

Continental 66388

Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose User Manual

Model: 66388 | Brand: Continental

1. INTRODUCTION

The Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose is engineered to facilitate the transfer of glycol-based coolants within a vehicle's cooling system. This hose is specifically molded to ensure optimal flow through complex bends, simplify installation, and reduce stress on radiator connections. It is designed to meet or exceed SAE 20R4EC Class D1 specifications and various Original Equipment (OE) specifications, offering resistance to Electrochemical Degradation (ECR).

This manual provides essential information regarding the installation, operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose. Please read it thoroughly before installation and retain it for future reference.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

2.1 Key Features

- Molded design for full flow through tight bends and ease of application.
- Relieves stress on radiator connections.
- Constructed with EPDM tube and cover, reinforced with synthetic knit.
- Compatible with most coolants, including ethylene glycol- and propylene glycol-based, and organic acid modified, long-life coolants.
- Meets or exceeds SAE 20R4EC Class D1 specifications.
- Resistant to Electrochemical Degradation (ECR).
- Temperature range: -40°F to 275°F (-40°C to 135°C).

2.2 What's in the Box

- 1 x Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose



Figure 1: The Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose, showcasing its curved design and reinforced section.

3. INSTALLATION GUIDE

Proper installation is crucial for the longevity and performance of your radiator hose. If you are not experienced with automotive repairs, it is highly recommended to seek professional assistance.

3.1 Safety Precautions

- Always ensure the engine is cool before working on the cooling system to prevent burns from hot coolant or steam.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses and gloves.
- Dispose of old coolant responsibly according to local regulations.
- Ensure the vehicle is securely supported on jack stands if lifting is required.

3.2 Tools Required

- Pliers or hose clamp removal tool
- Drain pan
- New coolant (compatible with your vehicle)
- Funnel
- Rag or shop towels

3.3 Installation Steps

1. **Drain Coolant:** Place a drain pan under the radiator drain plug or the lowest radiator hose connection. Open the drain plug or carefully loosen the lower radiator hose clamp to drain the coolant.
2. **Remove Old Hose:** Once the system is drained, use pliers or a hose clamp tool to loosen the clamps securing the old radiator hose to the radiator and engine/thermostat housing. Twist and pull the old hose off the connections. Inspect the connection points for corrosion or debris and clean as necessary.
3. **Install New Hose:** Slide the new Continental 66388 hose onto the radiator and engine/thermostat housing connections. Ensure the hose is fully seated and aligned correctly. Position the hose clamps over the connection points and tighten them securely, but do not overtighten, as this can damage the hose or connections.
4. **Refill Coolant:** Close the radiator drain plug. Using a funnel, slowly refill the cooling system with the manufacturer-recommended coolant mixture.
5. **Bleed Air:** Start the engine with the radiator cap off (or reservoir cap if applicable) and allow it to reach operating temperature. As the engine warms, air bubbles will escape. Top off the coolant as needed. Some vehicles may require specific air bleeding procedures; consult your vehicle's service manual.
6. **Final Inspection:** Once the engine is cool, check the coolant level again and top off if necessary. Inspect all hose connections for leaks.



Figure 2: Example of a molded radiator hose, similar to the 66388, ready for installation or showing its form factor.

4. OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose serves as a critical conduit within your vehicle's engine cooling system. Its primary function is to transport hot coolant from the engine to the radiator for heat dissipation and then return the cooled fluid back to the engine. The molded shape ensures a precise fit, preventing kinks and maintaining optimal flow, which is essential for efficient engine temperature regulation. The EPDM material and synthetic knit reinforcement provide durability and resistance to the harsh conditions of an engine bay, including temperature fluctuations and exposure to various coolants.

5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Regular inspection of your radiator hose can help prevent cooling system failures. It is recommended to inspect the hose at least once a year or during routine vehicle maintenance.

- **Visual Inspection:** Check the hose for any signs of cracking, fraying, bulges, or soft spots. A healthy hose should feel firm but pliable.
- **Hose Clamps:** Ensure hose clamps are tight and free from corrosion. Loose clamps can lead to leaks.
- **Leaks:** Look for any signs of coolant leaks around the hose connections or along the hose body.
- **Hose Condition:** Squeeze the hose when the engine is cool. If it feels excessively soft, spongy, or brittle, it may be deteriorating and require replacement.
- **Contaminants:** Keep the hose free from oil, grease, or other contaminants that can degrade the rubber material.

While the Continental 66388 hose is designed for durability, hoses are wear items and should be replaced as part of preventative maintenance, typically every 4-5 years or as recommended by your vehicle manufacturer.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your cooling system, the radiator hose could be a contributing factor. Here are some common problems and their potential causes:

- **Coolant Leaks:**
 - *Cause:* Loose or corroded hose clamps, cracks in the hose, or damage from abrasion.
 - *Solution:* Tighten or replace clamps, inspect hose for damage and replace if necessary.
- **Hose Swelling/Bulging:**
 - *Cause:* Internal deterioration due to age, chemical exposure, or excessive pressure in the cooling system.
 - *Solution:* Replace the hose immediately. Investigate potential cooling system pressure issues (e.g., faulty radiator cap, head gasket).

- **Hose Collapse (Flattening when cool):**

- *Cause:* A faulty radiator cap not allowing air back into the system as it cools, creating a vacuum.
- *Solution:* Replace the radiator cap. If the hose remains collapsed or is damaged, replace the hose as well.

- **Hardening/Cracking:**

- *Cause:* Age, exposure to high temperatures, or chemical degradation.
- *Solution:* Replace the hose. Hardened hoses are prone to cracking and failure.

If troubleshooting does not resolve the issue, or if you are unsure about the cause, consult a qualified automotive technician.

7. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Value
Brand	Continental
Model	66388
Material	EPDM
Color	Factory
Item Weight	2.4 ounces (0.15 Pounds)
Temperature Range	-40°F to 275°F (-40°C to 135°C)
Standards Met	SAE 20R4EC Class D1, various OE specifications
Resistance	Electrochemical Degradation (ECR)
UPC	037256177095
Manufacturer Part Number	66388

8. SAFETY INFORMATION

When working on your vehicle's cooling system, always prioritize safety:

- Never open the radiator cap or drain plug when the engine is hot. Hot coolant and steam can cause severe burns.
- Always wear eye protection to shield against splashes of coolant or debris.
- Wear chemical-resistant gloves to protect your hands from coolant, which can be toxic.
- Ensure proper ventilation when working in enclosed spaces.
- Keep all tools and parts organized to prevent tripping hazards.
- Dispose of used coolant and old parts according to local environmental regulations.

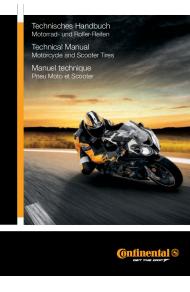
9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding your Continental 66388 Molded Radiator Hose, please refer to the

documentation provided with your purchase or visit the official Continental website. For technical support or inquiries, please contact Continental customer service through their official channels.

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Related Documents - 66388

 OPERATIONAL DESCRIPTION/ USER MANUAL KeyFob Model#RHT433	<p>Continental RHT433 KeyFob User Manual and Operational Description</p> <p>Comprehensive user manual and operational description for the Continental RHT433 and RHT315 (Japan) KeyFobs. Details remote entry, start, and immobilization features, technical specifications, safety warnings, and regulatory compliance for FCA platforms.</p>
 TCAM1NA0	<p>Continental TCAM1NA0 Telematics and Connectivity Antenna Module User Manual</p> <p>User manual for the Continental TCAM1NA0 Telematics and Connectivity Antenna Module, detailing its features, technical specifications, installation, and wireless services.</p>
 18.04.2020	<p>Continental FBD5 Installation Manual - Assembly and Compliance</p> <p>Official installation manual for the Continental FBD5 module, detailing assembly steps and FCC/IC compliance statements. Learn how to mount the FBD5 module in a vehicle chassis.</p>
 10.01.2020	<p>Continental HFM_CMFB_01 User Manual: Vehicle Access System</p> <p>User manual for the Continental HFM_CMFB_01 Hand Free Module, detailing its system overview, car access functions, engine start procedures, label information, and compliance statements for vehicle access systems.</p>
 Technisches Handbuch Motorrad- und Roller-Reifen Technical Manual Motorcycle and Scooter Tires Manuel technique Pneu Moto et Scooter	<p>Technisches Handbuch Motorrad- und Roller-Reifen Continental</p> <p>Das offizielle technische Handbuch von Continental für Motorrad- und Rollerreifen. Finden Sie detaillierte Informationen zu allen Reifenserien, technischen Spezifikationen, Montagehinweisen und Modellübersichten für optimale Leistung und Sicherheit.</p>
 10.01.2020	<p>Continental GM OnStar Gen12 Telematics Control Unit (TCP) User Manual</p> <p>User manual for the Continental GM OnStar Gen12 Telematics Control Unit (TCP), model numbers G12N410G1 and G12N410M1. Details product features, system overview, mechanical design, technical specifications, wireless services, connectors, and compliance information.</p>

