

How To: Setting the Idle on CIS-E cars.

Note: idle setting will affect throttle response at low rpms.

After checking and setting the fuel mixture on CIS-E cars, you'll want to check and set your idle. If you have the right kind of meter, you can follow the Bentley and do it the "professional" way. Otherwise, here's the home mechanic's way of doing it:

First, check to see if you can turn your idle screw with just your fingers. If you can, it probably means the O-ring on the screw is bad. Go to a hardware store, and get whatever O-ring fits snugly around the idle screw. If you do not replace a bad O-ring, your idle will "self-adjust", on a daily basis, and you will come whining to the mailing list.

Next, make sure your car is warmed up, and let it idle. Now, rev the motor to around 3-4000 rpms, and let off the gas. Watch the tachometer. Your idle should drop fast to about 1400rpms, and then drop slowly to 900rpms. That is a correctly set idle. If your idle "sticks" above 1000rpms for a while, then your idle is set too high. If the tach needle drops below 900 rpms, then jumps back up, past 900 rpms, then your idle is set too low. Turn the screw clockwise to lower the idle, counterclockwise to raise it.

Once the idle is set, I recommend putting a dab of silicone around the idle screw, to make sure it doesn't move.

Review:

warm up car

rev engine to 4K rpms

see if: revs drop quickly to 1400, then slowly to 900.

adjust as necessary