

" THIS ARTICLE IS INTENDED FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY.

ACTUAL PARTS, YEARS AND BODY STYLES CONTAINED

IN THIS ARTICLE MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM YOUR APPLICATION. "

YOU CAN DO IT EASY UPGRADES

1955-1958 2 & 4 BARREL

REPLACEMENT AIR FILTERS



#18-208

The original oil-bath air cleaner elements are often difficult to clean, impossible to replace and do not do a very good job of filtering the air ingested into your engine. If you wish to retain the stock appearance under the hood for originality or judging purposes, the air cleaner is one of the things you don't want to change. The stock filter element inside the air cleaner was not much more than a mesh screen to keep the big pieces out of the carburetor. The messy oil in the base of the air cleaner was supposed to collect any dust/dirt that might come in. In this article we will replace the stock filter element with a replaceable paper element for a 1956 2-barrel air cleaner. Replacement filters are also available for the 1955-56 4-barrel and 1957 2 & 4 barrel. A replacement filter for the 1955 2-barrel is not available because the top of the original air filter element is part of the air cleaner assembly. 1955 owners may wish to locate a 1956 2-barrel air cleaner assembly or lid in order to use the replaceable filter.

Parts Needed:

- 18-208 1957-58 2 & 4-Barrel Air Filter
- 18-275 1956 2-Barrel Air Filter
- 18-276 1955 & 56 4-Barrel Air Filter



Photo #1: On the top of the air cleaner assembly on a 1956 2-barrel, there is a steel cover that shrouds the stock air filter element. Remove the wing nut and the top cover will lift off.

Tools Needed:

Finger Tips

Time Frame:

5 Minutes



Photo #2: The stock filter sits down in the base of the air cleaner and has oil in the base to collect any dust/dirt that passes through filter.



Photo #3: Using some rags and mineral sprits clean all the old oil out of the base of the air cleaner. The new replacement element #18-275 will sit down in the base of the stock air cleaner and center up perfectly where the stock air filter element sat.



Photo #4: The stock top cover fits right over the new element. When the wing nut is tightened, the new filter will seal to the top and bottom of the air cleaner. For 1955 4-barrel air cleaners, you will need to remove the inner snorkle that protrudes into the filter cavity. Use an air cut-off wheel to remove this extra metal.

Your new filter can now be removed and cleaned or replaced as needed, with no messy oil to worry with! The new open element type filter will do a much better job of cleaning the air and will help protect your valuable original engine! Good Luck! 