

Bendix



Bendix joins the DOTs on brake fluid

DOT refers to Department of Transport – it's a standard that sets the safety regulations and benchmarks for different brake fluids. Brake fluids can be DOT 3, DOT 4, DOT 5 and DOT 5.1, and what you need depends on the make, model and age of the vehicle. This important information is listed in the owner's manual and can also be advised by a mechanic or brake technician.

Media Release

force from pedal to brake calipers or drums, it's critical to safe performance that brake fluid remains incompressible. At lower boiling points (caused by moisture absorption) the fluid can vaporise affecting how force is transferred, leading to a soft or spongy pedal feel and in a worse case scenario, can lead to delayed or complete loss of braking power.

“Generally speaking, the higher the DOT rating, the higher the boiling point and longevity of the fluid.”

Approximate wet and dry brake fluid boiling points

Dot Type	Dry Boiling Point	Wet Boiling Point
DOT 3	205° C	140° C
DOT 4	230° C	155° C
DOT 5	260° C	180° C
DOT 5.1	270° C	190° C

DOT 4 fluids are the most widely used – Bendix offers both high performance Polyglycol DOT 3 and DOT 4 fluids, providing optimum performance in both hydraulic and conventional braking systems, meeting stringent Australian and U.S specifications.

Generally speaking, the higher the DOT rating, the higher the boiling point and longevity of the fluid. As a hydraulic fluid with the primary function of transferring

Brake fluid 'DOs and 'DON'Ts'

- Don't use old/opened brake fluid bottles – fluid can become contaminated within a few months
- Don't overfill the reservoir – brake fluid expands when hot
- Don't mix incompatible DOT types. Mixing silicon with glycol-based fluids can cause a gel formation that can damage the brake system and even lead to brake failure
- Don't ignore a brake fluid leak, it's a sign that there's a fault within the system
- Do take care to avoid spilling brake fluid on painted surfaces – it's highly corrosive to paint
- Do minimise the time the cap is off the brake fluid reservoir and seal tightly
- Do change brake fluid every one to two years, or to the vehicle manufacturer's specification



Ensure the DOT rating of the brake fluid you select is compatible with your vehicle, otherwise the performance of the braking system will be compromised.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Freecall the Bendix Brake Advice Centre
on 1800 819 666 (8am-5pm Monday to Friday EST)
or +61 3 5327 0211 from overseas.
brakeadvicecentre@bendix.com.au
bendix.com.au or bendix.co.nz



*Bendix brake components are appropriate for the purpose intended and if installed by qualified staff, to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications, can be used in logbook servicing.

Put your foot down with confidence™