



A Look at Contaminated Oxygen Sensors

The Oxygen (O₂) zirconia cell is very sensitive to contaminants.

The following illustrations show poisoned O₂ Sensors. Contamination will make the sensor function inaccurately, which will lead to poor performance, poor fuel economy and high emissions.



Leaded fuel will turn the sensor tip a light pink color.



An internal coolant leak will turn the tip of the sensor a green whitish brown color.



Using RTV silicone that is not sensor safe will turn the O2 tip a whitish color.



An engine burning oil will turn the tip of the sensor a brownish color.

Check your O2 sensor with Tomco's [Oxygen Sensor Tester](#).