

Volkswagen TPS scores with Audi



Trade Parts Specialists scheme proves it can give competitors a run for their money

Back in October we took a look at the pricing of the new VW Trade Parts Specialists (TPS) scheme and were, to say the least, very impressed with the prices on offer.

TPS applies not just to Volkswagen but also the other Volkswagen group marques, Audi, Seat and Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, and so this month we have decided to see if the prices are equally competitive on the Audi range. Can the Audi prices match those of the aftermarket in the same way that Volkswagen did?

The three models surveyed are: A2 1.4 16v 2000, A3 1.9TDI 2001 and A4 1.8 20v Turbo 2001. The prices supplied by Audi UK were the TPS prices except for one shock absorber which is not covered by the scheme and the competition comes from two continental parts specialists and an independent factor/retailer.

Final conclusion

This survey confirms that the Volkswagen Group TPS scheme is very competitive indeed.

There are currently some 57 TPS centres across the UK and only they can give you these prices. Don't expect to get them from your local Audi dealership.

We could have sourced some cheaper aftermarket parts from brands that, if not unknown, do not have the pedigree of established, OE parts manufacturers and, doubtless, some repairers may choose to go down this route in order to generate extra profits.

2000 A2 1.4 16v

	TPS Centre	Continental 1	Continental 2	Independent
Oil filter	£2.20	£3.64	£3.95	£2.95
Air filter	£7.10	£7.41	N/A	£7.75
Fuel filter	£3.90	£3.29	£5.40	£3.40
Spark plug (4)	£10.04	£14.12	N/A	£12.00
Timing belt	£13.53	£16.91	£17.85	£15.95
Front disc pads	£25.43	£29.55	£26.50	£23.97
Front brake disc	£21.25	£26.95	£23.50	£22.00
Front shock absorber	£42.75	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	£126.20	£101.87	£77.20	£88.02

TPS centre £126.20
Continental specialist 1 £101.87*
Continental specialist 2 £77.20*
Independent factor £88.02*

If this model is anything to go by the TPS Audi pricing is just as competitive as VW. None of the competition could supply a full basket of parts and so Audi win by default but if you insert the lowest price in offer in place of the N/A items the TPS prices would still have been the keenest.

* unable to supply a full basket

2000 A3 1.9TDI

	TPS Centre	Continental 1	Continental 2	Independent
Oil filter	£2.60	£4.35	£3.50	£3.75
Air filter	£6.21	£6.76	£7.50	£6.97
Fuel filter	£11.19	£8.54	£11.25	£10.50
Glow plug (4)	£25.96	£22.16	£22.40	£24.00
Timing belt	£25.75	£21.33	£25.80	£24.35
Front disc pads	£33.15	£42.00	£23.50	£27.25
Front brake disc	£21.56	£26.60	£26.50	£25.55
Front shock absorber	£30.98	£38.53	£34.00	£37.50
Total	£157.40	£170.27	£154.45	£159.87

TPS centre £157.40
Continental specialist 1 £170.27
Continental specialist 2 £154.45
Independent factor £159.87

With all of the players able to supply a full basket this was a more meaningful comparison and Audi again acquits itself very well. Only our Continental specialist (2) pips it for top spot due to a well priced set of brake pads. Our independent factor supplied a very closely priced offering with the brake pads again making the difference.

2001 A4 1.8 20v Turbo

	TPS Centre	Continental 1	Continental 2	Independent
Oil filter	£2.66	£3.75	£3.25	£2.95
Air filter	£6.60	£5.22	£7.90	£6.90
Fuel filter	£4.66	£24.30	£6.15	£6.35
Spark plug (4)	£25.24	£25.96	£9.00	£16.60
Timing belt	£13.53	£27.00	£12.95	£15.55
Front disc pads	£37.01	£29.86	£29.50	£28.20
Front brake disc	£21.39	£18.95	£21.00	£19.50
Front shock absorber	£31.55	N/A	£36.00	£34.75
Total	£142.64	£135.04	£125.75	£130.80

TPS centre £142.64
Continental specialist 1 £135.04*
Continental specialist 2 £125.75
Independent factor £130.80

It's a mark of the competitiveness of the Audi TPS pricing when we are surprised that it comes only third for this model (and then by only 10% or so)! Both our continental specialist (2) and independent factor offer well-priced baskets. Much of the difference is explained by the spark plugs.

* unable to supply a full basket

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The Trade Parts Specialists



“TPS scores with Audi.”

New AM Magazine parts comparison survey confirms the TPS Network’s ultra-competitive prices for Audi Original Parts.™

Back in October 2007 AM Magazine proclaimed that the Volkswagen Group TPS Network had **“blown away the price advantages that the aftermarket has always had.”**

In that survey AM Magazine looked only at parts for Volkswagen models. In their second survey featuring TPS prices, AM Magazine filled up its shopping basket with Audi parts and was equally impressed.*

“This survey confirms that the Volkswagen Group TPS scheme is very competitive indeed”

“The Trade Parts Specialists scheme proves it can give competitors a run for their money”

“Audi again acquits itself very well”



Remember: we’re talking about the prices of original parts here. One call to your TPS guarantees OE quality, reliability and performance every time – not only for Audi, but also for SEAT, Škoda, Volkswagen passenger cars and Commercial Vehicles. So why shop anywhere else?

The full AM Magazine survey article is reprinted overleaf.

*AM Magazine 7 March 2008

TPS Network

Visit our website to locate your local TPS Centre.

www.thetradepartsspecialists.co.uk