

Easy Brake Bleeding: Bleeding with Pressure Bleeder System - Rich Velardo Nov 2017

So, what does your brake fluid look like? Is it a nice light golden color like wimpy Bud Light, or is it black & dark like a Guinness Stout? If it's dark & murky, then it's (past) time to bleed the brakes. This can be an intimidating thought for anyone who has never done this job before and for those of us who have used the old pedal pump method (usually it's our poor spouse who gets to pump the brakes), we'd probably rather not. Fear not...the Motive Products pressure bleeder system (and others like it) makes the job of bleeding any car's brakes an easy, one person, simple job.

I just upgraded my front brakes to a system that has four bleeder valves on each front caliper (normal Miatas have one bleeder) and the thought of getting someone to pump the brakes through the bleeding of four fittings was enough to send me looking for "A BETTER WAY". And I found a better way.

The pressure bleeder system is so simple that even I could operate it without a problem. The model I found will work on either our VW Golf or the NC Miata without any additional adaptors. There are models that will work with ANY car ever made, I lucked out with one that works on both of our cars.

Here's how it works. Pour some brake fluid into the pressure container and screw the pump on tightly. Then screw the pressure bleeder cap (it's connected to the pressure tank by a hose) onto the master cylinder for the brakes or clutch. Then pump up to 15 lbs pressure with the pump, the attached gauge will let you monitor this and keep it at 15 lbs as you bleed the brakes. Once this is done, all that you need do is open the bleeder and let the brake fluid flow until it's clean & new. You'll need a tube and a catch can for the old fluid as it comes out, but the job is really that easy.

The system is pretty darn fool proof, the brake fluid in the pressure tank refills the master cylinder as the old fluid is pushed through the lines & out the bleeder valves so you don't even have to watch the master cylinder fluid level. Below, Dave Baker, using the pressure bleeder to bleed the brakes on his '08. Since the clutch is on the same master cylinder in the NC Miatas, we did the clutch at the same time that we did the brakes. Brake bleeding just doesn't get any easier than this.

