



Gadgetman Groove Newsletter April 2023



So, friends of the Gadgetman Groove, it's time for another of my occasional Newsletters. We all know (or should know) that the Groove acts to amplify the air pressure dynamics of an engine's intake tract. Resulting in much more complete gasoline vaporization, hence more complete combustion.

This is a Great thing.

To burn gas in our engines, requires three basic factors: Fuel, Compression, and Ignition. So, the Groove makes the fuel far more ready to burn. Compression concentrates the latent energy in the fuel/air mix to give the powerful expansion push to drive the piston. We have the Snake Oil engine oil and fuel system treatments to improve the Compression. This leaves Ignition.

Ignition, is called the "low-hanging fruit" in engine efficiency mods. A good strong spark is what starts the release of the fuel's energy to run our engines. If the spark is weak then combustion gets a slow start, or maybe doesn't start at all. Wasted fuel, high emissions, higher cylinder wear and low power will result from poor quality Ignition.

So what to do? By removing and examining a spark plug we get an idea of it's condition. If it's worn or fouled with deposits, it's time for a new set of plugs. If it's in decent shape, we can check the electrode gap with an appropriate gapping

tool. I often recommend increasing the spark plug gap over the stock factory specs if the plug is new or in good condition. Ron Hatton wrote a paper on this topic and it is available at <https://gadgetmangroove.com> as an inexpensive downloadable file.

<https://gadgetmangroove.com/product/tuningyoursparkplugs/>

Modern engines of the last 25+ years have over time, eliminated distributors, the dist.cap and rotor, and even spark plug cables, leaving us with Coil-On-Plug ignitions. This has an individual coil right on top of each spark plug. IF you have an engine with spark plug cables, and maybe a distributor with the cap and rotor, then there is a Huge opportunity waiting. To over-simplify the topic, there are loads of high quality aftermarket ignition parts available today.

<https://summitracing.com>, <https://jecs.com> and

<https://granatellimotorsports.com> have high quality ignition parts. Upgrading your engine's ignition parts, ESPECIALLY using low-resistance plug cables, can make a substantial improvement in spark energy at the spark plugs. I use Granatelli and Taylor solid stranded stainless conductor plug cables with ferrite ring emf suppressors on my older engines. These plug cables have ZERO ohms resistance, and deliver all the coil's energy without loss to the spark plugs. Using a digital multi meter on the Ohms settings with the leads on each end of the cable will show how much resistance to current flow your plug cables have. Lower is Better.

I've recently tried a set of spark plugs from <https://pulstar.com> in my 2002 Honda Accord 2.3L engine. These plugs gave faster starts, better throttle response and power, and the MPG has improved also. The Honda LOVES these plugs. You do NOT increase the gap on these. They give a Plasma type spark without all the extra parts usually required. They were around \$15.00 each, and WELL worth it IMHO. My understanding is that Pulstar is now in their 4th generation design of improvements to these spark plugs. Go to <https://pulstar.com> to see more.

So- Improve the Ignition, for better combustion, more MPG, more power, and just a better running ride!

Thanks Friends!

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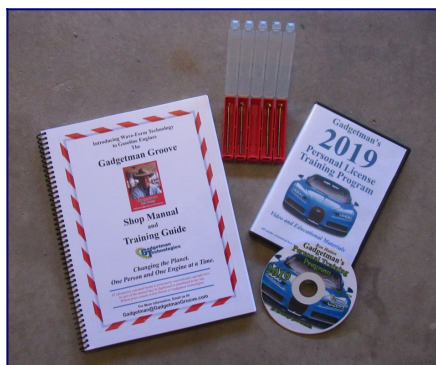
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