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CTA Tools 3238 9 Wire Spark Plug Gap Gauge Instruction Manual

Brand: CTA Tools | Model: 3238

1. INTRODUCTION

The CTA Tools 3238 9 Wire Spark Plug Gap Gauge is a precision instrument designed for accurately measuring and adjusting the gap of spark plugs. This durable tool features nine different wire gauges, ensuring compatibility with a wide range of spark plug specifications.

This manual provides essential information on the proper use, maintenance, and specifications of your new spark plug gap gauge.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

⚠ WARNING: California Proposition 65

This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. Always handle with care and wash hands thoroughly after use.

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as safety glasses, when working with automotive components.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The CTA Tools 3238 features a circular design with nine wire gauges extending from its perimeter. Each wire is precisely sized to a specific spark plug gap measurement. The tool also includes a small, flat tab for gently bending the spark plug's ground electrode if adjustment is needed.



Figure 1: Top view of the CTA Tools 3238 9 Wire Spark Plug Gap Gauge, displaying imperial measurements.



Figure 2: Bottom view of the CTA Tools 3238 9 Wire Spark Plug Gap Gauge, displaying metric measurements.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these steps to accurately measure and adjust spark plug gaps:

1. **Identify Required Gap:** Consult your vehicle's service manual or spark plug manufacturer's specifications to determine the correct spark plug gap for your engine.
2. **Select Correct Wire:** Locate the wire on the gauge that matches the required gap measurement. The gauge includes sizes: 0.025, 0.030, 0.035, 0.040, 0.044, 0.045, 0.050, 0.055, and 0.060-inches.
3. **Measure the Gap:** Gently slide the selected wire gauge between the center electrode and the ground electrode of the spark plug. The wire should slide through with a slight drag. If it's too loose or too tight, adjustment is necessary.
4. **Adjusting the Gap (if necessary):**
 - **To Increase Gap:** Carefully use the small tab on the gauge to gently pry the ground electrode away from the center electrode. Do not pry against the center electrode, especially with iridium or platinum plugs, as this can damage them.
 - **To Decrease Gap:** Gently tap the ground electrode against a hard, flat surface to close the gap. Be very careful not to damage the center electrode.
5. **Re-measure:** After adjustment, re-measure the gap with the appropriate wire gauge to ensure it meets specifications. Repeat the adjustment process if needed until the correct gap is achieved.



Figure 3: Example of spark plug maintenance, highlighting the area where the gap gauge would be used.

5. MAINTENANCE

To ensure the longevity and accuracy of your CTA Tools 3238 Spark Plug Gap Gauge:

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the gauge clean with a dry, soft cloth after each use to remove any dirt, oil, or debris.
- **Storage:** Store the tool in a dry place to prevent rust. Avoid exposing it to excessive moisture or corrosive chemicals.
- **Inspection:** Periodically inspect the wire gauges for any signs of bending, wear, or damage. Damaged wires may lead to inaccurate measurements.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

The CTA Tools 3238 is a simple, robust tool. Most issues relate to improper use or physical damage.

- **Inaccurate Readings:** Ensure the correct wire gauge is selected for the desired measurement. Check the wire for any bends or deformities. Clean the gauge thoroughly.
- **Difficulty Adjusting Gap:** Ensure you are using the adjustment tab correctly and not applying excessive force. For stubborn gaps, ensure the spark plug is securely held.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	3238
Brand	CTA Tools
Gauge Sizes (Imperial)	0.025, 0.030, 0.035, 0.040, 0.044, 0.045, 0.050, 0.055, 0.060 inches
Item Dimensions (L x W x H)	2.25 x 2.75 x 6 inches
Item Weight	1.44 ounces
Material	Heavy-duty construction (Metal)
Country of Origin	China
UPC	053001032389

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding warranty coverage, product support, or to inquire about other CTA Tools products, please visit the official CTA Tools website or contact their customer service department.

You can find more information about CTA Tools and their product range at their official store [CTA Tools Store](#).