# What Does a "Blown Head Gasket" Mean?

In the world of cars, not everyone is an <u>ASE Certified mechanic</u>. That doesn't mean we can't all love our cars - or even that you're too busy to learn more about them! In this article, we'll cover what a "blown head gasket" is and how it affects your car. After reading this article, you should be able to tell if your vehicle has blown its head gasket and describe what it looks like - as well as understand why it's important for these repairs to happen quickly or prevent them with Endurance**Advantage<sup>TM</sup>**.

#### What Is A Head Gasket?

A head gasket, or engine block sealant, is typically made of rubber and helps distribute the cooling water in your vehicle's engine. It also prevents leaks by stopping parts from rubbing against each other - which can cause damage to moving parts like pistons. Your car needs its coolant system for it to work properly, and the head gasket helps to keep that system intact.

#### When Does A Blown Head Gasket Occur?

A <u>blown head gasket</u> occurs when there is too much heat in your engine block - or if you drive for long periods of time (on an uneven surface like dirt) with very little coolant left inside. This can happen from driving in hot weather without changing the oil frequently enough, not checking the air pressure on tires often enough, or neglecting regular maintenance such as belt changes and filter replacement.

If your car has this issue, it will usually overheat quickly because there's no water/coolant circulation once it reaches its boiling point. That means any metal parts don't get cooled down anytime soon! Even more, a car engine with a blown head gasket will need to be fixed quickly because the water pressure inside can cause it to seize up.

### What Does A Blown Head Gasket Look Like?

A blown head gasket looks like a white, powdery substance inside your engine. You'll often see it around the base of pistons and near oil spots on the ground when you look underneath. It will also have an oily texture to touch as well as a strong smell if it gets hot enough for this material to melt. The most common symptom is overheating - which can happen within seconds or minutes depending on how much damage has been done by having no coolant left in your car's system.

## What Are Some Causes Of Having A Blown Head Gasket?

A few common causes include:

- driving on an uneven surface like dirt for long periods without coolant
- not checking your tire air pressures often enough
- neglecting regular maintenance such as belt changes and filter replacement

If you notice any problems - like excessive heat coming from under the hood or overheating after using your AC - make sure that you get these issues checked out right away! These could be signs of a failing head gasket, which could lead to other more serious damages if neglected. Your vehicle won't go well at all this way, and you can't even drive it in a safe manner!

## What Does The Repair Cost For Having A Blown Head Gasket?

A blown head gasket is a <u>repair that needs to be fixed</u> ASAP. The average price ranges from \$600 to \$1500 but will depend on your car's make/model. If there are other issues that need addressing at the same time - like coolant leaks or oil changes - these prices may vary as well.

You might also have an additional charge if you choose not to replace it with OEM parts when they're available. Lastly, don't forget about any <u>possible unforeseen costs</u> that could come up during repairs such as removing old seals before installing new ones!

# Endurance Advantage is Here to Help!

Fortunately, most of our vehicles today have been built with maintenance coverage included by default - including <a href="EnduranceAdvantage">EnduranceAdvantage</a> and the optional Maintenance Coverage. These are designed to help you avoid a blown head gasket by keeping your vehicle in top condition with scheduled maintenance - and of course, if the unthinkable happens, we're there for you!

Endurance**Advantage** is an Extended Service Contract that can be purchased at any time during the ownership period of your new car. It will help cover your costs for replacement parts, including labor charges related to normal wear and tear on components like engines, transmissions, brakes, and tires as well as standard preventive care services such as oil changes/filters. You'll also find coverage options that could waive deductibles associated with covered items when they need replacing. The best part? If Endurance agrees that your vehicle has been damaged by a covered cause of loss, the deductible is waived!

Maintenance Coverage is also something to consider. This covers all preventative maintenance services for up to five years or 60,000 miles of ownership - that's an average savings of \$25 per service visit and more than \$150 in total over time! You'll get regular oil changes at no cost (every 12 months), belt replacement when needed (\$29 every 24 months), and fluid top-offs like coolant/brake fluid without any additional charge. It will even cover you if you have manufacturer

defects on certain parts too - it's like getting peace of mind with everything included just for buying this coverage option as well as having access to a 24/365 customer service line.

Endurance**Advantage** and Maintenance Coverage are both great ways to help your car stay in top condition - it's a win-win for everyone! Best of all, you can even buy these optional services at any time during the ownership period of your new vehicle (or within 12 months) so you'll never have to worry about unforeseen expenses. Make sure that you're prepared with Endurance**Advantage** when the need arises - better safe than sorry! Facebook

When you have a blown head gasket, it means your engine has lost compression. How can you fix a blown head gasket and how can you prevent it from happening in the future? Check out this article for all you need to know.

#### Instagram

#BlownHeadGasket: When your car engine overheats, the head gasket can fail and cause a lot of damage. Learn more about blown head gaskets and how Endurance**Advantage** can help. Link in bio

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The head gasket is a critical component for your engine, and when it fails the result can be costly in terms of both time and money. EnduranceAdvantage has an exclusive program designed to help you save on repair costs related to blown head gaskets.