pan (at least 5-quart capacity) Funnel Flathead screwdriver (for the filter access door tabs) Ramps or floor jack and jack stands Shop rags Gloves and safety glasses

PARTS

5W-30 engine oil (about 4.2 to 4.5 quarts) $30.00
Spin-on engine oil filter (EJ25 bottom-mount application) $16.00
Oil drain plug crush washer $2.00

STEPS

1. **Warm the engine and secure the car - Idle the engine for 2 to 3 minutes so the oil warms** and drains faster, then shut it off. Park on level pavement, set the parking brake, and chock the rear wheels. Warm, not hot, oil is the safe target.
2. **Raise the front and open the filter access door - Drive onto ramps or raise the front and** support it on jack stands at the reinforced pinch welds. Turn the tabs with a flathead screwdriver and swing the door open.
3. **Drain the oil through the drain plug - Slide the drain pan under the oil pan, positioning** it slightly rearward because the oil initially shoots out at an angle. Break the drain plug loose with a socket wrench and finish by hand so it does not fall into the pan. Let the oil drai...
4. **Reinstall the drain plug with a new crush washer - Wipe the drain plug and the pan** surface clean, then fit a new crush washer on the plug. Thread the plug in by hand to protect the aluminum pan threads, then snug it firmly with the wrench without over-tightening.
5. **Remove the old oil filter - Reach through the access door and loosen the spin-on oil** filter on the underside of the EJ25 with an oil filter wrench, turning counterclockwise. The filter on this Legacy sits close to the exhaust manifold, so it may be hot; wear gloves....
6. **Install the new oil filter - Smear fresh engine oil on the new filter’s rubber gasket** with your fingertip to help it seal and remove cleanly next time. Never use the filter wrench for installation; over-tightening crushes the gasket.
7. **Close the access door and refill with oil - Swing the small access door shut and turn its** plastic tabs a quarter turn to lock it. Lower the car off the stands or ramps onto level ground. Remove the oil fill cap, insert a funnel, and pour in 5W-30 engine oil to the specified capacity...
8. **Start the engine and check for leaks - Start the engine and let it run about a minute** while you watch the drain plug and filter area from under the hood and below for drips. A steady light and no drips mean the work is mechanically sound.
9. **Verify the dipstick level and finish up - Shut the engine off, wait two minutes, then** check the dipstick, wiping and re-dipping for an accurate read. Add small amounts of 5W-30 until the level sits at the upper mark. Look once more under the car for any fresh drips. Pour the used...

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