

TECH TIPS

Refrigerant Charge

Follow all local, state, and federal regulations when servicing auto A/C systems.

In the past, R12 could simply be added to an underperforming A/C system to produce cold air. An R134a system, however, is not as forgiving.

- This is due to the level of tolerance (for a full charge) of R134a being about 1.5oz either side of OEM specifications.
- The industry recommends a total recharge and recovery to original equipment manufacturer (OEM) specifications prior to any diagnostics, as opposed to a "top-off" of the system

The charging method used will make a noticeable impact in the accuracy of the final charge amount.

- For the best A/C performance and overall accuracy, a <u>charging station</u> is recommended.
- An electronic scale and 30 pound cylinder of refrigerant is another viable option.
- The accuracy of "charging by can" is very questionable. The cans only contain 12 ounces of refrigerant and are often associated with misinterpreted measurements.