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Ford DR3Z-8566-A

Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A)

Instruction Manual

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential information for the Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector, model DR3Z-8566-A. It covers product overview, installation considerations, maintenance, and specifications. This component is designed to meet Ford's stringent quality standards, ensuring optimal performance and fit for compatible vehicles.

2. Product Overview

The Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A) is a critical component within the vehicle's cooling system. It functions as a junction for coolant hoses, often connecting the thermostat housing to other parts of the cooling circuit. Its design ensures proper coolant flow and temperature regulation, which is vital for engine health and efficiency. This part is manufactured to original equipment specifications, providing a direct replacement for the factory-installed component.



Figure 1: Main view of the Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A), showing its primary connections and overall shape.

3. Parts List

The package for the Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A) typically includes:

- One (1) Genuine Ford Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A)

Note: Additional components such as clamps, O-rings, or gaskets may need to be purchased separately, depending on the specific vehicle application and repair requirements. Always consult your vehicle's service manual.

4. Setup and Installation

Installation of the T-Connector involves working with the vehicle's cooling system. It is highly recommended that installation be performed by a qualified automotive technician. Improper installation can lead to coolant leaks, engine overheating, and potential damage to the vehicle.

4.1 Safety Precautions

- Ensure the engine is cool before beginning any work on the cooling system.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including gloves and eye protection.
- Dispose of old coolant responsibly according to local regulations.

4.2 General Installation Steps (Consult Vehicle Service Manual for Specifics)

1. **Drain Coolant:** Safely drain the engine coolant from the radiator.
2. **Locate and Remove Old Part:** Identify the existing T-Connector. Carefully disconnect all hoses and sensors attached to it. Remove any retaining clips or bolts.
3. **Inspect Connections:** Examine the mating surfaces and hoses for wear or damage. Replace any worn components as necessary.

4. **Install New T-Connector:** Position the new Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A) into place. Ensure all connections are secure and properly seated. Reattach hoses, clips, and sensors.
5. **Refill Coolant:** Refill the cooling system with the manufacturer-specified coolant.
6. **Bleed Air:** Follow the vehicle manufacturer's procedure to bleed air from the cooling system.
7. **Check for Leaks:** Start the engine and allow it to reach operating temperature. Carefully inspect all connections for any signs of leaks.



Figure 2: Side view of the T-Connector, highlighting the hose connection points and integrated clamp.



Figure 3: Angled view of the T-Connector, showing the various outlets and the secure locking mechanism for one of the connections.



Figure 4: Another angled view of the T-Connector, providing a different perspective on its construction and connection points.

5. Operating Instructions

The Ford Genuine Parts T-Connector is a passive mechanical component within the cooling system. It does not

require any direct user operation. Once correctly installed, it functions automatically as part of the engine's coolant circulation system, ensuring proper distribution of coolant to maintain optimal engine temperature.

6. Maintenance

Regular maintenance of your vehicle's cooling system is crucial for the longevity of components like the T-Connector. While the T-Connector itself is designed for durability, periodic checks can help identify potential issues early.

- **Visual Inspection:** Periodically inspect the T-Connector and surrounding hoses for signs of leaks, cracks, swelling, or deterioration.
- **Coolant Level:** Regularly check the coolant level in the reservoir and ensure it is within the recommended range.
- **Coolant Condition:** Have your coolant checked during routine service intervals to ensure it is clean and at the correct concentration.
- **Hose Clamps:** Ensure all hose clamps connected to the T-Connector are secure and free from corrosion.

7. Troubleshooting

If you experience issues related to your vehicle's cooling system, the T-Connector may be a contributing factor. Always consult a qualified technician for diagnosis and repair.

7.1 Common Issues and Potential Causes

- **Coolant Leaks:**
  - *Cause:* Damaged T-Connector, worn O-rings/gaskets, loose hose clamps, or cracked hoses.
  - *Action:* Inspect the T-Connector and connections for visible leaks. Tighten clamps or replace the component/gaskets as needed.
- **Engine Overheating:**
  - *Cause:* While less common for a T-Connector directly, a severe leak can lead to low coolant levels and overheating. Other causes include thermostat failure, radiator issues, or water pump problems.
  - *Action:* Check coolant level and for leaks. If overheating persists, seek professional diagnosis immediately.

8. Specifications

Specification	Detail
Brand	Ford
Model Number	DR3Z-8566-A
Item Weight	9.6 ounces
Package Dimensions	9.8 x 6.38 x 3.15 inches
Manufacturer Part Number	DR3Z-8566-A
Vehicle Service Type	Ford F150 (and other compatible Ford vehicles)
Automotive Fit Type	Vehicle Specific Fit

9. Warranty Information

Ford Genuine Parts, including the T-Connector (DR3Z-8566-A), are typically covered by a limited warranty against defects in material or workmanship. The specific terms and duration of the warranty may vary. Please retain your proof of purchase and consult an authorized Ford dealer or the official Ford website for detailed warranty information applicable to your region and the specific part.

10. Support

For technical assistance, installation guidance, or warranty claims, please contact your authorized Ford dealer or visit the official Ford customer support website. When contacting support, please have your vehicle's VIN and the part number (DR3Z-8566-A) readily available.

- **Ford Official Website:** www.ford.com
- **Locate a Ford Dealer:** Use the dealer locator tool on the official Ford website.

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