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Leaks in the cooling circuit

Leaks or coolant loss may occasionally be observed after repair work or corrective maintenance on the engine's cooling circuit. Yet they are seldom caused by the replacement component.

Leaks are one of the most common complaints following the replacement of a component. If, for example, coolant leaks out after a new radiator or thermostat has been installed, the replacement component is usually assumed to be the cause. However, the fault often lies elsewhere.

No. 1 root cause

The most common cause of leaks in the cooling system are old seals that were overlooked during disassembly and therefore not replaced. In many quick locks these sit in the counterpart of the connecting hose, for example, and are not directly visible from the outside. If hose or plug connectors are opened, all seals must be replaced before reassembly.

Installing seals correctly

When replacing seals, all sealing areas must be clean and free of any corrosion or deposits. Install only solid-matter seals provided by the manufacturer and do not use extra sealant. Seals must not be installed dry. It is best to use the same medium that the seal is in contact with (in this case, clean coolant) as a lubricant.



Figure 1: Quick lock on the thermostat housing



Figure 2: Remove and replace the old seal in the flange using a suitable tool





Figure 3: Clean any corroded areas thoroughly prior to assembly.

IMPORTANT!

After work has been carried out on the cooling circuit, refill it with coolant approved by the manufacturer and bleed the system thoroughly. We recommend using a vacuum-venting device to avoid malfunctions and air traps.