

DOC'S BLOCKS
AUTOMOTIVE AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

Question:

When would it be nearly mandatory to replace a condenser?

Answer:

Late model condensers of the parallel design have been used exclusively by GM for the past few years. New vehicles as well as all replacement Delco condenser are of this design.

There are many imports and some other domestics that also use this condenser. The other style aluminum condenser is the serpentine design.

GM has TSBs (Trouble Shooting Bulletins) that state that if a compressor grenades, (grinds up and or seizes), the condenser must be replaced. It will be mandatory so the warranty will be honored.

Ford, because of black death forming in the condenser, highly recommends replacement of the condenser.

The way parallel and serpentine condensers are made, if the compressor pumps material into the condenser, it can't be flushed out and will be necessary to replace the condenser to avoid compressor failure.

Each new car manufacturer has similar TSBs.