



Installation Instructions

Universal/38-48 Flathead Ford

Find additional information online at:

CoolViewThermostat.com

Getting Started

Installing the Cool-View thermostat unit is not a difficult project; it requires only a few tools. In most cases it can be done in less than an hour. The first thing to note is to work safely. When working on any engine's cooling system it is always recommended to allow the engine to cool down before starting any work. This is because hot engine coolants are often at or above the boiling point and can be under 15-20 pounds of pressure making it easy to be seriously burned. This does not mean you cannot safely do this work. If you do not feel this is something you can or wish to do, any competent auto shop should be able to install it for you. Also wear protective gloves to protect your hands and safety goggles for your eyes. Depending on whether you are installing this on a new engine or a running vehicle some of the steps involved in the installation may not be required. Please read all instructions below before starting the installation.

What's included?

Now is a good time to check the Cool-View parts list to see that you have all the Cool-View parts.

- » 1 each, universal sight glass assembly with end plates, index pointer thermostat and threaded standoffs.

Tools

The type of tools required will vary depending on your engine. You may need a screw driver or nut driver for any hose clamps. You will need a pan large enough to catch any coolant you drain from the engine and a funnel to add coolant back into the cooling system. If you plan to reuse your coolant, you may want to use a paint strainer to pour the coolant through when putting it back into the cooling system.

Supplies

- » New coolant, unless you plan to reuse your old coolant.
- » Shop towels.
- » Safety glasses.
- » Protective gloves.

Disassembly

Note: before starting check to make sure you have room for the Cool-View unit. Make sure there are no brackets, hoses, lines, wires, or other obstacles that will interfere with the installation of the unit.

1. Make sure the engine is cool.
2. Drain the engine coolant from engine into an appropriate pan. Inspect the drained coolant, and determine whether or not to replace it. If needed, flush the rest of the coolant system.
3. In most cases the universal Cool-View unit will mount in the upper radiator hose. In the case of a Ford flat-head V8 you will need two universal Cool-View units. One in each upper hose as the Ford flathead has two thermostats. One in each upper radiator hose.
4. If you have an existing thermostat on the engine now it will need to be removed.
5. Determine the length of hose that will need to be removed and mark where to cut but do not cut yet.

Assembly

You should now be ready to install your new Cool-View unit.

Note: Cool-View units use Chevy thermostat housings. Other thermostat housing will not fit. Before starting make sure you have two correct length bolts to go through the thermostat housing and into the threaded standoffs about ½". Depending on the thermostat housing you are using, the bolts may not be the same length. If you purchased a Cool-View unit with a thermostat, it is locked in place with silicon rubber to prevent movement, and keep the thermostat index pointer correctly aligned. On universal units there is a ⅛" hole drilled through the flange of the thermostat to allow enough flow to make sure the thermostat activates correctly. It is also a good idea to mount the Cool-View universal unit as close to the engine as possible in the hose. This helps the thermostat to respond faster to engine temperature changes.

1. The Cool-View unit has 2 different ends. One goes to the engine and the other goes to the radiator. The end that receives the thermostat and thermostat housing goes to the radiator. This is very important. If the unit is put in backwards the thermostat will not open. **Note:** If you have the basic unit you can install a restrictor plate now.
2. Now take the thermostat housing and set it onto the thermostat end plate. The type of thermostat housing you have chosen will determine the way it seals to the top of the thermostat end plate. Refer to the installation instruction for your thermostat housing to properly mount and sealing. **Note:** The top of the Cool-View thermostat end plate is machined to be the same as a standard Chevy manifold so that any factory or after-market Chevy thermostat housing will work.
3. Install the 2 thermostat housing mounting bolts (not included in kit). Tighten these two bolts to 20ft. lbs. Reinstall the upper radiator hose.
4. Now cut the hose where you marked it to install the Cool-View unit. Its best to cut it a little long and check it. You can always trim some off if you need.
5. Slide each end of the hose onto the two ends of the Cool-View unit and place clamps on the hose and tighten the clamps. Again very important. If the unit is put in backwards the thermostat will not open. (On flathead ford v8 engines and other engines where the hose size is different from the 1 ½" hose size of the Cool-View unit a rubber bushing or hose reducer can be used to make up the difference in size.)
6. Now make sure the place where you drained the coolant from the engine is closed back up
7. Be sure to wipe up any coolant that may be on the engine. If you do not do this it will be very hard to tell if you have a leak after filling the cooling system back up and starting the engine.
8. Add coolant back into the system. Check to see if you have any leaks as you add the coolant. When you are done filling the cooling system, wipe up any coolant that may have spilled.
9. Start up the engine and check for leaks.
10. Let the engine run and warm up. Normally it takes 5-15 minutes before the thermostat starts to open. The efficiency of your cooling system will determine how far open your thermostat will run under normal operating conditions. Some thermostats will just open and others will run more than half way open after the engine has reached normal operating temperature.