How to replace the coolant temperature sensor on your Fabia

There may come a time when you notice that the temperature gauge needle on your Fabia is stuck to the left and wouldn't budge. It may well come back to life next time you start the car, and this is a telltale sign that the sensor's on its last legs. This can apparently lead to head gasket trouble and all sorts, so here's how to replace it:

You will need a small screwdriver, and possibly a socket set, depending on the model of Fabia. The part number is 06A919501A, and cost me £26.28 incl VAT. It's quite possible this guide will work for other models with the same engines – it should at least be a similar method…!

**NB: DO NOT DO THIS JOB UNLESS YOUR ENGINE IS ABSOLUTELY STONE COLD!!!**

1. Take off your engine cover. On a Fabia vRS, you just remove the oil filler cap and pull. On a Fabia 1.4 MPI, you have to remove the dipstick, oil filler cap, and the two nuts shown:
2a. The coolant temp sensor is here on a 1.4 MPI:

(Sorry, I don't have access to any other cars to say where theirs are!)

2b. ...and here on a vRS:
3. Fortunately, as I was replacing the sensor on a 1.4 MPi, it's located at the highest point in the coolant circuit, so I didn't have to drain the system. You might have to at this point...

4. Unclip the sensor from its plug, and separate the two:

5. Remove the circlip holding it in place:
6. Give the sensor a bit of a jiggle and it will come out:

7. The offending article:

8. Put the new sensor in, and put your car back together following the above steps in reverse order.
9. If you have access to VAG-COM, clear the fault codes. If not, the coolant system seems to work OK regardless, but warn your garage that it's been done, otherwise when THEY read the fault codes they may want to put in another sensor!!!

HTH,

Ap0gee 😊