

Boosting Corrosion

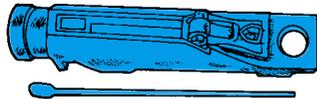
The freeze and corrosion protection provided by your vehicle's coolant diminishes over time. That means you need to check on the condition of the coolant regularly.

Here's how to make sure your coolant is up to the job:

Non-arctic Military Antifreeze

Check the freeze protection. Use the battery/antifreeze tester, NSN 6630-00-105-1418, from the Common shop sets.

Check freeze protection with tester

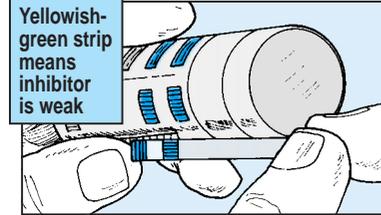


Always use a 60/40 mix of antifreeze to water. This protects against freezing down to -50°F. It's better than plain water in hot climates, too. That's spelled out in Para 4b of TB 750-651, the antifreeze bible.

To make sure the reserve alkalinity (corrosion protection) levels are normal for ethylene glycol antifreeze, MIL-A-46153, use antifreeze test kit, NSN 6630-01-011-5039.

Dip a test strip into the coolant. A blue strip means it's OK. A green strip means the coolant is marginal, but is OK to use until the next service. A yellowish-green strip means the coolant needs a shot of inhibitor right away.

Protection



To check the corrosion protection of commercial antifreeze, A-A-52624, use commercial test strips that test for the nitrite level in engine coolant.

Some available test strips include Penray part number TS-100, Fleetguard part number CC2602 and Detroit Diesel Powertrac part number 23522774. The strips come with information on how to use them.

You can boost the coolant's corrosion protection only once, so make sure you note it on a DA Form 5986-E. The next time the level or corrosion protection is down you must replace the coolant.

Here's how to use the corrosion inhibitor:

1. Draw a sample of the coolant in a clear container. If it's contaminated with rust or solids, replace the coolant.
2. Add 1 pint of corrosion inhibitor for every 17 quarts of coolant. One quart of inhibitor comes with NSN 6850-01-160-3868. NSN 6850-01-287-8067 gets a gallon.
3. Mix the boosted coolant by running your vehicle for a few minutes. After the engine has cooled, retest the reserve alkalinity level. If the coolant fails the test, replace it.



Arctic Antifreeze

Things are a bit different if your vehicle uses full-strength arctic antifreeze during extremely cold weather (-50°F and lower).

When the weather gets warmer, switch back to non-arctic military or commercial antifreeze. The rotation between types of antifreeze will ensure your coolant's corrosion protection stays strong.

