

## DOMESTIC VEHICLE ENGINE IDENTIFICATION

Originally, Vehicle Identification Numbers (VIN) were designated to identify a vehicle, but there was no standardization. Beginning in 1981, vehicles were assigned an international VIN code consisting of 17 characters (which cannot include the letter I, O or Q) unique to each vehicle.

The VIN serves a variety of purposes. As well as providing identification in licensing and insuring the vehicle, the history of the vehicle can be tracked. VIN codes provide complete vehicle information including:

- is the vehicle defective (lemon car)
- has the vehicle been totaled or had major accident damage
- has the vehicle had flood damage
- has the vehicle had odometer fraud
- has the vehicle been stolen

To help decode the VIN, the following information has been provided:

- **1st - 3rd Characters**  
Identify the manufacturer (country), make and type of vehicle.
- **4th - 8th Characters**  
Identify the different aspects of the vehicle.

For each type of vehicle (passenger cars, multi-passenger vehicles (MPVs), trucks, buses, trailers, motorcycles, incomplete vehicles other than trailers) different information is required.

For cars, MPVs and light-duty trucks:

- 4th - 5th positions** are alphabetic
- 6th - 7th positions** are numeric
- 8th position** can be either alphabetic or numeric

■ **9th Character (or Check Digit)**

Is determined by a complicated formula.

Each character is assigned a numerical value and then multiplied by the value assigned to its position. These values are added and then divided by 11. The remainder is the Check Digit. This character can be numeric or the letter X.

■ **10th Character**

Identifies the vehicle model year.

■ **11th Character**

Identifies the plant of manufacture.

■ **12th - 17th Characters**

Consists of a sequential production number for manufacturers producing more than 500 vehicles per year.

### VIN NUMBER ORIGIN AND YEAR

| 1ST CHARACTER - COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |                 |             | 10TH CHARACTER - YEAR |        |        |        |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 U.S.A.                          | L China or      | Y Sweden or | A 1980                | K 1989 | W 1998 | 7 2007 |
| 2 Canada                          | Taiwan          | Finland     | B 1981                | L 1990 | X 1999 | 8 2008 |
| 3 Mexico                          | M Thailand      | Z Italy     | C 1982                | M 1991 | Y 2000 | 9 2009 |
| 4 U.S.A.                          | S Great Britain |             | D 1983                | N 1992 | 1 2001 | A 2010 |
| 5 U.S.A.                          | V France or     |             | E 1984                | P 1993 | 2 2002 | B 2011 |
| J Japan                           | Yugoslavia      |             | F 1985                | R 1994 | 3 2003 | C 2012 |
| K Korea                           | W Germany       |             | G 1986                | S 1995 | 4 2004 | D 2013 |
|                                   |                 |             | H 1987                | T 1996 | 5 2005 | E 2014 |
|                                   |                 |             | J 1988                | V 1997 | 6 2006 |        |

VIN plates are read through the windshield on the driver's side of most vehicles. A manufacturer may use a variation of the same size engine in one model. To insure that you are using the correct filters for the application, it is necessary to identify the proper engine code. The following examples illustrate the location of the engine code in most manufacturer's VIN codes.

## DOMESTIC VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)

### AM GENERAL/HUMMER

**1995-2010**

ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)

137**X**E82H\*TE013212

### AMC/EAGLE (EXCEPT JEEP)

**1972-1980**

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)

A3M798**Z**700001

**1981-1988**

ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)

2CC**B**N387\*GB529063

**1989-98**

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

2E3BB66**U**\*LH038364

\* See VIN Decoding Information on 9th Character (Check Digit).

**DOMESTIC VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN) (Cont'd.)****CHEVROLET/GMC TRUCK****1970-1980**ENGINE CODE  
(Third Character)CC**D**13AF100007**1981-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)1GTDC14**N**\*GF100001**CHRYSLER, FORD, GMC****1972-1980**ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)1H35**L**7R100001**1981-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)1G3AL69**N**\*CM100001**FORD TRUCK****1970-1980**ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)F25**F**LGA0000**1981-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)1G3AL69**N**\*CM100001**JEEP****1971-1974**

(up to SN #100000)

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)J4A154C**N**00001**1975-1980**

(from SN #100000)

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)J5A15E**N**100011**1981-1988**ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)1J**T**HE811\*HT309520**1989-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)1J4ET37**L**\*LT438789**IMPORTED VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)****ASTON MARTIN**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)SCFFDCC**D**XAGE11806**AUDI**ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)TRUS**1**AFK8A1006246**BENTLEY (EXCEPT ARNAGE & AZURE)**ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)SCBB**R**9ZA5AC063211**BENTLEY (ARNAGE & AZURE)**ENGINE CODE  
(Sixth Character)SCDBD**C**4BL8ACX13550**DAIHATSU****1988-92**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)JD1FG12**0**\*J4200020**FERRARI****2008-09**ENGINE CODE  
(Sixth Character)ZFF65**L**JA70169519**2010-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)ZFF**E**W58A490000001**HYUNDAI****1986-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)KMHBF31**S**\*MU000001**INFINITI****1990-on**ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)JNK**N**G01C\*M1100001

\* See VIN Decoding Information on 9th Character (Check Digit).

# IMPORTED VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN) (Cont'd.)

## ISUZU (EXCEPT OASIS)

### 1981-2008

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

JABRT69**7**\*FU015643

## JAGUAR

### 1979-1980

ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)

JAVLN**4**9C000001

### 1981-99

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)

SAJAV1**3**NGC000001

### 2000-04, 2008-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

SAJDA24**C**3YLF11571

## KIA

### 1994-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

KNARA12**2**\*T1234560

## LAND ROVER (EXCEPT LR2)

### 1987-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)

SALHV1**2**4MA12346

## LAND ROVER (LR2)

### 2008-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

SALHV12**4**MA123456

## MAZDA TRUCKS

### 1994-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

4F2CY4K**3**4AKM00010

## MERKUR

### 1985-90

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

WF1BT81**V**\*H1000010

## MG

### 1970-79

ENGINE CODE  
(Second Character)

G**N**N5UH000001G

### 1980

ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)

GVAD**J**1AG000001

## MITSUBISHI

### 1983-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

JA4MT41**P**\*WP123456

## NISSAN (EXCEPT QUEST)

### 1995-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Fourth Character)

JN1**P**S245\*GW000001

## PEUGEOT

### 1981-91

ENGINE CODE  
(Sixth Character)

VF3BA**5**16\*FS368001

## PORSCHE

### 2006-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Fifth Character)

WP0A**C**2A7XAL090244

## SAAB

### 1981-83

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)

YS3BT5**5**S\*D3000001

### 1984-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Eighth Character)

YS3CT55**N**\*F3000001

## SUBARU

### 1975-79, 1980 (Brat)

ENGINE CODE  
(Third Character)

A**2**6-000001

### 1980 (Except Brat)

ENGINE CODE  
(Seventh Character)

JF1AF4**2**1FAG000001

### 1981-on

ENGINE CODE  
(Sixth Character)

4S4WX**9**AD4A4400001

\* See VIN Decoding Information on 9th Character (Check Digit).

**IMPORTED VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN) (Cont'd.)****SUZUKI****1986-on****ENGINE CODE**  
(Sixth Character)JS2RF**9**A87B6110001**VOLKSWAGEN****2006-on****ENGINE CODE**  
(Fifth Characters)4S4W**X**9AD4400001**VOLVO****1981-2009****ENGINE CODE**  
(Sixth and Seventh Characters)YV1MS**38**2492445470**2010-on****ENGINE CODE**  
(Fourth and Fifth Characters)YV1**67**2MCXAJ092472