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> Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube Instruction Manual

Dorman 917-353

Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube

Model: 917-353 | Brand: Dorman

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube is a direct replacement component designed to match the fit and function of the original tube on specified Audi and Volkswagen vehicles. Constructed from durable plastic, this tube is engineered to provide reliable performance and a long service life, restoring proper oil level measurement functionality.

Key features include:

- **Direct Replacement:** Engineered to match the original equipment for a precise fit.
- **Restores Functionality:** Replaces missing, bent, or broken original tubes.
- **Durable Construction:** Manufactured from quality materials for longevity.



Image: Main view of the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube, an orange plastic tube with a fitting at one end.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube typically involves replacing the existing, often brittle or damaged, original tube. It is recommended to consult your vehicle's specific service manual for detailed, step-by-step

instructions and safety precautions. Professional installation is advised if you are unfamiliar with automotive repair procedures.

A general overview of the installation process includes:

1. Ensure the engine is cool and the vehicle is safely supported.
2. Locate the existing dipstick tube. Depending on the vehicle model, this may require removing other components for access.
3. Carefully remove the old dipstick tube. Old plastic tubes can be brittle and may break during removal. Ensure all fragments are accounted for and removed from the engine bay.
4. Clean the mounting area to ensure a proper seal for the new tube.
5. Install the new Dorman 917-353 dipstick tube, ensuring it seats fully and securely into its designated port on the engine block and any mounting brackets. Apply gentle, even pressure.
6. Once the tube is installed, insert the engine oil dipstick to confirm proper fitment and ensure it can be inserted and removed smoothly.

For a detailed installation guide, please refer to the official [Installation Manual \(PDF\)](#) provided by Dorman.



Image: Side view of the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube, showing its slight curvature.

OPERATION

The Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube serves as a conduit for the engine oil dipstick, allowing for accurate measurement of the engine's oil level. Once installed, its operation is passive, providing a secure and clean pathway for the dipstick to reach the oil pan.

To check your engine oil level:

1. Ensure the vehicle is on a level surface and the engine has been off for at least 5-10 minutes to allow oil to drain back into the pan.
2. Carefully remove the dipstick from the tube.
3. Wipe the dipstick clean with a lint-free cloth.
4. Reinsert the dipstick fully into the tube until it is seated.
5. Remove the dipstick again and observe the oil level between the 'Min' and 'Max' marks.
6. If the oil level is low, add the appropriate type and amount of engine oil as specified by your vehicle manufacturer.

MAINTENANCE

The Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube requires minimal maintenance. However, periodic inspection is recommended to ensure its continued integrity and performance.

- **Visual Inspection:** During routine oil changes or engine bay checks, visually inspect the dipstick tube for any signs of cracking, brittleness, or damage. Check for secure seating at both ends.
- **Cleaning:** If the exterior of the tube becomes dirty, wipe it clean with a damp cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals that could degrade the plastic material.
- **Dipstick Fit:** Ensure the dipstick slides smoothly into and out of the tube. If excessive force is required, inspect the

tube for internal obstructions or deformities.



Image: Close-up view of the top end of the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube, where the dipstick is inserted.

TROUBLESHOOTING

While the Dorman 917-353 dipstick tube is designed for direct fit, some common issues may arise during or after installation:

- **Tight Dipstick Fit:** If the dipstick is excessively tight or difficult to remove after installation, it may indicate a slight dimensional difference or burrs from manufacturing. Carefully inspect the opening of the tube. In some cases, very fine sanding of the dipstick's entry point or the dipstick itself (if it's the original) might be necessary to achieve smooth operation. Exercise caution to avoid introducing debris into the engine.
- **Tube Not Seating Fully or Pulling Up:** Ensure the tube is correctly aligned and fully seated into the engine block and any retaining clips or brackets. Sometimes, firm, even pressure or light tapping with a rubber mallet (using a protective block of wood) may be required to fully seat the tube. If the tube continues to pull up, verify that the lower seal or O-ring (if applicable to your vehicle's design) is correctly positioned and not damaged.
- **Tube Breaks During Installation:** Plastic components can become brittle over time or due to temperature fluctuations. If the tube breaks during installation, ensure all broken pieces are removed from the engine bay to prevent potential damage. This typically indicates a manufacturing defect or improper handling; contact Dorman support for assistance.



Image: Close-up view of the bottom end of the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube, which connects to the engine block.

SPECIFICATIONS

Detailed specifications for the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube are provided below:

Attribute	Value
Brand	Dorman
Model	917-353
Color	Orange
Item Weight	0.05 Pounds (approx. 0.8 ounces)
Outside Diameter	13 Millimeters
Item Length	12 Inches
UPC	019495295389
Manufacturer Part Number	917-353
OEM Part Numbers	016-0149; SK917353; 06A103663C

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding the Dorman 917-353 Engine Oil Dipstick Tube, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Dorman website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary.

For additional support, technical assistance, or inquiries about Dorman products, you can visit the official [Dorman Store on Amazon](#) or contact Dorman customer service directly through their corporate website.

