KINTO

AdBlue®

Read our guide to find out more about the exhaust fluid, AdBlue®, which is used to help reduce nitrous oxide emissions produced by diesel engines.

AdBlue®

What is AdBlue®?

AdBlue® is a brand name for an additive manufacturers use in some diesel vehicles to meet Euro 6 emissions regulations (all diesel cars and vans registered after September 1, 2015 have to emit a maximum of 80mg/km of NOx). This additive is made by mixing a compound made from ammonia and CO2 into deionised water.

The clear liquid is injected into the selective catalyst reduction (SCR) system in the exhaust chain, where it triggers a chemical reaction which converts the toxic exhaust gas, NOx into two harmless substances; nitrogen and water vapour. The result of this process is a significant reduction in the emission of the harmful substance – nitrogen oxides (NOx).

Where does AdBlue® go?

AdBlue® is poured into a small tank in your vehicle which is exclusively for AdBlue®. The location of the tank varies across manufacturers and from model to model, but is often close to the diesel tank or in the boot, under the carpet, or in the engine compartment. It can usually by identified by a blue cover. Check your vehicle handbook to ensure you put AdBlue® in the right place.

How often does AdBlue® need replacing?

Once it is filled up you shouldn't need to worry about it again for several miles. For most car drivers their AdBlue® will be refilled at the scheduled servicing for their vehicle but drivers may also need to "top up" more regularly, depending on the nature of the journeys they make/their driving style.

How will I know if the AdBlue® is getting low?

An indicator on the vehicle dashboard will provide you with a warning – once you see this warning you should refill the AdBlue®. If the warning light is ignored and the AdBlue® runs out, the vehicle stops and will not restart until it is replenished.

How easy is it to refill yourself?

It is easy enough to refill the AdBlue® tank yourself through purchasing a small bottle, available at many service stations across the UK. Many manufacturers already have AdBlue® technology within their diesel vehicles. Always check your vehicle handbook if you are unsure.

What can go wrong if I use contaminated AdBlue®?

If AdBlue® becomes contaminated through poor storage and handling procedures, then it will cause the SCR system to work incorrectly as the SCR system is sensitive to any impurities in the AdBlue®. Contaminated AdBlue® will damage the SCR system and so invalidate any warranty claims relating to damage to the vehicle's SCR exhaust injection system or catalyst.

How can I be sure I'm using the right AdBlue® in the right way?

Only source AdBlue® from suppliers who are licensed by the VDA to produce and/or supply the product. You can find a list of licensed AdBlue® suppliers by going to the VDA website: www.vda.de