

Changing the sixth generation Corvette Oil

Difficulty: 2 out of 5.

Time required: Plan on about 1.5 hours taking your time.

Tools required: Ramps, Floor jack, Jack stand(s), 13mm wrench or socket, Oil filter wrench, lifting puck, wheel stops, shop rag.

Materials required: 1 compatible oil filter, 6 quarts of compatible oil. Capacities are 5.5 Quarts with a filter change for the non-Z51 and 6 quarts with a filter change on the cars with the RPO Z51. Recommended oil is Mobil 1 fully synthetic 5W-30 (GM spec 4718M). Recommended Oil filter is GM UPF44 (2005), UPF46 (2006) UPF48 (2007-2009)



If you have access to a lift you can skip to step 6. If you are doing this at home without access to a lift continue to the photos below.

Step 1. Get the car up in the air.

I use a couple of 2x4's and my rhino ramps. The 2x4's will give enough clearance to get up on the Rhino ramps without deflecting the side air dams.



Step 2. Get yourself a little more clearance on the driver's side for easier access to the oil drain plug and filter. Once I have the car up on the ramps I take my floor jack and jacking puck and raise the drivers side further. Don't forget to block the rear tires once you have the car up on the ramp.





Step 3. Get yourself some extra room. Once the jack is in place and the car is up out of the way I will turn the ramp around so that you have easy access behind the tire.



Step 4. Place a jack stand up front under the frame support and lower the car back down.



Now that the car is lifted and safely supported you can begin the process of changing out the oil.

Step 5. Place your oil pan under the drain plug. I like to use a piece of cardboard under the drain pan to collect any oil that may miss the pan during the process of removing the plug and filter.



I also prefer to use a drain pan with a screen to catch the oil pan bolt and filter. It's much easier than fishing it out of the oil if you drop it.

Step 6. Using your 13mm socket, Remove the oil drain plug. It can be seen in this photo to the left of the oil filter: You may need to apply some force to break the plug free.



Step 7. Using your oil filter wrench, loosen the old oil filter. Once you break it free you can remove it by hand. Plan on oil running down the filter, on to your hands and hopefully in to the drain pan underneath. Once the filter is out, inspect it to make sure that the oil filter gasket came out with the old filter. The last thing you want is an old filter gasket left behind. It will likely cause a poor seal and could cause leaks under pressure.



Step 8. Wait for all of the old oil to drain out from both the drain plug on the oil pan and the oil filter receptacle. This can take up to 30 minutes depending upon the air temperature, the oil temperature and the viscosity of the oil coming out.

Step 9. Once the oil has stopped draining, wipe down the drain plug area and around the oil pan along with the filter area. Be sure not to leave any remnants from your shop rag in either location.

Step10. Install the new oil filter. It is a good idea to lightly lubricate the gasket of the new oil filter. Just use a finger tip full of the old oil that you drained out and wipe it on the face of the new filter gasket. Screw the new filter up snug with your fingers. The new filter should be installed to 22 lb ft of torque. I use three quarter turn with the oil filter wrench after install.

Step 11. Install the oil drain plug. The oil drain plug should be installed with 18 lb ft of torque.

Step 12. Refill the oil. At this point I will turn the ramp around, remove the jack stand and lower the car back down on to the ramp. I will then add 5.5 quarts and then start the car to fill the oil filter and check for leaks while the car is still up in the air on the ramps.



This way if any leaks under pressure are found I can quickly tighten everything up without having to lift the car again in a hurry.

Step 13. Once the leak check is complete (about 1 minute) shut the car off. Check your oil and add any remaining oil to the car.

Step 14. Remove the wheel chocks, replace the 2x4 and back the car down off the ramps. Keep the car running and once again check for any leaks.

If you don't find any leaks, well done. You've completed your oil change.

Step 15. Now the only thing left to do is to reset the oil life monitor. Either with the engine running or with the car in Power on, engine off mode (press and hold the lower portion of the start button as if you were putting it in accessory mode, but hold the button down for 10 seconds and you will see the instrument panel come to life). Using the trip button on the right side of the instrument panel, cycle through the trip odometers until the Oil Life Remaining XX% display comes up. With oil life display showing on the DIC, press and hold the reset button until the oil life percent resets. It may only reset to 99%. Not sure why some cars do this but they do.

Just a note for 2005/2006 owners, don't cycle the display for ten or fifteen more seconds. There is a bug in the reset circuit and if you cycle past another reset (trip, lap timer, etc.) display it will reset that as well. Just wait the extra time and you won't have any issues.

