

Spring Start Up – Paul Monteiro

Everyone seems to have their own preparation process on what they do to their car when first starting it up from sitting all winter. I want to share with everyone how I prepare my 1967 GTO for the first startup of the season.

Preparation:

I have my battery trickle charging all winter which is very import to maintain the life of your battery. Make sure to check all belts and hoses for any deterioration. Then make sure that all of the hose clamps are tight to stop anything from leaking. I then install the battery and add some more of the Blue Gas treatment into the gas tank (1-2oz).

Start up:

I will proceed to start my car up slowly by pumping some gas and cranking the car over in short timed intervals and progressively working up to a full crank to turn the car over. When the car starts I will only let it sit idle for a few minutes gradually giving it the gas to warm it up.

Now it is time for a short ride to rid the car of moisture buildup inside the system which accumulates over the winter. I drive the car approximately 10 miles. I want to get the car hot enough remove all of the moisture.

Oil Change:

When I come back home, I let the car cool off and then proceed to change the oil and filter.

VERY IMPORTANT: MAKE SURE YOU FILL THE OIL FILTER AT LEAST 2/3 or 3/4.

That will ensure on initial startup that the engine will receive oil immediately from the filter to feed the engine!

I proceed to fill the oil pan with 6 quarts. Start up the car for a minute and shut it down and re-check the oil level. My car always needs an additional 1/2 quart to fill at the correct level.

I will take the car for another ride and when I get home, I will check it one more time to make sure the oil level is correct.

Enjoy:

That's it! I am ready to enjoy another driving season! I hope this is helpful to anyone ready to prepare starting their own car for the driving season.