


# Volkswagen Cabriolet DIY Guide

## Transmission Fluid

### 020 Manual Transmission

Photo	Fluid	Notes
	Brand: Volkswagen Part No.: G060726A2 Weight: 75W90 API rating: GL4 Type: Conventional Viscosity: Pour point: Flash point:	501.50 (G50) fluid  
	Brand: Amsoil MTG Part No.: Weight: 75W90 API rating: GL4 Type: Synthetic Viscosity: 14.0 cSt @ 100°C Pour point: -56°C Flash point: 226°C	
	Brand: Amsoil Severe Gear Part No.: Weight: 75W90 API rating: GL4/GL5 Type: Synthetic Viscosity: 15.9 cSt @ 100°C Pour point: -43°C Flash point: 208°C	
	Brand: Motul Gear 300 Part No.: Weight: 75W90 API rating: GL4/GL5 Type: Synthetic Viscosity: 15.2 mm <sup>2</sup> /s @ 100°C Pour point: -60°C Flash point: 200°C	
	Brand: Castrol Syntans Transaxle Part No.: Weight: 75W90 API rating: GL4 Type: Synthetic Viscosity: 14.8 mm <sup>2</sup> /s @ 100°C Pour point: -54°C Flash point: 210°C	Replacement for Volkswagen/Audi 501.50 fluid.


	<p>Brand: Liqui Moly  Part No.:  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL4+  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 14.3 mm<sup>2</sup>/s @ 100°C  Pour point: -60°C  Flash point: 200°C</p>	<p>Hypoid-specific gear oil. Direct replacement for Volkswagen/Audi 501.50 fluid.</p> <p></p>
	<p>Brand: Pennzoil Synchronmesh  Part No.:  Weight: 75W  API Rating: None, but has GL4 additives &amp; states that it's safe for yellow metals  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity:  Pour point: -39°C  Flash point: 150°C</p>	<p>Anglamol 6091 additive - Detergent, friction modifier, extreme pressure agent, seal swell, anti-wear, anti-oxidant.</p> <p>Smooth shifting, 2<sup>nd</sup> gear grind elimination. It is advised, however, that this oil be changed much more frequently than the OEM oil (every 10,000-20,000 miles).</p> <p></p>
	<p>Brand: Pennzoil Platinum Axle Oil  Part No.:  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL5  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity:  Pour point:  Flash point:</p>	
	<p>Brand: CRC Sta-Lube  Part No.: SL24229  Weight: 85W90  API rating: GL4  Type: Conventional  Viscosity: n/a  Pour point: n/a  Flash point: 150°C</p>	<p>High-quality hypoid-specific gear oil with anti-corrosion and anti-wear additives. May be too thick for cold climates.</p> <p></p>
	<p>Brand: Redline MTL  Part No.: 50204  Weight: 75W80  API rating: GL4  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 10.2 cSt @ 100°C  Pour point: -50°C  Flash point: n/a</p>	<p>Abnormal/premature wear found by transmission rebuilders. Conflicting information regarding appropriateness for hypoid gears.</p> <p></p>


	<p>Brand: Redline MT-90  Part No.:  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL4  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 15.5 cSt @ 100°C  Pour point: -45°C  Flash point: n/a</p>	<p>Abnormal/premature wear found by transmission rebuilders. Conflicting information regarding appropriateness for hypoid gears.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>
	<p>Brand: Brad-Penn (Penn Grade)  Part No.: 3027 / 7766  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL5  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 15.0 cSt @ 100°C  Pour point: -39°C  Flash point: 134°C</p>	<p>High-quality hypoid-specific gear oil.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>
	<p>Brand: Mobil 1 Gear Lube LS  Part No.:  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL5  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 14.6 cSt @ 100°C  Pour point: -39°C  Flash point: 150°C</p>	
	<p>Brand: Royal Purple Max Gear  Part No.:  Weight: 75W90  API rating: GL4/GL5  Type: Synthetic  Viscosity: 16.5 cSt @ 100°C  Pour point: -51°C  Flash point: 163°C</p>	<p>Safe for yellow metals.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>

GL-4 vs. GL-5: According to a transmission rebuilder, when GL-5 synthetic gear oils were first introduced (back in the air-cooled VW days), they contained high amounts of reactive sulfur harmful to yellow metals, such as the brass components in early VW transmissions. Volkswagen then began moly-coating their transmission synchros in the late '60s/early '70s; when moly-coated, reactive sulfur cannot harm the rings. So, theoretically, and according to the expert, modern GL-5 gear oils (now which most contain no or low reactive sulfur) should be fine to use in your Cabriolet. However, with GL-4 oils still being produced (albeit not readily locally available these days), it's wise to stick with the fluid Volkswagen originally recommended.

Some folks have recommended a mixture of lubes for optimum performance and protection:

- 75W90 synthetic: 70%
- Syncromesh: 30%

 = use with discretion

 = recommended by VW/Audi owners