

Tech Tips

Fan Clutch Rotation

Often, as a counter person, it will be necessary to ask the customer which direction the fan clutch rotates. In response, more times than not, the expression of the customer can be compared to a “deer in headlights”.

To assist the customer, a counter person should suggest the only **safe** method of determining fan rotation. With the engine off, direction can easily be found by looking at the water pump pulley and belt.

- If the pulley uses a V-belt, direction will always be clockwise.
- If the pulley is poly-grooved and in contact with the grooved side of the serpentine belt, direction will be clockwise.
- If the pulley is flat and in contact with the backside of the serpentine belt, direction will be counterclockwise.

If the wrong direction fan clutch is installed, the engine will overheat from the lack of airflow across the radiator. Also, the clutch may break apart from operating in the wrong direction causing damage to the fan blade, radiator and hood.

