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ANSWER COLUMN

Q: Is it necessary to change the oil filter at every oil change?



Paul Royko
Shell Aviation Guru

Yes. It is essential that the oil filter is replaced with every oil change. If you do not change the filter each time, you are automatically starting off with at least one quart of contaminated used oil mixed in with the fresh oil in your crankcase. (Remember, the primary purpose for changing oil is to remove contaminants.) There's another very good reason to remove and replace the oil filter at each oil drain – old filters can serve as an excellent indicator of engine conditions. An old filter that has been removed and cut open can provide a good indication of the engine's condition by the amount and size of the particles trapped in the filter. Champion sells an oil filter cutter and provides a detailed explanation of its use in their service manual AV6-R. If your engine is not equipped with an oil filter, the pressure screen should be monitored.

For any questions you might have about AeroShell products, visit aeroshell.com or call the Technical Information Center at 1-800-231-6950.

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