

Porsche 996 Carrera oil light comes on when the engine is warm

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Dear Bxxxxx,

great to hear from you, and I'm very happy that the engine is running wonderfully now!

Regarding the oil warning light: on the M96 engine it is indeed quite common that, once the engine is fully warm, the oil pressure at hot idle becomes low enough for the warning light to flicker or come on slightly. In many cases this is not immediately harmful, especially if the pressure rises normally as soon as you increase the RPM.



However, the warning light should never simply be ignored completely. The best first step is to verify the *real* oil pressure with a mechanical gauge, because the factory sender and dashboard indication are not always perfectly accurate on these cars.

Things that can influence this are:

- oil viscosity (sometimes a slightly thicker oil helps)
- oil temperature
- condition of the oil pressure sender
- idle speed being slightly too low
- wear in the oil pump or engine bearings

If the engine has good pressure while driving and only drops very low at hot idle, it is usually not dangerous in the short term. But ideally we should confirm the actual pressure values before deciding the next step.

A lot of customers improve this behavior by:

- using a high-quality 5W50 or 10W60 oil (depending on climate and usage)
- replacing the oil pressure sender
- slightly increasing idle speed via software if necessary

So my recommendation is:

1. Measure the real oil pressure with a mechanical gauge.
2. Check the oil sender.
3. Then decide whether an oil change or further action is necessary.

As long as the pressure immediately increases with RPM and there are no engine noises,

I would not panic. Have a nice weekend.

Best regards to the Netherlands,

Jürgen Albert