

Radiator bleeding

Posted by rd7839 - 06 Jun 2012 18:47

How do I know when the radiator is bled enough? I took it out and flushed it when I moved the oil cooler and filled the block and radiator before starting. I ran it till the thermostat opened and then opened the bleed screw. It bubbled for about a minute and then ran a steady stream, until I revved the motor, nothing came out then. I repeated about 6 times, twice after it cooled back down.

Is that enough? I know at 2010 nationals I never did get it to run cool until I got home and had the thing bled by a professional.

Re: Radiator bleeding

Posted by Big Dog - 07 Jun 2012 07:49

Ron, I am sure you will get additional, better responses, but here is what I have been told.

Raise the front of the car up so the bleed area is the highest point. From there, I have had two different methods proposed to me.

One, from Robert at R2Racing, is to remove the bleed valve, on a cold engine, and squeeze the upper radiator hose. With your other hand, seal the hole and release the hose. That creates a vacuum that will pull water into the system. Release the seal as you squeeze the hose, reseal it as you release and repeat until there is no more air in the system. This relies on having a small hole in the thermostat so all of the air can bleed out of the block, I think.

The other is to raise the front and start the engine, get the thermostat open and bleed air out of the valve, as you stated. The only thing I have added is raising the front of the car.

I have done both systems with yet a third one of putting my mouth over the filler and blowing into it to force water through the system and air out the bleeder valve. This method requires two people.

Big Dog

Re: Radiator bleeding

Posted by 944Racer72 - 10 Jun 2012 21:18

I always just open the bleed valve with it high as Jim said and let the engine run until I see a fairly solid stream out of it. Make sure the radiator cap is on when you do it.
