GENERAL

walbro carburetor cross reference chart

Published: September 3, 2026 | Index ID: #-

Introduction

When working on small engines, generators, or any gasoline-powered machinery, you'll quickly learn that the carburetor is the heart of the fuel delivery system. For many hobbyists, mechanics, and fleet technicians, finding the right carburetor replacement can be a daunting task—especially when the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) part numbers differ from aftermarket equivalents. This is where a **Walbro carburetor cross reference chart** becomes an indispensable tool. By mapping OEM parts to compatible Walbro models, you can confidently select the correct carburetor, save time, and avoid costly mistakes.

In this guide, we'll dive deep into what a Walbro carburetor is, why a cross reference chart matters, how to read and use it, and where to find reliable charts for your projects. Whether you're restoring a classic lawn mower, maintaining a marine engine, or upgrading a power tool, the knowledge below will help you navigate the world of carburetors with confidence.

What Is a Walbro Carburetor?

Walbro is a well-respected manufacturer of carburetors and fuel system components that serve a wide range of small engines—from lawn mowers and generators to snowblowers and marine outboards. Their carburetors are known for durability, precision, and ease of service. Walbro offers several families of carburetors, such as the *W-20*, *W-25*, *W-30*, and *W-40*, each tailored to specific engine sizes, horsepower ranges, and operating conditions.

Key features of Walbro carburetors include:

- High-quality aluminum construction for heat dissipation
- Robust float chambers and needle valves for consistent fuel delivery
- Adjustable idle and throttle plates for fine-tuning performance
- Compatibility with a wide range of fuel types, including ethanol blends
- Designs that accommodate both wet and dry sump fuel systems

Why a Cross Reference Chart Is Essential

When you're replacing a carburetor, you need to match the new unit's specifications to the engine's requirements. A **Walbro carburetor cross reference chart**serves as a bridge between the OEM part number you find on your machine and the Walbro model that will function correctly.

Benefits of using a cross reference chart include:

1. Accuracy: Eliminates guesswork by providing exact matches.
2. Time Efficiency: Speeds up the selection process, especially when working on multiple machines.
3. Cost Savings: Helps avoid overpaying for aftermarket parts that are larger or more expensive than necessary.
4. Reliability: Ensures that the replacement carburetor will perform as expected, reducing the risk of engine damage.

How to Read a Walbro Carburetor Cross Reference Chart

A typical cross reference chart lists OEM part numbers alongside the corresponding Walbro model and sometimes additional details such as valve size, fuel tank compatibility, or recommended torque settings. Here's a step-by-step guide to interpreting the chart:

1. Identify the OEM part number: Locate the part number printed on your current carburetor or in your machine's service manual.
2. Locate the OEM entry: Scroll through the chart until you find the exact OEM number. Many charts are organized alphabetically or by engine size.
3. Note the Walbro model: The chart will list the Walbro equivalent—e.g., "W-20" or "W-25."
4. Check additional parameters: Some charts provide details such as the fuel tank type (wet or dry), the valve size, or the recommended jet sizes.
5. Confirm compatibility: Verify that the Walbro model matches your engine's horsepower and displacement.
6. Purchase the part: Once confirmed, order the Walbro carburetor from a reputable supplier.

Remember, while a cross reference chart gives you a solid starting point, it's always wise to double-check specifications with the engine's service manual or a manufacturer's technical support line.

Common Walbro Carburetor Models and Their Cross References

Below are some frequently encountered Walbro carburetor families, along with typical OEM cross references. This table is illustrative and should not replace a specific chart for your machine.

OEM Part Number	Engine Type	Walbro Equivalent	Notes
AG-1	1.5 HP Lawn Mower	W-20	Standard wet-sump design
GEN-5	4 HP Generator	W-25	Requires 5.5" jet
OUT-2	6 HP Outboard	W-30	Water-cooled version
SN-4	12 HP Snowblower	W-40	High-performance jet set

W-20 Series

The *W-20* is the workhorse for small, low-horsepower engines. It's commonly found in 1–3 HP lawn mowers, trimmers, and small generators. Features include a simple design, easy access to the float chamber, and a standard 1.5" jet for most applications.

W-25 Series

Designed for slightly larger engines (3–6 HP), the *W-25* offers a larger throttle body and improved fuel flow. It's ideal for 4–6 HP generators and certain high-output trimmers.

W-30 Series

Targeted at medium-sized engines (6–10 HP), the *W-30* features a larger float chamber, higher-capacity jets, and is often used in outboard motors and marine generators.

W-40 Series

The *W-40* is a high-performance carburetor suited for 10–20 HP engines, including snowblowers, heavy-duty generators, and some industrial equipment. It offers advanced jetting options and a robust construction to handle higher fuel flow rates.

Using the Chart for Replacements: Step-by-Step Guide

Once you've identified the appropriate Walbro carburetor model using the cross reference chart, follow these steps to install it correctly:

1. Gather Tools and Parts: You'll need a socket set, torque wrench, carburetor cleaner, and a new Walbro carburetor matching the chart's recommendation.
2. Disconnect the Engine: Turn off the engine, remove the spark plug, and let the engine cool to prevent burns.
3. Remove the Old Carburetor: Disconnect the fuel line, throttle cables, and any vacuum hoses. Label the connections to ensure correct reassembly.
4. Clean the Mounting Area: Use carburetor cleaner to remove grease and debris from the mounting surface.
5. Install the New Carburetor: Position the Walbro unit, secure it with bolts, and torqued to manufacturer specifications (often 15–20 lb-ft).
6. Reconnect Fuel and Vacuum Lines: Use new O-rings if necessary. Verify that all connections are tight and leak-free.
7. Adjust Idle and Throttle: Follow the service manual's instructions to set the idle speed and throttle plate for optimal performance.
8. Test the Engine: Reinstall the spark plug, start the engine, and observe for smooth idling and proper acceleration. Adjust jets if needed.

By following these steps, you'll ensure that the new Walbro carburetor operates reliably and matches your engine's performance expectations.

Where to Find Reliable Walbro Carburetor Cross Reference Charts

There are several reputable sources to obtain accurate cross reference charts:

- Walbro Official Website: Walbro often publishes downloadable PDF charts for specific engine families.
- Authorized Distributors: Companies such as North American Carburetors and Carburetor Depot provide detailed cross references on their product pages.
- Technical Manuals: Many engine manufacturers include carburetor cross reference tables in their service manuals.
- Online Forums: Communities like Motorcycle Maintenance and Engine Enthusiasts Forum share user-generated charts and experiences.
- Parts Databases: Websites such as PartsGeek or PartSelect allow you to search by OEM part number and retrieve matching Walbro equivalents.

Always verify the chart's date and version, as carburetor designs can evolve over time.

Tips for Ensuring Compatibility

Even with a cross reference chart, certain nuances can affect compatibility. Keep these tips in mind:

- Check the Fuel Tank Type: Wet-sump carburetors are designed for engines that have a fuel tank attached to the carburetor. If your machine uses a dry-sump system, select a wet-sump compatible Walbro model.
- Verify Jet Sizes: Some engines require specific jet configurations. Confirm that the Walbro carburetor's jets match the OEM's specifications or adjust them as needed.
- Consider Valve Size: Valve sizes can vary between models. Ensure the new carburetor's valve matches the engine's fuel pressure and flow requirements.
- Check the Throttle Body Diameter: A mismatch can lead to poor throttle response. Measure the OEM throttle body and confirm that the Walbro equivalent has the same diameter.
- Inspect the Fuel Pump: The fuel pump's flow rate should align with the new carburetor's requirements. A mismatch may cause fuel starvation or flooding.
- Consult Technical Support: If you're unsure, reach out to Walbro's technical support or the engine manufacturer's service department.

Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

Here are some pitfalls that can derail your carburetor replacement project and how to prevent them:

1. Using an Incorrect Walbro Model: Even a small difference in size or jetting can cause performance issues. Double-check the cross reference chart and the engine's specifications.
2. Ignoring Valve and Jet Compatibility: Failing to match valve size or jet configurations can lead to poor fuel economy or engine damage.

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