

AutoShack Weekly Tip



- In last week's tip we talked about coolant and the different colors they come in; green, orange, red, blue etc.
- We also talked about the fact that while it's okay to mix same color coolants, different colors should **NOT** be mixed.
- In this week's tip we discuss two major reasons why not to mix different colors.

1. Sludge formation:

- ❖ Some coolant types don't interact well and form gel-like mixtures that don't flow properly.
- ❖ Coolant must flow in order to draw heat from the engine. Lack of flow means the engine won't get cooled and will overheat.
- ❖ Damage to head gasket, cylinder head and engine block may occur.
- ❖ If you live in a cold climate your heater won't work properly.

Mixing different coolant types can lead to sludge formation and eventual engine damage.



2. Internal Engine Corrosion:

- ❖ Because engines are constantly exposed to moisture from coolant, coolants contain rust inhibitors to protect the engine from rust.
- ❖ Mixing coolant types reduces the overall rust prevention capabilities of the coolant.
- ❖ Even though individual coolants have elements that prevent rust, mixing them forms compounds that don't have the same rust prevention capabilities.
- ❖ Engine will begin to rust from the inside out and may need to be replaced prematurely.

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- A majority of the tip topics are suggested by others based on their experiences.
- Consider helping others to benefit from your experiences by suggesting a topic for our tip bank based on your car troubles, experiences or observations.

CREDITS

- ✓ Sludge photo: Courtesy AR15.com