

Why Pre-Filled Compressor Oil Should Be Drained and Measured Before Installation

Many replacement A/C compressors are advertised as “pre-filled with exact amount of needed oil” or “plug and play” suggesting faster installation and fewer steps.

However, pre-filled does NOT mean pre-calibrated for your specific vehicle application.

Real-World Example

Cadillac Escalade 6.2L (R-134a, PAG 46)

Configuration	Total PAG Oil Capacity
Without Rear A/C	7.1 fl oz (210 mL)
With Rear A/C	11.0 fl oz (325 mL)

A compressor advertised as “8 oz pre-filled” could result in:

Overfilled system in a 7.1 oz application (can reduce cooling and raise pressures)

Underfilled system in an 11 oz application (can starve lubrication and cause early compressor failure)

Both scenarios compromise performance and reliability.

UAC Compressors

UAC compressors are shipped with approximately 6-8 ounces of Pag oil that is compatible with the associated vehicle applications, both for R134a and 1234yf.



Professional Installation Best Practice

1. Drain oil from the old compressor and measure.
2. Verify total system oil capacity per OEM specification.
3. Add the correct type and amount of oil.
4. Evacuate, leak-check, and recharge properly.

This is standard OEM procedure and the method used by dealerships and ASE-certified technicians.