

Technical Service Bulletin



40 Shock absorber leaks: assessment aid

40 13 34 2018194/5 September 23, 2013. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 40 number 10-04 dated April 1, 2010 for reasons listed below.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
All	2006 - 2011	All	Not Applicable

Condition

REVISION HISTORY		
Revision	Date	Purpose
5	-	Revised header data (Added model year 2012 - 2013) Updated <i>Technical Background</i> (Added background)
4	4/01/2010	Revised header data (Added model year 2011)
3	6/17/2009	Revised header data (Added model year 2010) Revised <i>Service</i>
2	10/30/2008	Revised Title to include Repair Group

Oil appears on one or several shock absorbers.

Technical Background

Oil may appear on a shock absorber for one of the following reasons:

- As a result of a leak because the shock absorber is damaged.
- As a result of residue from when the shock was filled during production, or of slight condensation in the seal area. This small amount of oil is for lubrication and it reduces wear on the seal.

Production Solution

Not applicable.

Service

Determine if the shock absorber is leaking, or if the oil is only from residue or condensation:

Leaking shock absorbers

A leaking shock absorber is characterized by a wet film of oil running down the pipe (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

Leaking shock absorbers need to be replaced.



Figure 1. A leaking shock absorber.



Figure 2. A leaking shock absorber.

Shock absorbers with oil marks

A light film of dried oil or oil marks on the pipe beneath the dust guard are not a clear indicator of a leaking shock. These marks are a result of residue from when the shock was filled during production, or of slight condensation in the seal area. This small amount of oil is for lubrication and it reduces wear on the seal.

This condition does not affect the shock absorber. No repair is necessary.



Figure 3. A shock absorber that is not leaking.



Figure 4. A shock absorber that is not leaking.



Tip: For further information see the repair manual under “Shock absorbers, checking.”

Warranty

This TSB is informational only and not applicable to any Audi warranty.

Additional Information

All parts and service references provided in this TSB (2018194) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and service manuals for the latest information.