M-Tips

Mazda North American Operations Irvine, CA 92618-2922



Subject:

TESTING GASOLINE FOR ETHANOL CONTENT

M-Tips No.: MT-002/21

Last Issued: 10/13/2021

BULLETIN NOTES

This M-Tip supersedes the previously issued M-Tip listed below. The changes are noted in Red text.

Previous M-Tip	Date(s) Issued
MT-002/21	9/24/2021,10/13/2021
MT-005/09	2009

APPLICABLE MODEL(S)/VINS

2003-2021 Mazda6	2006-2015 Mazda5	2007-2021 CX-9	2016-2021 CX-3
2004-2021 Mazda3	2006-2021 MX-5	2011-2014 Mazda2	2020-2021 CX-30
2004-2011 RX-8	2007-2012 CX-7	2013-2021 CX-5	

DESCRIPTION

Ethanol is becoming a common additive in gasoline. Gasoline containing ethanol is likely available at your local gasoline station. Typical blends of ethanol include E10 and E85.

- E10: A blend of 10% ethanol and 90% gasoline
- E85: A blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline

All Mazda vehicles can run on gasoline containing up to 10% ethanol (E10) but only some 1999-2001 B3000 trucks can run on gasoline with more than 10% ethanol blended.

- E10 compatible vehicles: All Mazda vehicles
- E85 compatible vehicles: 1999-2001 B3000 Mazda trucks with the 8th VIN digit is V.

What if a customer puts E85 in there Mazda vehicle?

Symptoms include:

- Rough Running
- · Engine hard start
- Lean Codes (Examples: P0171 and/or P2096)
- Misfires and/or misfire codes (Examples: P0300, P0301, P0302, P0303 OR P0304)
- · Lack of power
- Poor fuel economy

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- Spark knock
- · Mechanical engine damage

How do I test for Ethanol in gasoline?

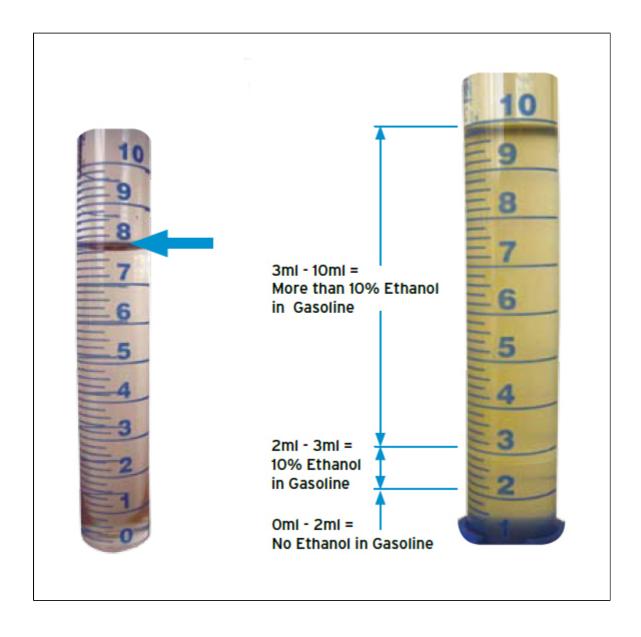
We can add water to a gasoline sample to determine how much ethanol is in the gasoline.

- 1. Pour 8ml of the fuel sample into the graduated cylinder.
- 2. Add 2ml of water to the fuel sample bringing the total height of the fuel and water mixture to 10ml.
- 3. Cover the open end of the graduated cylinder and shake the fuel sample.
- 4. Let fuel sample sit until the water and gasoline separate.
- 5. Inspect the water/fuel separation. If the separation line on graduated cylinder is:
- 2ml = No ethanol in gasoline
- 2ml 3ml = 10% ethanol in gasoline
- 3ml 10ml = More than 10% ethanol in gasoline

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