

Replacing Water Pump
1998 E320 Wagon
By TNTRower

The right tools make this job a lot easier. Here is what I recommend that would be “Specialized” or something that a lot of folks may not have in their kits.

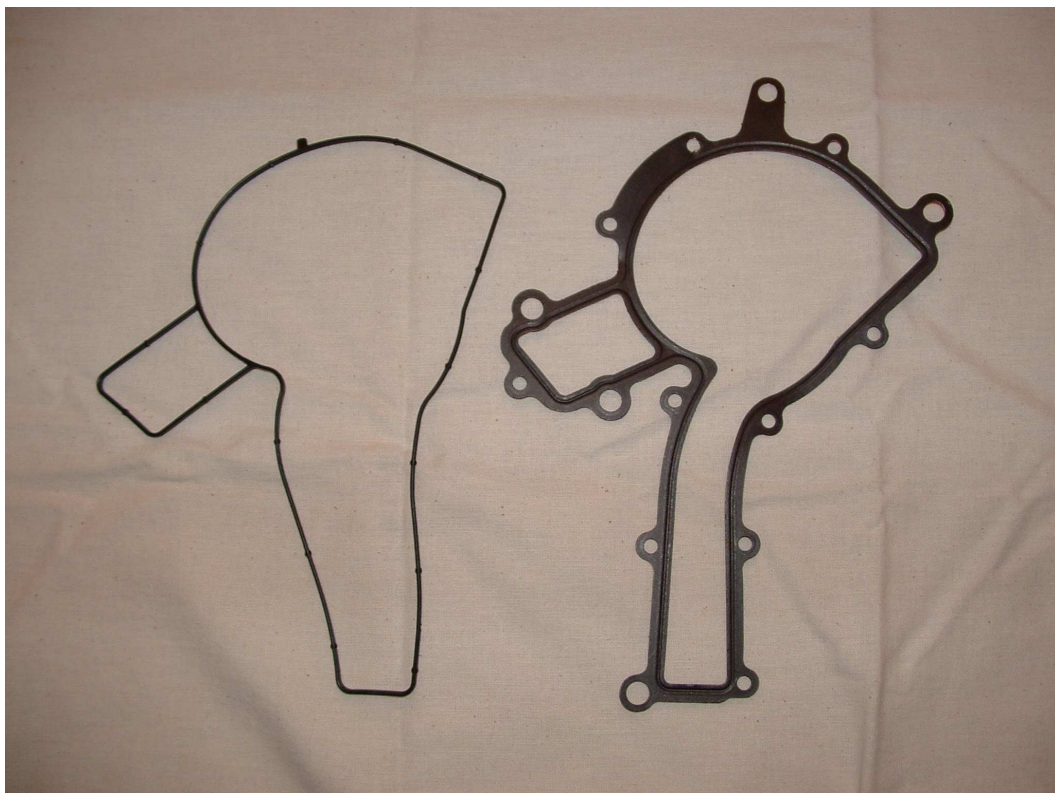
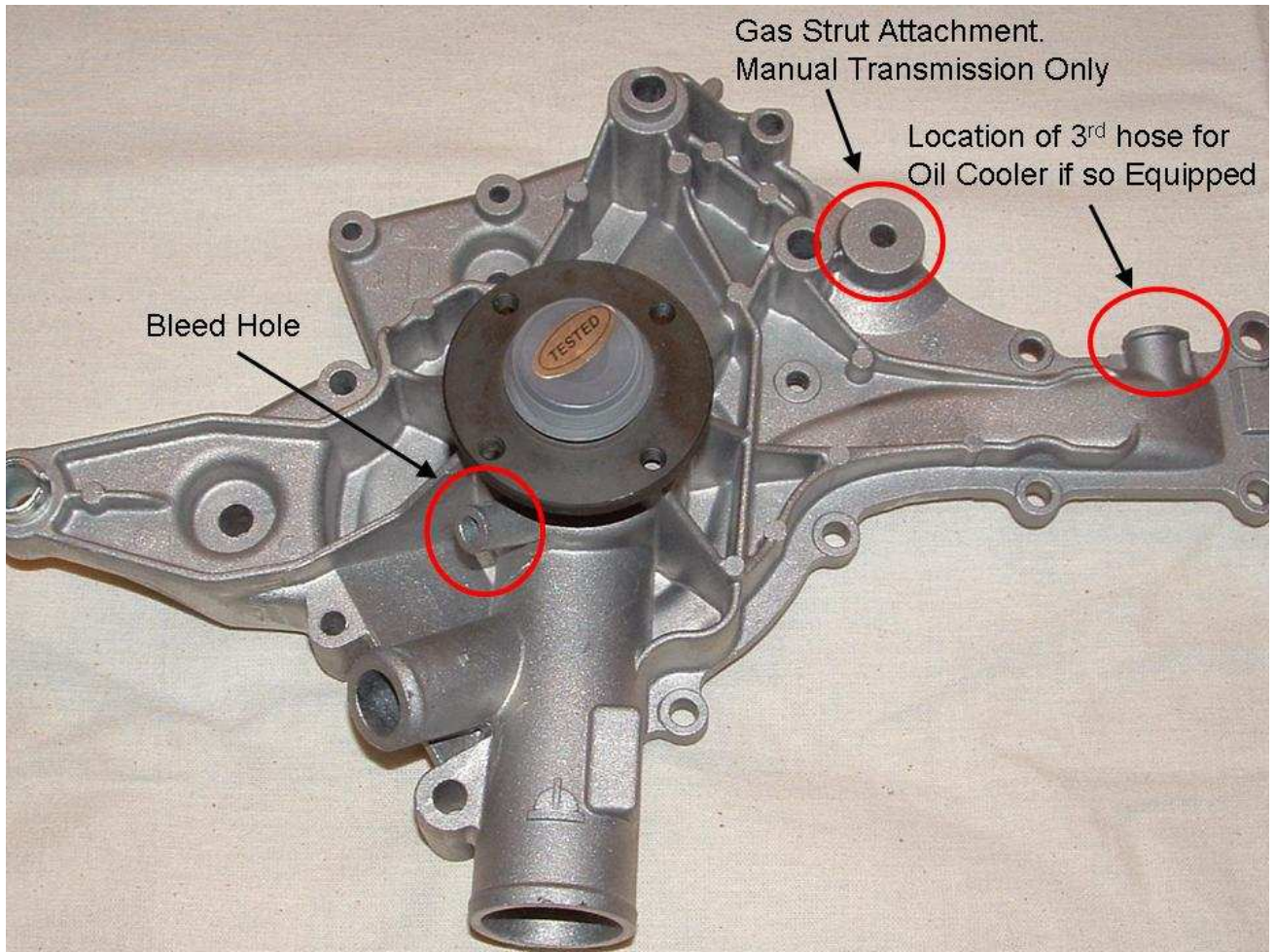
First, the Counterholder and Fan Nut Wrench. I paid \$40 off of E-bay for the whole set. They are thinner and have longer handles. They made the job much easier than monkeying around with a strap wrench, channel locks, and busted knuckles.



Next is a set of Star Nut Sockets. I picked up this set of seven for \$20.00 at my local Parts-o-rama. You will need sizes 10, 12, and 14. So not a bad idea to get the whole set.

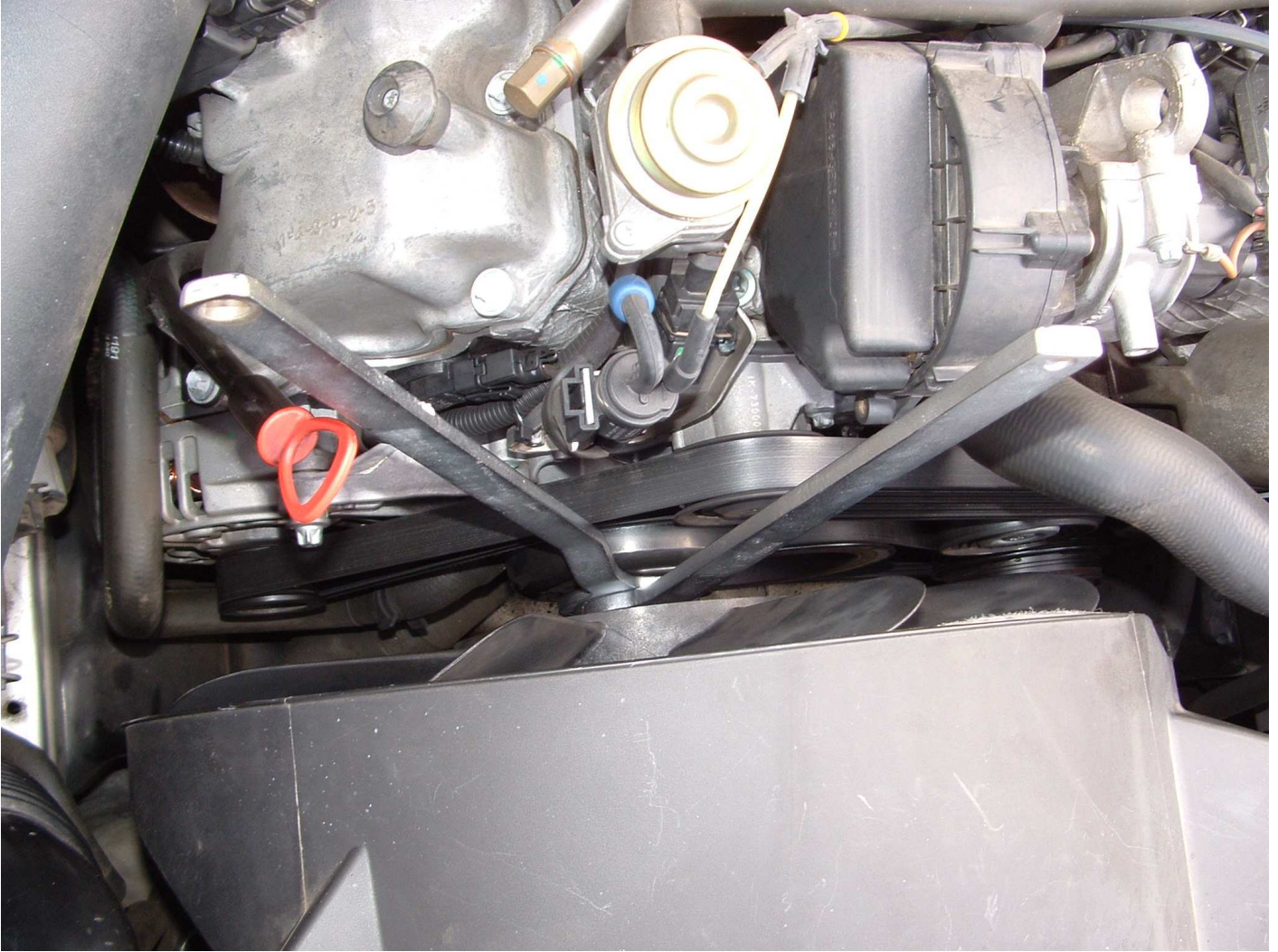


Of course you also need a water pump to replace the old one. I got mine brand new from Autohaus AZ for \$111.00. The gaskets came with it. Manufacturer is Graf. I also bought a new serpentine belt and put that on there. Price was \$31.00 from Autohaus as well.



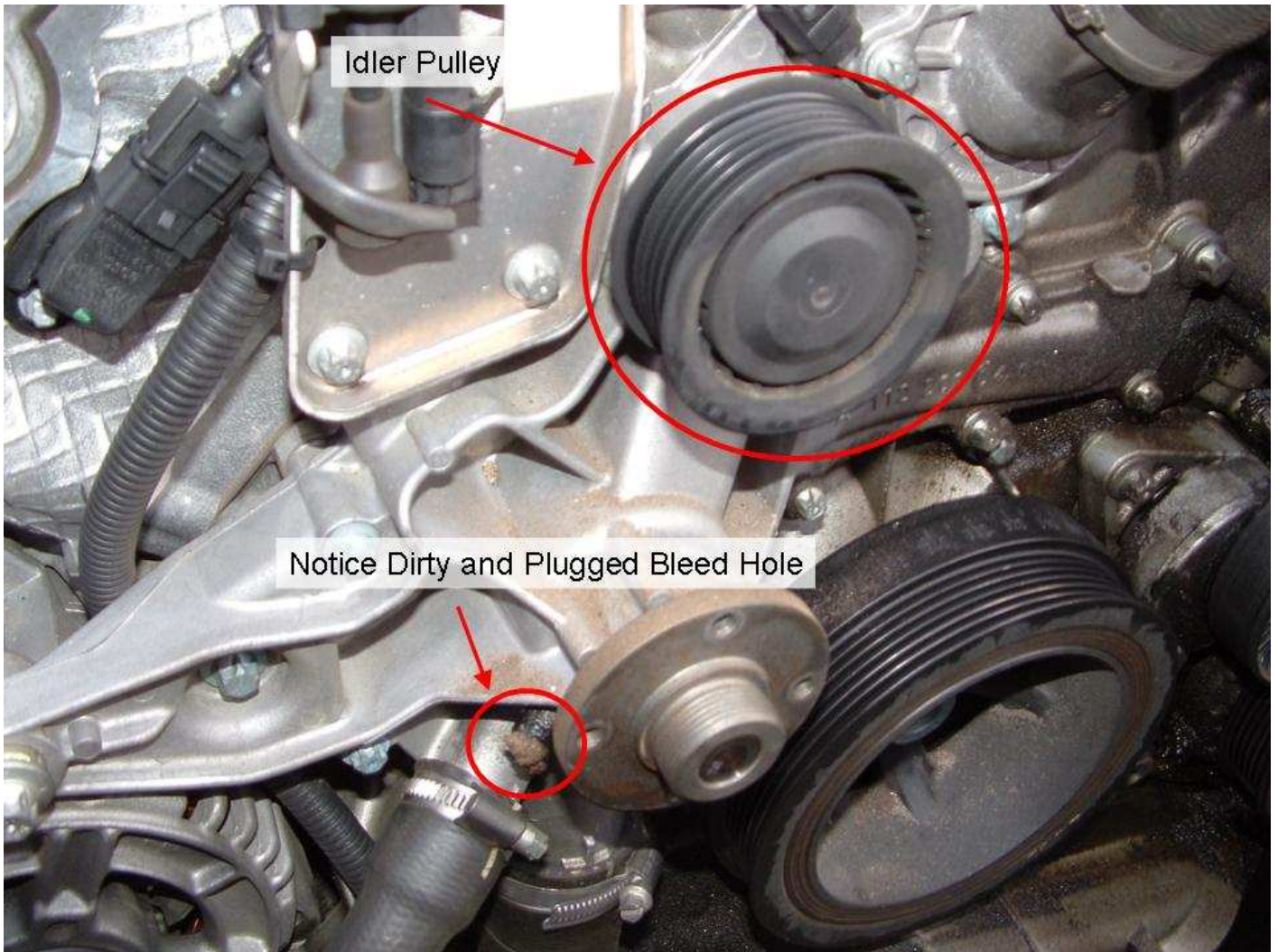
So here are the steps for changing the water pump. They are pretty straightforward

1. Drain Coolant from Radiator. I had to remove the oil pan cover and the front cover just behind the bumper. Unscrew Red petcock valve and let drain.
2. Remove Fan with fan removal tools. I ordered the special tools for the job. They actually made removing the pulley screws easier as well.



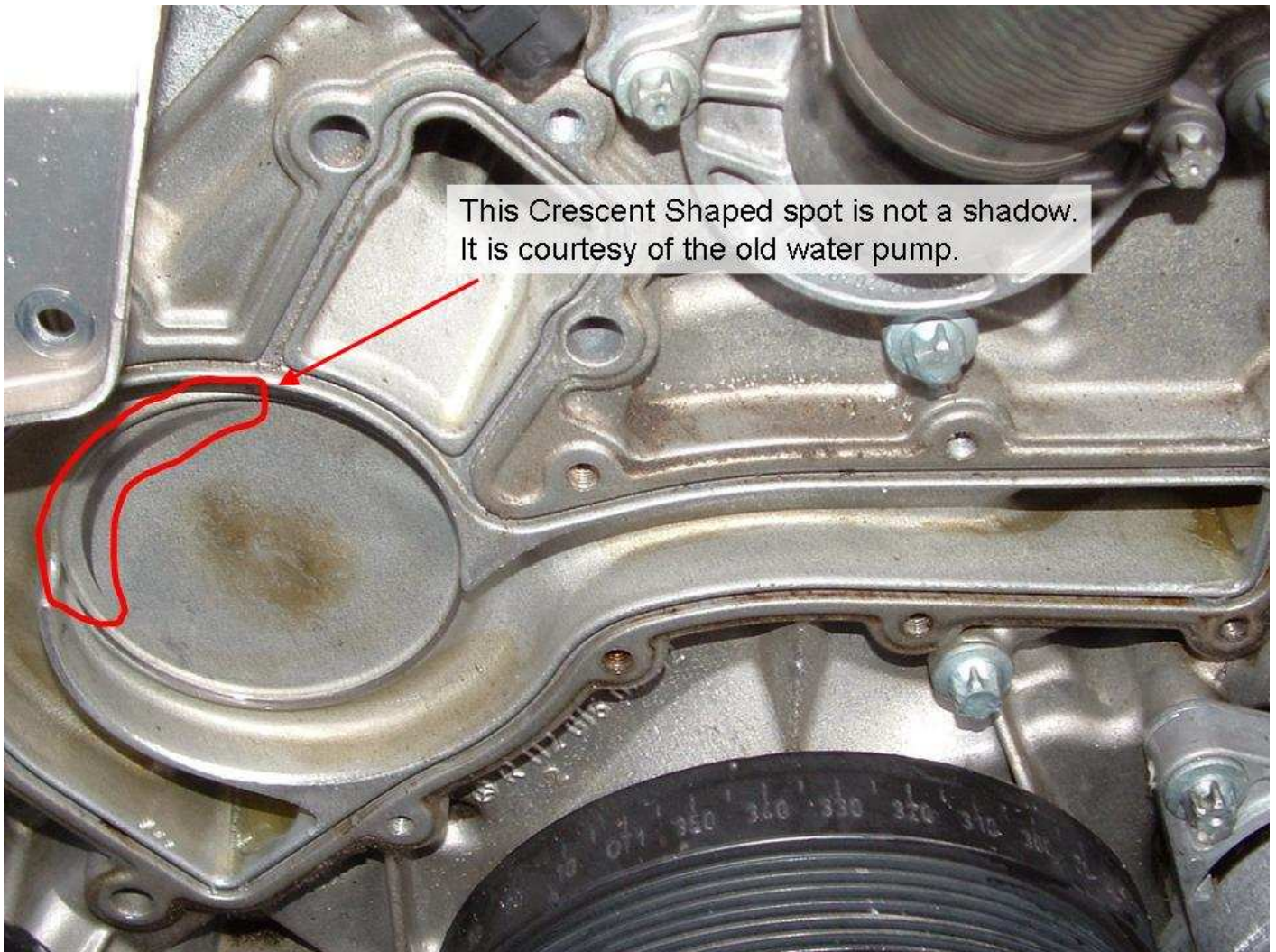
3. Remove Fan Shroud. Take out fan w/ clutch and the shroud. Set to side.
4. Remove Fan Pulley retaining nuts with allen wrench.
5. Remove Serpentine belt. Using socket, rotate tensioner pulley counter clock wise to release tension on belt. Slide belt off.

6. Remove Idler pulley from front of water pump. Take small flathead screwdriver and gently pry the front cover off of the idler pulley. Use torx bit to remove the bolt.



7. Disconnect coolant hoses. Just loosen screw clamps and wiggle gently. If the hoses are still in good shape they will release easily.

8. Detach water pump. Using star socket remove all the bolts of the water pump. I had to use 3 different size sockets to get them all off. E10, E12, and E14.



9. Reassemble in reverse order.
10. Flush cooling system with distilled water.
11. Refill using MB Spec Coolant or Zerex G-05 with 50% coolant, 50% distilled water.

I got the zerex G-05 at NAPA here in the Atlanta area. I got the distilled water from Kroger for \$.99 per gallon jug. I bought 5 and used 4.5 between flushing and filling.