

Changing the Air Filter on a Sprinter

Changing the air filter on a Sprinter is similar to most modern cars with off-motor located air filters. The air filter housing is located to the left of the engine under the windshield washer fluid container. However, there is a trick to getting the top off and out of the way.

Suppliers of Sprinter Air Filters:

Supplier US	Part No.	Comments
AC Delco	A2569C	About \$38 at www.rockauto.com
Dodge	5103554AA	About \$29
Fleet Guard	AF25306 or AF25319	Available at http://www.teamji.com/products/SprinterParts.html
FRAM - US	CA5876	About \$21 at www.rockauto.com
Baldwin	PA4600 (std) PA4601 (hd)	Baldwin is a construction machinery filter supplier. Locate dealers at www.baldwinfilter.com
Supplier non-US	Part No.	Comments
Fram-Europe	CA5875 (std) CA5777 (hd)	May not be stocked in US
Hengst	E240L	
Knecht and Mahle (same #)	LX 511 (std) LX 513 (hd)	Appears to be MB's OEM supplier
Mann	C 32 338 (std) C 32 338/1(hd)	Mann indicates their hd filter is 20MM thicker than MB's. Housing is large enough to handle the extra size.
Mercedes/Freightliner (old)	003-094-75-04 (std) 003-094-83-04 (hd)	
Volkswagen	2-D0-129-620 (std) 2-D0-129-620 A (hd)	

Changing the Air Filter:



Two plastic spring tensioner tabs are located at the back of the air filter housing. Release the tabs.

Loosen the clamp on the clean air feed hose, remove by squeezing, and fold the air hose under the heat shield. Remove the air-mass sensor electrical line by releasing the clip and move it to the right fender side. On some models, the windshield washer electrical line also has to be moved (not removed) to the fender side of the air filter housing.

Note that the Sprinter Service Manual states that the heat shield should also be removed to make room for the air filter housing. However, that is not necessary.



The trick: Wiggle the top around so that the hump is between the windshield washer and the interior fan casing, and bring the flanges up over the heat shield and headlight frame. The picture shows the angle to aim for. Slide out the top.

Remove the old air filter.

(Note), below the right front corner of the air filter housing, there is some pink on the heat shield. That is high temperature silicone glue that I applied in

several places on this heat shield and the one between the muffler and the body of the van to dampen the aluminum shields pinging sounds from heat expansion and cooling contraction.)



Clean out the supply side of the air filter housing. I found a shop vacuum was the quickest.

Install new filter, and replace the top of the air filter housing. **Careful on the reinstallation**, as the lower left corner often hangs up on the electrical harness located near that corner. Reinstall the spring clips, air mass sensor and air feed line.

Differences in Air Filter Types



Most suppliers of Sprinter air filters offer two versions: a standard duty and a heavy duty. The two are shown at the left.

Air Flow Indicator:



DC offers as an option an air flow indicator to inform owners of when to change the air filter. It is located on the top left of the air filter canister. Even though my old filter (the lower one in the picture above) appeared to be dirty and had 28,000 miles on it, the air flow indicator showed no problem. So what to believe? Other members of the Yahoo Sprinter Group also report bafflement as to whether this feature works.