How to Gas Charge Your Shock

Of course, you already know that you have to gas charge the shock to get proper performance. And you already know you need to do this EVERY DAY YOU RUN the car. We cannot emphasize this enough! If you are not already a convert, see Kaz Tech Tip “Why Charge Your Shock” to see what happens to the performance of a shock with low gas pressure.

You do not “check” gas pressure. You “charge” the shock with gas to properly set the gas pressure. Unlike a tire, there is no way to “just check” the gas pressure in a shock. Shocks have very little gas volume. Just the act of checking the pressure will reduce the gas pressure to the point where the shock will not work properly.

DO NOT use a tire pressure gauge to “check” shock pressure. IT WILL NOT WORK! You will let too much gas escape, and your shock will not work properly! We have seen people do it! It doesn’t work!

We recommend using a Kaz Tech Gas Charging Tool to properly pressurize your shocks. Our tool allows for an accurate gas charge of your shock without wondering if your pressure is correct.

The first step in gas charging the shock is installing the Gas Charging Tool.

Screw the charging tool fitting onto the Schrader valve as shown below.

It is best to just hand tighten the fitting, but if necessary, use a wrench to just snug the fitting. Be careful not to over-tighten. Too much torque will ruin the brass sealing washer inside the fitting.

Next, turn in the “T” valve to depress the Schrader valve.
You are now ready to gas charge the shock.

Using Nitrogen gas, charge the shock 10-20 psi over specified valve code pressure.

We recommend Nitrogen because it is clean, free of moisture and more temperature stable than compressed air. Using compressed air can introduce contamination and moisture into your shock causing problems with the seals.

Next, bleed out the excess pressure to obtain the proper pressure.

Now turn out the “T” valve and remove the fitting from the shock Schrader valve.

You will hear a slight hiss when you remove the fitting from the shock. This is OK. You are just releasing the gas pressure in the Gas Charging Tool.

You’re done for today!

Remember to gas charge your shocks EACH DAY YOU RUN your car to keep them performing properly!