

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Am I being scammed by my mechanic?](#)

Grand Pootis - June 8, 2016, 12:32 pm

So I got my new car's oil changed about 3 months ago.

The mechanic was going to use standard oil with a 3000 mile run, so I decided to research the options. I found one good brand that said the oil wouldn't have to be changed for 15,000 miles if the proper filter was also installed.

I bought both the 15,000 mile synthetic oil and the correct filter and had him change the oil with it. He put a sticker on my car that said I need to have it changed at 5,000 more miles even though the oil and filter said 15,000.

Is there a legitimate reason for him to insist it is necessary after 5,000?

Frankey - June 8, 2016, 12:34 pm

It can be a mistake by him, I don't think someone will do that on purpose. Maybe try and ask him? It is very easy to tell if he's lying because he does not expect that you are going to ask it. ;) Just try.

Grand Pootis - June 8, 2016, 12:36 pm

I am just asking more to see if anyone here knows of any mechanical reason to not wait until the 15,000 miles is up. I spent more money on the higher end oil and filter and want it to last.

Frankey - June 8, 2016, 12:37 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:36 PM)Grand Pootis Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I am just asking more to see if anyone here knows of any mechanical reason to not wait until the 15,000 miles is up. I spent more money on the higher end oil and filter and want it to last.

Ah sorry, I misunderstood. I do not know anything about mechanic things. So I can't help you with that anymore. Goodluck!

Xerotic - June 8, 2016, 12:37 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:36 PM)Grand Pootis Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I am just asking more to see if anyone here knows of any mechanical reason to not wait until the 15,000 miles is up. I spent more money on the higher end oil and filter and want it to last.

Depends on your driving. Are you taking your car to the drag strip or really stressing the motor? If not, then 15,000 (or one year) for synthetic oil is pretty standard. If you car is a high mileage vehicle, I would suggest going 10,000-13,000 miles before an oil change (or one year).

PS... the standard 3,000 mile oil change can be a marketing tactic used by shops to just get in the door. Almost all oil change services will include an "inspection". Oil changes are cheap, but if they can find at least one thing amiss and convince you to fix it, then they are making money.

You should consult your owner's manual to see the suggested oil change interval in your vehicle. What car do you drive?

AAA+ - June 8, 2016, 12:39 pm

I think high end oil burns faster?

What car do you have?

N1nj4Styl3 - June 8, 2016, 12:42 pm

It depends on many things.

- 1) By the way you drive
- 2) By your car
- 3) By your engine's age
- 4) By your engine's needs

All synthetic oils last longer than what is written on the bottle. The thing is, how it's processed / used afterwards and in what conditions.

Oil changes per 5,000 / 7,000 km's is just fine.

Fistsworn - June 8, 2016, 12:43 pm

Actually no, It is recommended to change it once every 3 months doesn't depend on the miles, because there are other agents to consider [User above me stated most of them] just do it yourself if you don't wanna pay him it ain't that hard, but yes manny Mechanichs and Car specialist if you wanna call them so do recommend an oil change every 3 months and to regularly check your water for a healthy car. It's better paying 20\$ every 3 months than to catch the High expense repairs cause you didn't want to spend 20\$.

However mechanics generally do scam, I though it was something more serious like trying too change pieces that are ok, that's the most irritating thing mechanics do.

Stevo - June 8, 2016, 12:45 pm

Just ask him about it so you understand better.

RS7™ - June 8, 2016, 12:45 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:36 PM)Grand Pootis Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I am just asking more to see if anyone here knows of any mechanical reason to not wait until the 15,000 miles is up. I spent more money on the higher end oil and filter and want it to last.

It really depends on the car, generally you should change oil AND filter every 3 to 6 thousand miles. The matter with not doing it is that the oil gets dirty, even with a filter and therefore the combustion process contaminates the oil with acid. Let it go long enough and the filter clogs so there's no filtration of dirt and metal particles and also the acid builds to the amount that it eats away engine elements resulting in early engine failure.

N1nj4Styl3 - June 8, 2016, 12:46 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:43 PM)Fistsworn Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually no, It is recommended to change it once every 3 months doesn't depend on the miles, because there are other agents to consider just do it yourself if you don't wanna pay him it ain't that hard, but yes manny Mechanichs and Car specialist if you wanna call them so do recommend an oil change every 3 months and to regularly check your water for a healthy car.

However mechanics generally do scam, I though it was something more serious like trying too change pieces that are ok, that's the most irritating thing mechanics do.

Every 3 months? Hell no. It depends on the miles.

What if you use your car 3 days per week? $3 \times 4 = 12$ times in a month, therefore 36 times per 3 months. If you do like 20 km per ride, this is $20 \times 3 = 60$ km per 3 rides, $60\text{km} \times 4 = 240$ km per

month, therefore 720 km per 3 months. Not even 1000 miles.

AAA+ - June 8, 2016, 12:49 pm

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Every 3 months or if you pass the 5-6k mile

?

Xerotic - June 8, 2016, 12:49 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:45 PM)RS7™ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It really depends on the car, generally you should change oil AND filter every 3 to 6 thousand miles. The matter with not doing it is that the oil gets dirty, even with a filter and therefore the combustion process contaminates the oil with acid. Let it go long enough and the filter clogs so there's no filtration of dirt and metal particles and also the acid builds to the amount that it eats away engine elements resulting in early engine failure.

That is for conventional motor oil. OP is talking about synthetic oil. And of course you should ALWAYS change your oil filter/oil at the same time. If you have a high mileage vehicle, I would also suggest using Engine Restore (you can find this at most auto parts stores) after your oil change.

Picture [\(Click to View\)](#)

It has been proven to restore compression in high mileage vehicles.

Zexo - June 8, 2016, 12:53 pm

Just learn how to change it yourself and check it yourself.

Xerotic - June 8, 2016, 12:54 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:53 PM)Zexo Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just learn how to change it yourself and check it yourself.

The cost of changing oil (and usually getting all fluids topped off plus a full mechanical inspection + a car wash at some places) is so low that it is worth it to pay the ~\$25 for a shop to do it. Plus you didn't even answer his question at all.

Zexo - June 8, 2016, 12:56 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:54 PM)Xerotic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The cost of changing oil (and usually getting all fluids topped off plus a full mechanical inspection + a car wash at some places) is so low that it is worth it to pay the ~\$25 for a shop to do it. Plus you didn't even answer his question at all.

If you have a car you should know how to fix it and change the oil in it.

RS7™ - June 8, 2016, 1:01 pm

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Well that is a bit different, synthetic oil change intervals are much longer than the conventional motor oil (it can range anywhere from 7500 to 10000 miles).

If you need to check whether it's time to change oil or not you can have a look at the color of the oil.

Caramel or dark caramel looking is fine but if it is pretty dark to black then it's time to change it ?

Fistsworn - June 8, 2016, 1:01 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:46 PM)N1nj4Styl3 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Every 3 months? Hell no. It depends on the miles.

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Yeah you can't really base it on either because of Mileage there are some factors too and it's always better to do it before you reach the MAX indicated miles.

My month period is exaggerated as well, but it's one of those good practices to keep the car going for decades.

Xerotic - June 8, 2016, 1:03 pm

(Jun 8, 2016 12:56 PM)Zexo Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you have a car you should know how to fix it and change the oil in it.

That's asinine. If you have a microwave you should know exactly how to fix it. If you have a stove/oven you should know how to make perfect food. I expect you to know how to use and fix everything that you own, from a circuit board to a light to your washing machine. Sound stupid? Good, because it sounds like you. Don't use backwards logic to try and make your claim seem like a valid point. OP is asking a question about his vehicle and you are essentially telling him to "figure it out". What the fuck do you think he is doing with this thread?

.Reef - June 8, 2016, 1:18 pm

Dude after 5,000 miles just check the oil levels yourself, if it's low he was right, if it's fine then don't go back. It's not a have to come back it's recommended.

Elegant - June 8, 2016, 1:20 pm

Try to explain it to him that you have a filter and it says to change at 15,000 miles, because if he puts down 5,000 miles he wants to come 3x more and theoretically he wants you to pay him more.

CHEST BRUH - June 8, 2016, 1:23 pm

It all depends on you. I put synthetic oil it suppose to go to 15,000 but I change it every 8,000, oil filters need to be changed every oil change. Never forget to check your oil or you will be fucked hope this helped OP.

Apostolle - June 8, 2016, 1:29 pm

I'm changing every 10-15,000 km driving a 14 year old BMW.

Also when you change oil change the filters too, it usually goes in a pack...