

Tappet clearance

Various sources suggest slightly different A7 valve tappet clearances. However, for engines containing a standard camshaft - there seems to be a consensus that the inlet valve clearance should be 0.006 inch and exhaust valves 0.007 inch when cold (as per Doug Woodrow). It seems both clearances are assumed to tend towards 0.004 inch when the engine is hot.

We all know it can be a little difficult to get a precise setting using a single feeler gauge – especially when groping around under the inlet/exhaust manifold and I was recently reminded that it's much easier to use a pair of feeler gauges 0.001 inch either side of the desired clearance as 'go/no-go' gauges. For example, when aiming for an inlet valve clearance of 0.006 inch – check that a 0.005 inch gauge can be easily inserted but not a 0.007 inch gauge. I have found this method makes the job much easier Ed