

Opel Camshaft Notes

Opel owners can achieve performance benefits, with installation of new original-profile or new higher-profile replacement camshafts into US-export 1968-1974 Opel 1.9L CIH engines. However, feedback from our engine-servicing clients leads us to caution that careful evaluation and informed planning is required for selection of the optimal camshaft.



Cylinder Head Identification

Check markings and hardware on the side and top of your cylinder head, to verify it is an “early” 1968-1970 3-bearing head, “later” 1970-1975 4-bearing style head (or a non-US “Euro” head).

Refer to information within our print-version parts catalogs, tech notes (or elsewhere on this website), for details on identifying these heads (as well as hardware, such as solid or hydraulic lifters, etc).

Camshaft Selection: Do’s and Don’ts

- Always match camshaft grind to lifter style (solid, or hydraulic).
- Always check the camshaft oiling groove, to verify application.
- Always verify a camshaft is from a new cam blank (not a regrind) before purchase.
- Always purchase and install new valve lifters, when installing a new camshaft.
- Always plan to replace camshaft bearings, when head is hot-tanked.
- Always add zinc-additive oil lubricant, and follow procedures, to break in a cam.
- Always obtain camshaft lift & duration specifications prior to purchase.

NEVER install a camshaft without knowing its lift and duration specifications !!

Additional information, is available within our catalogs, website & tech notes.

Camshaft Hardware

There are specific parts, tools and supplies required to install an Opel cam. Check out our #6045 Cam bearing set, #6028 (or #6027r) lifters, #6087 camshaft oil dam, #12013 serrated bit, and #6170 cam break-in additive.

Compare our part listings & everyday low prices, using our catalogs & website.

Camshaft Variations

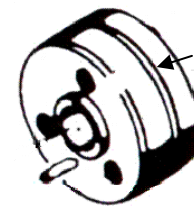
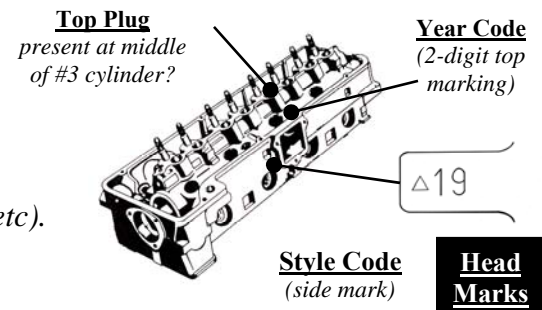
Some advocate installation of non-standard profile camshafts for Opel engines.

Be aware that considerations will also apply for special machining calculations and techniques for fitment of valve springs and other hardware. Engine “experiments” here, can be very rewarding (and also very costly) !!

Camshaft Installation

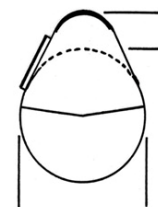
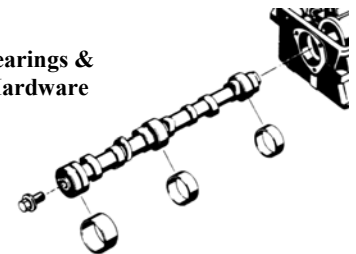
There are specific procedures to follow, to help ensure a successful installation and break-in of a new Opel camshaft. Many service manuals (and some other online sources) include incomplete or inaccurate data—which can risk your part investment, as well as successful operation of your Opel engine.

For best results, consult Opel GT Source for important reminders about: Opel CIH Timing gear marks and alignment, pre-lubrication techniques, valve lifter adjustments, and recommended break-in procedures.



**Camshaft
Oiling
Groove**

**Bearings &
Hardware**



LIFT

**ALWAYS
verify cam lift
specifications**

**Timing
Marks**

