



## Volkswagen engine codes

Need to identify the engine in your VW? Below is a list of Volkswagen engine codes. All air-cooled VW engines had a designated number stamped into them. These help to identify what year your engine was manufactured and what size it was.



Here is the engine number circled in red, just below the firing order on the generator/alternator pedestal.

Bear in mind that a lot of engines have been rebuilt by now. Some are modified to accept larger barrels, pistons and cylinder heads. If you know this to be the situation then the original engine number will only tell you what year your case was made and what size it was originally. In most cases (pun intended) engines are rebuilt using direct replacement parts so the chances are your engine's size will correspond to your engine number.

If you need to know if your engine has dual oil pressure relief valves, its fairly easy to do by looking at the side of the sump on your engine case. If it has AS41 embossed on the side, it is dual relief. If you're still in doubt you can identify dual relief by locating the two relief valves. Get under the engine. You are looking for a large plug that has provision for a large flathead screwdriver. One will be at the front of the engine (gearbox end) behind the sump. The other will be at the rear of the engine to the right (that's if you're on your back looking up at the engine) of the oil pump.

Don't have a letter at the beginning of your engine number? You probably have an earlier engine. Visit [thesamba.com](http://thesamba.com) for a break down of the engine numbers.

Engine Code	Engine Size	Power	Model	Year
A	1200 sp	30hp	Type 1	up to July 1965
B	1600	47hp	Type 2	Aug 1967 – July 1970
	1600	47hp	Type 1	Aug 1968 – July 1970



	(USA)			
C	1600 (low compression)	44hp	Type 2	Aug 1967 – July 1970
D	1200 sp	34hp	Type 2	from May 1959
	1200 sp	34hp	Type 1	from August 1965
E	1300	37hp	Type 1	Aug 1965 – July 1970
F	1300 sp	40hp	Type 1	Aug 1965 – July 1970
G	1500	42hp	Type 2	up to July 1965
H	1500 sp	47hp	Type 2	Aug 1965 – July 1968
	1500 sp	47hp	Type 1	Aug 1965 – July 1970
	1500 sp	47hp	Type 181	Aug 1969 – Feb 1971
K	1500	45hp	Type 3	Aug 1965 – Oct 1973
L	1500	40hp	Type 2	from November 1965
	1500 (low compression)	40hp	Type 1	Aug 1966 – July 1970
M	1500 (low compression)	41hp	Type 3	Aug 1965 – July 1973
N	1500 (low compression)	52hp	Type 3	Aug 1965 – July 1973
O	1500 (no CAM bearing)	45hp	Type 3	1963 – 1965
P	1600 (low compression)	50hp	Type 3	Aug 1965 – July 1973
R	1500 (1500S)	52hp	Type 3	Aug 1963 – July 1965
T	1600	54hp	Type 3	Aug 1965 – July 1973
U	1600 (fuel injection)	54hp	Type 3	from August 1965
UO	1600		Type 3	Aug 1967 – July 1973
AB	1300 tp	44hp	Type 1	Aug 1970 – July 1973
AC	1300 (low compression)	40hp	Type 1	Aug 1970 – July 1975



AD	1600 tp	50hp	Type 1	Aug 1970 – July 1973
	1600 tp	50hp	Type 2	Aug 1970 – July 1973
AE	1600 tp (USA)	47hp	Type 1	Aug 1970 – July 1971
AF	1600 tp (low compression)	46hp	Type 1	Aug 1970 – July 1980
	1600 tp (low compression)	46hp	Type 2	Aug 1970 – July 1979
	1600 tp (low compression)	46hp	Type 181	Jan 1974 – Jan 1982
AG	1600 tp	44hp	Type 181	Aug 1970 – July 1976
AH	1600 tp (USA)	47hp	Type 1	Aug 1971 – Jan 1976
AJ	1600 tp (USA and Japan fuel injection)	50hp	Type 1	Aug 1974 – Dec 1980
AK	1600 tp (USA)	47hp	Type 1	Aug 1972 – July 1973
AL	1600 tp	48hp	Type 181	March 1973 – July 1979
AR	1300 tp	44hp	Type 1	Aug 1973 – July 1975
AS	1600 tp	50hp	Type 1	Aug 1973 - July 1980
	1600 tp	50hp	Type 2	Aug 1973 – July 1979

Type 1 = Beetle

Type 2 = Transporter / Bus / Camper / Van / Pickup

Type 3 = Fastback / Squareback / Notchback / Type 34 Razoredge

Type 181 = Trekker / Thing

hp = horse power

sp = single port

tp = twin port

