

Fuel Filter Replacement

Pontiac Vibe and Wave, and Chevrolet Aveo Fuel Filter

On the Pontiac Vibe,

Pontiac Wave (Canada) and Chevrolet Aveo, the fuel filter is serviced as part of the fuel pump module, as described in the preceding paragraphs.

TIP: However, on these vehicles, if fuel pump module/fuel filter replacement is required, it is not necessary to remove the fuel tank. There is an access panel beneath the rear seat. When it's removed, the fuel pump module can be removed. Refer to SI for details.

Some customers have commented that they have been advised to replace their vehicle's fuel filter periodically.

On many vehicles, the fuel filter is non-serviceable (see table). The filter is an integral part of the fuel pump module and fuel pressure regulator assembly. The filter can be serviced only by replacement of the fuel module assembly. This process requires the removal of the fuel tank (one to two hours of labor, depending on the model), plus several hundred dollars in unnecessary parts.

The vehicle owner's manual outlines the periodic maintenance service required, under the Maintenance 1 and Maintenance 2 guidelines. Routine fuel filter replacement does not appear on either of these schedules.

In the future, due to the increased regulation of evaporative emissions, fuel systems utilizing a non-serviceable filter will become more common as new models are introduced.

- Thanks to David MacGillis

Vehicles with Non-Serviceable Fuel Filters

Chevrolet	
2003-2008	Corvette
2004-2008	Malibu and MAXX, Silverado*, Tahoe**, Suburban, Avalanche
2005-2008	Uplander
2007-2008	Aveo Notchback (No serviceable filter)
2004-2006	Aveo Notchback***
2004-2008	Aveo 5-Door***
2005-2008	Cobalt ^{\$}
2006-2008	Impala and MonteCarlo
2005-2008	Equinox
2005-2008	Trailblazer and EXT, SSR
GMC	
2004-2008	Sierra*, Yukon** and XL
2005-2008	Envoy, XL and XUV
2008	Acadia
Pontiac	
2003-2008	Vibe
2005-2008	Montana SV6 (07/08 Canada only)
2007-2008	Wave Notchback (no serviceable filter)
2004-2006	Wave Notchback***
2004-2008	Wave 5-Door***
2005-2008	Torrent
2005- 2008	Pursuit *** ^{\$} , G5

2007-2008	Solstice
2005- 2008	G6
Buick	
2005-2007	Terazza
2008	Enclave
2006-2008	Lucerne
2005-2008	LaCrosse/Allure
2005-2007	Rainier
Cadillac	
2008	CTS
2006-2008	DTS
2004-08	XLR, Escalade, EXT and ESV
Hummer	
2004-2008	H2
2005-2008	H3
Saab	
2006-2008	9-7x
2003-2008	9-3
Saturn	
2002-2007 2008	VUE VUE
2007-2008	Saturn Sky
2005-2007	Relay
2005-2007 2008 2007-2008	ION Astra Aura

* 2004 V8 only (4.3L uses conventional external filter)

** 2004 RPO L59 uses conventional external filter

\$ RPO NU6 has a serviceable filter but the tank must be removed from the vehicle to service it. The filter is designed to be in place for the "life of the vehicle".

*** Canada Only