

Using a Compression Gauge



Name _____

Date _____

Vehicle:

YEAR _____ MAKE _____ MODEL _____

ENGINE SIZE (CYLINDERS and DISPLACEMENT) _____ cyl _____ liters

- 1) Disable the ignition system by disconnecting the coil cable at the distributor or unplugging the ignition system connector. Ground the coil cable. It's important that the engine **DOES NOT START** when doing the compression test.
- 2) Remove the spark plug wire and spark plug. Screw the compression gauge adapter into the hole. Connect the gauge to the adapter.
- 3) Have an assistant crank the engine while holding the accelerator to the floor. Watch gauge so that 4 to 5 compression strokes are read on the gauge. Record the final reading below.
- 4) Repeat the above steps for each cylinder. **IMPORTANT:** when each cylinder is tested, make sure the engine is cranked the same number of turns for each cylinder or the readings will be inaccurate.
- 5) There should be no more than a 15% variation between the highest and lowest cylinder. If there is, the low cylinder(s) have a mechanical problem and must be checked with a leak-down tester.

Cylinders:

#1 _____ PSI #2 _____ PSI #3 _____ PSI #4 _____ PSI

#5 _____ PSI #6 _____ PSI #7 _____ PSI #8 _____ PSI

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