2016-2023 Toyota Tacoma - Serpentine Belt

2016-2023 Toyota Tacoma | Moderate | 45-90 minutes | $45 DIY

TOOLS

Metric socket set and ratchet
Serpentine-belt tensioner tool or long-handled ratchet Torque wrench where the service manual specifies a fastener torque Flashlight Safety glasses and gloves

PARTS

Serpentine/accessory drive belt $45.00

STEPS

1. **Prepare and confirm the belt path - Park the 2016-2023 Toyota Tacoma on level ground, set** the parking brake, switch off the ignition, and let the engine cool. Confirm the replacement belt's length and check the under-hood routing label or service info for your exact engine.
2. **Gain safe access - Open the hood and remove only the engine cover, splash shield, or** intake ducting blocking the belt. Keep every fastener organized, and never reach near the belt with the engine running.
3. **Release tension and remove the old belt - Fit the correct tool on the tensioner and** rotate it only in its designed direction. Unload the belt slowly, slip it off a smooth pulley first, then release the tensioner. Compare the old belt's routing to the diagram before discarding it.
4. **Inspect the drive system - With the belt off, spin each tensioner and idler pulley by** hand - feel for roughness, wobble, play, noise, or binding. Check for oil or coolant contamination, damaged grooves, and misalignment; fix those faults before the new belt goes o...
5. **Install and route the new belt - Route the new belt around every pulley exactly as the** diagram shows, saving the tensioner pulley for last where the layout allows. Center every rib in the grooved pulleys; the smooth side touches only smooth pulleys.
6. **Release tension and verify alignment - Release the tensioner slowly, then rotate the** crankshaft by hand only if the manufacturer permits and access is safe. Recheck every groove and pulley face, reinstall the covers, and confirm the tensioner has normal travel.
7. **Run a controlled final test - Start the engine from a safe position with hands and tools** clear. Listen for squeal, chirp, slap, or grinding and watch the belt track at idle. Shut it off immediately if the belt walks, flutters, or a warning light appears.

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