



Willie Priaulx
Tech Coordinator

Selecting the Correct Spark Plug

Q: What do you recommend for a set of new spark plugs for a Model A? I currently have Champion C16C spark plugs. They seem to be doing fine, but I'd like to carry a spare set.
- Kevin Szcodronski

A: The original show quality spark plug still available is the Champion 3X, three-piece plug.
\$50 / \$32 each. The only reason to pay this much for a spark plug is for authenticity.

Champion also makes 2 one-piece plugs for the Model A in 2 heat ranges.
These are substantial, nice looking plugs, but not original equipment.

Champion W18 (Hot) - \$12 / \$8

Champion W16Y (Cool) - \$12 / \$8

Low-cost options.

Autolite 3076 - \$7 / \$3

Motorcraft TT10 - Discontinued

Prices shown: Model A supplier (Birdhaven) / Auto Parts store (O'Reilly)

I can't find the Champion C16C number you are using. That may be an older W16 equivalent.
What most A drivers choose, and for your driving style, I'd recommend the hotter W18.

It depends on how the car will be driven as to what heat range should be used. I suggest the W18 plugs in stock and modified Model A engines.

If you plan on long trips at continued high speed or racing at full throttle, then a cooler plug like the Champion W16Y would suit your needs. But, the W16Y may be too cold for average use and promote carbon build-up.

All of these plugs are readily available and have the large 7/8" base.

I see NO reason to use a smaller 14mm "modern" plug with an adapter.

- Willie