

Intermittent Valve Lash Adjuster Noise on N51, N52 or N52K BMW Engines

The AERA Technical Committee offers the following information regarding an intermittent valve lash adjuster noise on N51, N52 or N52K BMW engines. All E82, E83, E88, E85, E86, E60, E61, E70, E90, E91, E92 and E93 vehicles with N51, N52 or N52K engines produced approximately up to November 30th 2008 may exhibit a valve lash adjuster noise.

An occasional ticking or rattling noise from the camshaft hydraulic valve lifters (HVA) may occur during cold engine starts, due to frequent short-distance driving, or the noise may occur for an extended period of time even though the engine is at operating temperature.

Improved parts were phased into production beginning on 10/1/2008 and fully implemented on November 30th 2008.

All vehicles produced between 10/1/2008 and 11/30/2008 must have each vehicle's cylinder head casting number identified before hydraulic valve lifters (HVA) replacement, due to staggered implementation. Refer to the figure below for the casting number location. Vehicles produced after 11/30/2008 has already been fitted with improved parts. Vehicles produced prior to 10/1/2008 will require the new parts.

Improved Casting Numbers

N51 (B30)	7588277.01
N52 (B30)	7588273.01
N52K (B30)	7588271.01

A cylinder head casting number that does not match will require replacement of the 12 exhaust camshaft hydraulic valve lifters (HVA) as per Repair Instruction RA 11 33 050.

Removing and installing/replacing all rocker arms

Only the exhaust camshaft and rocker arms have to be removed in order to replace the hydraulic valve lifters. Do not remove or replace any intake camshaft valve train components.

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N51, N52 and N52K Cylinder Head Identification



The cylinder head must be identified by the casting number highlighted in the illustration above. The casting number is located above the Cylinder 3 exhaust port. This is not the part number of the cylinder head. The part number and the casting number will differ.

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