

Take a Look at That Plug



When you FMTV mechanics change a vehicle's transmission oil for the first time, eyeball the magnetic drain plug. It could save a transmission.

The plug is magnetic for a reason. If there are metal particles swimming in the oil, they'll be attracted to the plug. Then they won't be moving around in the oil to mess up something. And, when they're on the plug you can see them, if you look.

Troubleshooting task f20 in your -20-1 TM says to notify your DS if you find metal particles on the drain plug. DS then knows the C6 thrust bearing in your truck's transmission is wearing. DS will make repairs before something really bad happens.

Later, any time you change the transmission oil to meet an AOAP requirement, look closely at the plug. If the plug needs a "shave," include some of the metal particles in your next required sample. Note on the bottle label that particles were found on the plug.