
2017 Subaru Outback 2.5i CVT - CVT Fluid Drain and Fill

Printable procedure summary for driveway service

Tools and supplies

7 qt Subaru CVTF-II
1 new CVT drain plug washer: 803916010
1 new filler plug gasket: 803918060
Fluid transfer pump
Drain pan with volume markings, or a separate graduated container
14 mm socket for the drain plug
8 mm hex bit socket for the filler plug
Torque wrench
Ratchet and extensions
Jack, jack stands or ramps
Wheel chocks
OBD scanner / Subaru-capable scan tool that can read CVT fluid temperature
Gloves, rags, eye protection

Specs

- CVT fluid: Subaru CVTF-II
- Total transmission capacity: 12.0 US qt
- Practical drain-and-fill purchase amount: 7 qt
- Final fluid level temperature window: 35-45 C (95-113 F)

Torque values

- CVT drain plug: 31 N-m (22.9 ft-lb)
- CVT filler plug: 50 N-m (36.9 ft-lb)

Procedure

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1. Park the vehicle on a perfectly level surface.
 2. Set the parking brake and chock the wheels.
 3. Raise and support the vehicle level if using jack stands.
 4. Remove any undertray needed for transmission access.
 5. Loosen the filler plug first using the 8 mm hex. Do not fully remove it yet. This confirms you will be able to refill the transmission before draining it.
 6. Place a drain pan under the CVT.
 7. Remove the CVT drain plug and let the fluid drain fully.
 8. Measure exactly how much fluid came out. This is one of the most important parts of the job.
 9. Install a new drain plug washer (803916010) on the drain plug.
 10. Reinstall the drain plug and torque it to 22.9 ft-lb.
 11. Remove the filler plug fully.
 12. Pump in fresh Subaru CVTF-II through the filler hole. Start by adding approximately the same amount you drained out, but expect to do the final level-setting in stages.
 13. Install the filler plug loosely for now if needed to avoid spills.
 14. Start the engine.
 15. With your foot on the brake, move the selector slowly through P, R, N, D, then back to P. Pause briefly in each position.
 16. Monitor CVT fluid temperature with a scan tool.
 17. When the CVT fluid temperature reaches 35-45 C (95-113 F), remove the filler plug again with the engine idling and vehicle level.
 18. Add fluid until it begins to dribble / overflow lightly from the filler opening.
 19. Once it is at a light dribble in the correct temperature range, install the filler plug with a new gasket (803918060).
 20. Torque the filler plug to 36.9 ft-lb.
 21. Clean off any spilled fluid.
 22. Reinstall the undertray.
 23. Lower the vehicle.
 24. Test drive gently.
 25. Recheck for leaks.

Notes

- *This is a drain-and-fill, not a machine flush.*
- *The amount drained can vary, which is why measuring what came out matters more than chasing a fixed refill number.*
- *The CVT level is temperature-sensitive. The 95-113 F window matters for the final level check.*
- *Do not confuse the CVT with the front differential. The front differential uses 75W-90 gear oil, not CVT fluid.*