

Select the Correct Sensor for Rancilio Silvia

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Introduction

There are two different temperature sensors in our coffee machine kits for Rancilio Silvia espresso machines: [RTDstat](#) and [PT100M4](#), both of which are PT100 platinum RTD sensors.



Figure 1. The RTDstat (left) and the PT100M4 screw sensor (right).

The RTDstat sensor can work with all versions of Rancilio Silvia including the latest V6 machines. However, the Rancilio Silvia machines made roughly between the mid-2000 and the mid-2006 have two unused screw holes drill on their boilers, right underneath where the thermostats are. These are screw holes for metric screws with M4-0.7 threads. For those machines, using a PT100M4 screw sensor can give you a better performance from our coffee machine kit.

This document gives you a guide on how to find out whether your Silvia machine can accept the PT100M4 screw sensor.

Step 1: Find Out the Manufacture Year

The manufacturing year and month can be found on the factory sticker. For older machines, it is at the bottom of the espresso machine. You need remove water tank and dripping tray, and then to flip over the machine to read it. For the newer machines, it is on the base plate right underneath the drip tray.

The manufacturing month and year of the machine is printed in the lower right corner of the sticker. It is a 4-digit number where the first two digits represents month and the last two digits present year. For example, if it says "0205", the first two digits "02" means the month was February and the last two digits "05" means the year was 2005.

If your machine was manufactured well within the date range between May 2000 and May 2006, most likely there are two M4 screw holes under the thermostats on your boiler. But this method is not 100% reliable. There are exceptions. And if the boiler has been replaced in the past, this method won't work.



Figure 2. The factory sticker usually can be found on the base (left), and the manufacture month and year are printed in the lower right corner of the sticker (right).

Step 2: Check the Boiler -- The Most Reliable Way

The most reliable way to tell if the boiler can take the PT100M4 screw sensor is to open up the machine and directly check the boiler.

Tools Needed

Phillips screwdriver and flat-head screw driver.

Remove the water tank, remove the four screws on the top of the Rancilio Silvia, and then remove the top cover. There are two thermostats on the top of the boiler, each thermostat is held in place by a clip with two screws on each side. Pick one of the thermostats, use the flat-head screwdriver to loosen the screws. Be careful not to drop the screws or the clip. Once you can lift the thermostat, you can see the boiler surface beneath it. The photos in Figure 3 are two examples from our customers.

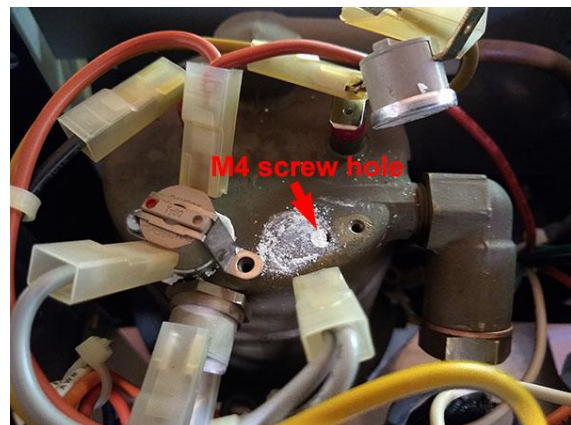


Figure 3. Two examples of boilers with M4 screw holes at where thermostats are installed.

Please [contact us](#) for any questions.

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