2012-2013 Volkswagen Passat | Easy | About 15 minutes. | $35 DIY

TOOLS

Large slip-joint pliers (for the intake-hose clamp) Phillips-head screwdriver (for the intake-hose clamp screw and housing fasteners) Folding hex-key set Clean dry rag New engine air filter (buy by vehicle fitment: 2012-2013 Volkswagen Passat 2.5L five-cylinder)

PARTS

Engine air filter for 2012-2013 Volkswagen Passat; verify engine, housing shape, and VIN fitment $35.00

STEPS

1. **Confirm this guide matches your car - Check the black plastic engine cover: embossed** '2.5' and the VW roundel confirms the right engine. If your Passat has the 1.8T, 2.0T, 3.6L VR6, or 2.0 TDI, stop - those use different airbox designs this guide doesn't cover.
2. **Remove the plastic engine cover - Expect firm resistance; a steady upward pull frees one** corner at a time. Don't pry with a screwdriver or twist the cover - that snaps the plastic mounting tabs. Set the cover aside where it won't get stepped on or scratched.
3. **Open the air filter housing and remove the old filter - Locate the air filter housing -** the black plastic box feeding the intake hose. On this 2.5L there are no sensors or wiring connectors to unplug before opening the housing. Release the housing's clips or screws and lift the lid or separat...
4. **Clean out the empty housing - Wipe the inside clean with a dry rag and pick out debris by** hand. Don't use water or cleaning sprays inside the housing, and keep the intake opening covered with the rag while you work so nothing falls into the intake.
5. **Install the new filter and close the housing - Drop the new rectangular panel filter into** the housing in the same orientation the old one came out, making sure it sits flat and the sealing edge is even all the way around. Close the housing lid over it. The housing's clips or screws nee...
6. **Reconnect the intake hose and tighten everything - Slide the hose on squarely rather than** forcing it - work it on, then snug the clamp screw. Go around the housing and confirm every clip and screw is tight.
7. **Close the hood, start up, and verify the job - Close the hood, start the engine, and idle** a minute. Take a short test drive; if a check-engine light appears or the idle is rough, recheck the filter seating, the housing closure, and the hose clamp.

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