



Audi A6 (4B)

Model year: 1997-2000

All engines with cast engine block

Low heating performance / coolant discoloured

If there should be complaints about the heating performance of the above-mentioned vehicles and/or the coolant turns a rusty brown colour, this can be caused by corrosion and particle deposits. The particles, which can settle in the heating radiator, for example, hinder coolant flow. If there are complaints, the complete cooling system should be cleaned using a special flushing agent.

To test the success of flushing the heat exchanger, the heating performance must be checked and noted before the flushing process by measuring the outflow temperature. To do this proceed as follows:

- Run engine to operating temperature
- Engine speed 2000 rpm
- Set heater to maximum
- Only open the central air outlet
- Hold the thermometer in the central air outlet and measure the temperature for 5 minutes
- Allow the coolant to cool down

After this, drain the coolant from the radiator and the engine block and remove the thermostat. Then close the coolant cycle again and refill the cooling system with flushing agent according to specifications (usually mixed with fresh water). Then proceed as follows:

- Run the engine up to operating temperature and leave the flushing agent in the system for the time specified

Bulletin



- by the flushing agent manufacturer
- Allow the flushing agent to cool down and then drain it off
 - Close the cooling system and fill with pure water
 - Run the engine up to operating temperature
 - Allow the **coolant** to cool down and then drain it off
 - Replace the thermostat and close the cooling system
 - Refill the cooling system with the amount and specification of water and antifreeze prescribed by the manufacturer
 - Run vehicle up to operating temperature
 - Measure the outflow temperature as described above

If there is no improvement in the heating performance of the heat exchanger, it should be replaced.

Note:

If the coolant recovery bottle has become so discoloured that it is no longer possible to read off the coolant level, it should also be replaced. The cooling system must be vented after refilling according to the vehicle manufacturer's instructions. The above-described procedure assumes that any water valves and heating actuator equipment have been checked in advance.