

2020-2024 Subaru Outback | Moderate | 2-3 hours | \$80 DIY

TOOLS

10mm Socket 14mm Socket Socket Extensions Ratchet Wrench Spark Plug Socket Torque Wrench Flathead Screwdriver Gloves Safety Glasses Battery Terminal Brush Universal Joint Thin-Wall Spark Plug Socket

PARTS

NGK Laser Iridium Spark Plugs DILKAR7Q8 (2.5L); SILKFR8A6 (2.4L) \$80.00
Subaru OEM Ignition Coil Packs 22433AA770 / 22433AA81A (2.5L); 22433AA760 / 22433AA82A (2.4L) \$300.00

STEPS

- 1 Cool the engine - The 2020-2024 Subaru Outback uses a BOXER engine - the spark plugs are on the SIDES of the engine, not on top. This is the defining quirk. 2.5L: NGK SILZKAR7B11. 2.4T: Subaru 22401AA92A. Gap: 0.044". Torque: 21 Nm (15.2 ft-lb) per FS...**
- 2 Access the ignition coils (from the sides) - Remove the engine cover. The ignition coils are on the SIDES - you'll access them from the side, by turning the wheels and going through the wheel-well liners, or from below. Remove any covers/airbox components blocking side access.**
- 3 Remove one coil at a time - Remove ONE coil at a time. Unplug the connector, unbolt the coil, pull it straight out from the side. Inspect the boots. The tight side clearance is the challenge - use a universal joint on your socket extension.**
- 4 Remove the old spark plug - Use your spark plug socket with extensions and a universal joint to remove the old plug from the side. The boxer's horizontal plugs can be awkward - the socket needs to go in straight. Don't drop debris into the open holes.**
- 5 Gap and hand-thread the new plug - The new plugs come pre-gapped at 0.044" - verify but don't adjust (iridium). Hand-thread the new plug into the side-facing hole - this is tricky on the boxer because you're working horizontally. Turn by hand until it seats. NEVER force...**
- 6 Torque to specification - Torque to 21 Nm (15.2 ft-lb) per the Subaru FSM (older spec - verify for your 2020-2024). Use a torque wrench with your extension/universal setup. The side-access makes torquing awkward - ensure the socket is fully seated on the plug...**
- 7 Reinstall the coil - Reinstall the coil - push it firmly onto the plug, bolt it down, reconnect the electrical connector. Double-check all coil connectors are clicked in - the boxer's side location makes it easy to miss one.**
- 8 Reassemble and test - Start the engine - the boxer should idle with its characteristic rumble, smooth with no misfire. Check for codes (P0301-P0304). Test drive: the Outback should accelerate smoothly. The boxer's plugs are harder to access than an inline-4's...**