2009 Audi Q7 4.2 at 105,000 mi

WA1BV74LX9D123456

MODEL / CHASSIS	ENGINE	MILEAGE	DRIVETRAIN
Q7 4.2 · 4L Q7 4.2 FSI quattro	Audi 4.2 FSI V8 (EA824)	105,000 mi	AWD (quattro)
BUILD MONTH	**REPORT DATE**	**MODE**	**PREPARED FOR**
Not entered (door jamb)	October 27, 2026	Owner	Sample Owner

VIN check: check digit valid; model-year code '9' = 2009, matches the year entered. The VIN doesn't record the build month. Sample report: synthetic VIN.

1 · SUMMARY

What this car needs, in order

Each item compares this car's mileage with when owners and shops report the part failing. It is not an inspection: a qualified technician decides what the car actually needs.

0	0	3
jobs recommended now	to plan in the next 30,000 miles	to watch or check at each service

Safety recalls NHTSA lists for this model year (2 of 3)

- **18V-818** · Fuel pump flange · final repair: Cars that got the interim tape repair under 16V-660 need the final flange; the tape may not stop a fuel leak.
- **16V-660** · Fuel pump flange: The fuel pump flange can crack and leak fuel, a fire risk.

A model-year list, not a VIN check. The full report lists the others. Repairs are free at an Audi dealer if open. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Check this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

Step 0 · Free: run the VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls and ask an Audi dealer for a campaign printout, including 16V-660, 18V-818. Read the build month (MM/YY) on the driver's door-jamb label.

Recommended now at the next service

Good news: nothing on the 4.2 FSI EA824 watch list is due at this mileage. Worth a fresh look at about 115,000 mi.

Next 12 months up to about 117,000 mi

Nothing scheduled here.

Within the next 30,000 miles up to 135,000 mi

Nothing else enters its reported range in this window.

Watch inspect at each service, fix on condition, or optional

Timing chain and tensioners — **$1,965–$2,907** independent shop, installed

Any mileage (Higher-mileage engines; chains and guides sit at the back of the engine) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Intake valve carbon build-up — **$300–$950** independent shop, installed

Any mileage (Direct-injection engines with higher mileage) · Optional upgrade; not in the totals

Coolant loss and overheating warnings — **No published price**

Any mileage (A8 and S5 with this engine (bulletins)) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Recommended now

No repairs due now

Independent shop, installed. Dealers often charge more.

Planned through 135,000 mi

No repairs planned

Now + next 12 months + next 30,000 miles. Excludes “watch” and optional items.

Costs are published independent-shop ranges (low end + low end, high end + high end). Bundled jobs are priced together because the labor overlaps. Routine service (oil, brakes, tires) isn't included; factory fluid and spark plug intervals are listed below.

FACTORY MAINTENANCE

The maker's maintenance schedule isn't on this report

This report doesn't include the maker's scheduled maintenance for this car yet, so brake fluid, spark plugs, coolant and transmission fluid aren't listed even when they're due. Check the service records and the maker's schedule for this car.

WHERE 105K SITS FOR EACH WEAK POINT

#	WEAK POINT	REPORTED RANGE	THIS CAR
1	Timing chain and tensioners	Higher-mileage engines; chains and guides sit at the back of the engine FORUM/BLOG	Any mileage
2	Intake valve carbon build-up	Direct-injection engines with higher mileage OFFICIAL	Any mileage
3	Coolant loss and overheating warnings	A8 and S5 with this engine (bulletins) OFFICIAL	Any mileage

Colors compare mileage with reported failures, not the car's condition. Red: past the range. Amber: inside or approaching. Green: below, or not listed for a recall.

2 · RECALLS AND BULLETINS

Recalls to check for this 2009 Audi Q7 4.2

Safety recall repairs are free at Audi dealers. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Nothing here can tell whether a recall is open or already done on this VIN; only the official VIN lookup or a dealer can.

Official VIN check (2 minutes)

1. Go to nhtsa.gov/recalls and enter WA1BV74LX9D123456.
2. Note every recall shown as “Recall incomplete” and keep a screenshot.
3. Ask an Audi dealer for a campaign printout; it also lists completed campaigns.

4.2 FSI EA824 RECALLS WE TRACK

16V-660 · Fuel pump flange may crack (2007–2012 Q7) NHTSA lists this model and year: check by VIN

The fuel pump flange may crack and leak fuel. Free repair. OFFICIAL [9]

☐ VIN checked ☐ Open: booked with dealer ☐ Completed (printout kept)

18V-818 · Fuel pump flange final repair (Q7 fixed under 16V-660)

NHTSA lists this model and year: check by VIN

Cars given the interim tape repair under 16V-660 get the final flange. Free repair. OFFICIAL [9]

☐ VIN checked ☐ Open: booked with dealer ☐ Completed (printout kept)

Other 4.2 FSI EA824 recalls we track, not listed by NHTSA for this model and year: 16V-619 (coolant valve leak can stall the engine (2010–2013 A8)), 18V-430 (high-pressure pump fuel supply line may leak (2013–2015 A8)), 19V-057 (high-pressure pump fuel supply line may leak (2013–2016 A8)).

EVERY RECALL NHTSA LISTS FOR THE 2009 AUDI Q7 4.2 (3)

RECALL	COMPONENT	WHAT CAN HAPPEN (NHTSA, SHORTENED)
18V-818 4.2 FSI EA824 tracked	Fuel pump flange · final repair	Cars that got the interim tape repair under 16V-660 need the final flange; the tape may not stop a fuel leak. Details
16V-660 4.2 FSI EA824 tracked	Fuel pump flange	The fuel pump flange can crack and leak fuel, a fire risk. Details
23V-086	Certification label · axle rating	The axle weight rating on the door-jamb label is wrong, which can lead to overloading. Details

Source: NHTSA recalls API, fetched 2026-10-27 and combined across NHTSA model names: Q7. Safety categories (air bags, fire, brakes, stalling, roll-away and loss of control) are listed first; listings whose NHTSA text names another engine, or an aftermarket part, go last. OFFICIAL

Left out of this list (Q7): None. 18V-818 only matters if the car had the interim 16V-660 repair.

SERVICE ACTIONS, BULLETINS AND WARRANTY PROGRAMS

Manufacturer bulletins and warranty programs for this engine are cited on each weak point in section 4, where they apply.

4 · THE 3 WEAK POINTS

Each weak point, one card each

Every figure carries its source. Retailer part numbers are shown only when the retailer lists them for this chassis (4L).

1 Timing chain and tensioners

Any mileage

Severity: Critical: rare, but can badly damage the engine · 0 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

Reports cover a wide mileage span (Higher-mileage engines; chains and guides sit at the back of the engine), so mileage doesn't say much here. Range: Higher-mileage engines; chains and guides sit at the back of the engine FORUM/BLOG [3]

WHAT FAILS FORUM/BLOG [2][3]

The timing chains are driven from the back of the engine with hydraulic tensioners. RepairPal notes a failed tensioner can damage the chain guide rails. Owners report a rattle before failure and very high labor because of access.

SYMPTOMS

- Rattle at start-up
- Cam/crank correlation codes
- Rough running

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

A slipped chain can wreck the engine.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Act on the first rattle or correlation code; get a quote from a shop that has done this engine.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Timing chain tensioner replacement, RepairPal 2011 S5	**$1,965–$2,907** SHOP/RETAILER [2] independent shop, installed
Full chain job, owner reports of $4,500 to $8,000	**$4,500–$8,000** FORUM/BLOG [3] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

2.6× The failure-bill midpoint ($6,250) is about 2.6× the early-fix midpoint ($2,436). A cost ratio, not a probability.

PARTS FOR 4L

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any rattle at start-up? Chain or tensioners ever replaced?

2 Intake valve carbon build-up

Any mileage

Severity: High: overheating, stalls, limp mode or a big bill · 2 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

Reports cover a wide mileage span (Direct-injection engines with higher mileage), so mileage doesn't say much here. Range: Direct-injection engines with higher mileage OFFICIAL [4]

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [4]

Fuel does not wash the intake valves on this direct-injection engine, so carbon builds up. Audi links heavy deposits to rough running after a cold start and long cranking.

SYMPTOMS

- Rough cold idle
- Misfire codes
- Loss of power

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Heavy deposits cause misfires.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Clean the valves when misfires point to deposits.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Walnut blasting at an independent shop (forum quotes, four-cylinder jobs)	**$300–$950** FORUM/BLOG [5] independent shop, installed
Same job	**$300–$950** FORUM/BLOG [5] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

1.0× The failure-bill midpoint ($625) is about 1.0× the early-fix midpoint ($625). A cost ratio, not a probability.

PARTS FOR 4L

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Intake valves ever cleaned?

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3 Coolant loss and overheating warnings

Any mileage

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 4 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

Reports cover a wide mileage span (A8 and S5 with this engine (bulletins)), so mileage doesn't say much here. Range: A8 and S5 with this engine (bulletins) OFFICIAL [6][7]

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [6][7]

Audi has bulletins for the red coolant light with an engine-speed limit message, and for coolant crust on the pump housing. Crust with no warning light can be normal break-in; a falling level is not. On 2010–2013 A8 a leaking coolant valve can drip into the engine computer (recall 16V-619).

SYMPTOMS

- Red coolant light
- "Engine speed maximum" message
- Coolant level dropping

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Overheating can damage the engine.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

No published price	**No published price** independent shop, installed
No published price	**No published price** reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

PARTS FOR 4L

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

Find and fix any real coolant loss; check recall 16V-619 on A8.

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any coolant warnings? Recall 16V-619 done (A8)?

5 · ALSO REPORTED, NOT RANKED

Other themes in 4.2 FSI EA824 owner complaints

Every NHTSA complaint theme with 10 or more counted reports is either a weak point above or explained here.

THEME	COMPLAINTS	WHY IT ISN'T A WEAK POINT

6 · BUYING OR SELLING

Used-car checklist and resale helper

For owners this is a resale checklist: it's what a careful buyer will ask.

Ask the inspecting shop to check

- Cold-start chain rattle
- Misfire counters
- Coolant level

Ask the seller

- Timing chain or tensioners replaced?
- Intake valves cleaned?
- Fuel and coolant recalls done?

Documents to request

- Dealer service-history printout for the VIN
- nhtsa.gov/recalls screenshot

WHAT A BUYER MAY DEDUCT

FINDING	ESTIMATED ADJUSTMENT
Timing chain and tensioners: symptoms or fault codes present	$1,965–$2,907
Intake valve carbon build-up: original part still fitted (optional upgrade)	$300–$950
Coolant loss and overheating warnings: symptoms or fault codes present	No published price
Pre-ticked rows (●), if no records clear them	**None at this mileage**

● = expected at this mileage. Estimated repair costs, not an appraisal. Recalls cost the seller nothing: ask for open recalls to be completed rather than discounted. OUR ESTIMATE

7 · METHOD AND SOURCES

How this report is built

Inputs. VIN, model year, model, mileage and build month (if entered). Model and engine are checked with NHTSA's vPIC decoder.

Mileage positions. Below: more than 10,000 miles before the reported range. Approaching: within 10,000. Inside: in the range, or past the start of an open-ended range. Past: beyond the top of the range. These bands are our rules, not an industry standard.

The plan. Critical items inside or past their range go first; high-severity items follow, and jobs that share labor are bundled. At most three jobs land in “Recommended now”. Leaks that are cheap to watch are fixed on condition; inspections are asked for at each service.

Costs. Published independent-shop ranges from shop quotes, retailer prices and owner reports. The worst-case cost of every item failing is not shown: it isn't an expected cost.

Labels. `OFFICIAL` NHTSA/Audi documents · `SHOP/RETAILER` parts prices and shop articles · `FORUM/BLOG` owner forums and blogs · `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA` our analysis of NHTSA data · `OUR ESTIMATE` ours.

NHTSA complaint data. Pulled Oct 27, 2026 from NHTSA's complaints API for All 2008–2012 S5, R8 V8, RS 5 and RS 4 complaints; A8 and Q7 complaints only when they name the 4.2 or V8 (70 complaints in all): 69 complaints. Some of these nameplates were sold with other engines too. For some we kept only complaints whose text names this engine (which under-counts); for others we left out complaints that name another engine or a hybrid (so a few about other engines can remain). Themes are keyword matches on the complaint text. Thin data: about 70 complaints. Only three weak points are well sourced. `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA`

THEME	COMPLAINTS	IN THIS REPORT
Fuel leak / stall	7	—
Coolant	4	Item 3
Carbon / misfire	2	Item 2
Timing chain	0	Item 1
Oil consumption	0	—

Limits: complaints are self-reported and not adjusted for cars sold; keyword matching over- and under-counts; owners rarely file safety complaints about oil seeps, so leaks look rarer than they are.

SOURCES

1. NHTSA owner complaints for 2008–2012 S5, 2007–2012 A8 4.2, 2007–2010 Q7 4.2, 2008–2015 R8 V8, 2013–2015 RS 5, 2007–2008 RS 4 (small sample), pulled Oct 27, 2026 (ODI numbers in the cost notes) `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem#complaints

2. RepairPal: 2011 Audi S5 timing chain tensioner replacement cost estimate, via search extract Oct 27, 2026 `SHOP/RETAILER`
https://repairpal.com/estimator/audi/s5/2011/timing-chain-tensioner-replacement-cost

3. Audizine forum: 2008 4.2 timing chain (owner quotes, about $4,500 and a reported $8,000 job), via search extract Oct 27, 2026 `FORUM/BLOG`
https://www.audizine.com/threads/2008-4-2-timing-chain.714736/

4. Audi TSB 2014753: Deposits on intake valves, intake manifold, injectors and combustion chambers (2015-03-09), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2015/MC-10119940-9999.pdf

5. Bob Is The Oil Guy forum: walnut blasting intake valves, shop quotes, via search extract Oct 27, 2026 `FORUM/BLOG`
https://bobistheoilguy.com/forums/threads/walnut-blasting-valves.308338/

6. Audi TSB 2042328: Red coolant light on, engine speed limited message (coolant temperature too high or level too low) (2015-10-29), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2015/MC-10123703-9999.pdf

7. Audi TSB 2039018: Dry or crusted coolant on the coolant pump housing (2014-11-18), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2014/MC-10124868-9999.pdf

8. Audi TSB 2018550: Oil consumption measurement, repair authorization (2012-10-12), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2012/MC-10122799-9999.pdf

9. NHTSA recall records: 16V-619 (A8 coolant valve), 18V-430 and 19V-057 (A8 high-pressure fuel supply line), 15V-019 (S5 fuel injection leak), 16V-660 / 18V-818 (Q7 fuel pump flange), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=16V619000

This report contains no affiliate links; retailer prices are quoted as price sources only. Found an error? Email hello@repairahead.com.

PLEASE READ

Important

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.

Informational only. This report is not a mechanical inspection, a diagnosis, or professional, legal or financial advice. Nobody from RepairAhead has seen, driven or inspected this vehicle.

Reported ranges and estimates, not predictions

Failure mileages are reported ranges compiled from public owner complaints, manufacturer bulletins, recalls and repair-shop reports. Costs are estimates. Parts can fail earlier, later or not at all, and other problems can occur. Statistics from owner complaints describe past reports to NHTSA; NHTSA has not reviewed or endorsed this analysis.

Safety issues go to a dealer

If you notice overheating, a burning or fuel smell, smoke, a brake-assist problem, stalling or loss of power, pull over when it's safe and contact an Audi dealer or qualified shop. Safety recall repairs are free at Audi dealers. Confirm recalls for this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

No warranty

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Wrong input (VIN, mileage, build date)? Email hello@repairahead.com with report ID RA-EA824-123456-20261027 and we'll correct and reissue it.
