

Gasoline Engines

The current and previous API Service Categories are listed here. Vehicle owners should refer to their owner's manuals before consulting these charts. Oils may have more than one performance level.

For automotive gasoline engines, the latest API Service Category includes the performance properties of each earlier category and can be used to service older engines where earlier category oils were recommended.

Category	Status	Service
SN	Current	Introduced in October 2010, designed to provide improved high temperature deposit protection, stringent sludge control, and seal compatibility. API SN with Resource Conserving matches IL combining API SN performance with improved fuel economy, turbocharger protection, emission compatibility, and protection of engines operating on ethanol-containing fuels up to E85.
SM	Current	For 2010 and older automotive engines.
SL	Current	For 2004 and older automotive engines.
SJ	Current	For 2001 and older automotive engines.
SH	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1996. Adequate protection against build-up of engine sludge, oxidation, or wear.
SG	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1993. Adequate protection against build-up of engine sludge, oxidation, or wear.
SF	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1988. Adequate protection against build-up of engine sludge.
SE	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1979.
SD	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1971. Engines may cause unsatisfactory performance or equipment harm.
SC	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1967. Engines may cause unsatisfactory performance or equipment harm.
SB	Obsolete	CAUTION: Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1951. Engines may cause unsatisfactory performance or equipment harm.
SA	Obsolete	CAUTION: Contains no additives. Not suitable for use in most gasoline-powered automotive engines built after 1930. Use in modern engines may cause unsatisfactory performance or equipment harm.