

Dump Valve Replacement

Dump valve seized. Won't open. Won't close. Replacement is forty bucks and twenty minutes. Or — a dealer will charge five hundred to do exactly this. Watch.

Step one — confirm tank is empty. Like — really, truly empty. Multiple flushes. Last thing you want is to take this valve off with anything in the tank.

Step two — the dump valve is held to the tank flange with four bolts. Quarter-inch socket. Unscrew the four bolts. The valve assembly comes off. Old gasket comes with it.

Step three — scrape the old gasket residue clean from the tank flange. Plastic scraper. Don't scratch the flange surface.

Step four — new valve has new gasket. Align bolt holes. Hand-thread the bolts. Tighten in cross-pattern just like a tire wheel. Snug but not over-torqued. Plastic threads strip.

Step five — fill tank partway with water. Test the valve. Open it over the dump station. Close it. Open it. Done.

Wear gloves. Wear a mask. Air it out before working underneath. Forty dollars. Twenty minutes. Six-month-old you laughs at you for paying five-hundred at a dealer.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Tomorrow we close out Showdown Saturday with the independents — Brinkley and Lance. Follow.