



2004 RX-8

Whine/Squeal From Engine At Idle

Some customers may complain of a high-pitched whine or squeal noise from the engine at idle. The noise can be eliminated by raising the engine RPM slightly above idle. This is most likely caused by the primary port jet air nozzles and/or the metering oil pump air ports. The jet air nozzles are located in the primary port of each rotor. The jet air flow is achieved by using air flow from an area prior to the throttle plate. The metering oil injection nozzles also use this airflow prior to the throttle plate to assist oil flow into the engine.

This creates a metered vacuum leak into the engine and may cause a high-pitched whine at idle. This noise is considered to be a normal characteristic of the RENESIS rotary engine. Use the following procedure to confirm noise is from the jet air or metering oil pump nozzles.

1. Remove engine cover.
2. Start engine.
3. Locate both air supply hoses for jet air nozzles and metering oil pump nozzles. Hoses are attached to the air duct located between the MAF and throttle body. Disregard hose that attaches to the oil filler tube.
4. Confirm noise is caused by jet air or metering oil pump nozzles by temporarily pinching off air supply hoses using pliers.
5. No repairs should be attempted if noise is reduced or eliminated.

