Coolants

The coolant is a mixture of water and antifreeze. In production, the cooling system is filled with an antifreeze-water mixture offering protection to approx. –22° F (–30° C). The red mark on the temperature gauge in the instrument cluster is matched to this antifreeze-water mixture (approx. boiling point 257° F/125° C). The protection against corrosion is also ensured by this mixture making it unnecessary to add a corrosion inhibitor.

The coolant remains in the cooling system all year round and must be renewed after 2 years at the latest. This applies also to trailer operation, hard driving and to vehicles driven in tropical countries.

If coolant has leaked from the cooling system, replace the missing quantity with water and a recommended brand of antifreeze. For normal replenishment (due to evaporation of water) plain water will do. The water should be clean, soft to medium soft and contain the minimum amount of scale forming minerals (potable water quality).

The coolant mixture should always contain enough antifreeze to ensure protection to a minimum of -4° F (-20° C).

If antifreeze is not available, add a corrosion inhibitor to the cooling water to ensure proper protection against corrosion. To treat the cooling water, do not use more than 1 % (10 cc cm/l) of a recommended corrosion inhibitor.

Without antifreeze in the cooling system, the water already starts boiling at approx. 224° F (118° C), which means that the pointer of the temperature gauge in the instrument cluster may still be below the red mark.

Antifreeze

Prior to the onset of the cold season, check the coolant for its resistance to

cold. Repeat this check during the cold spell. Regular testing of the anti-freeze concentration is carried out only at each MERCEDES-BENZ maintenance service.

To prevent damage to the cooling system, fill only with recommended brands of antifreeze.

Any MERCEDES-BENZ service station will readily advise you on recommended antifreeze brands.

	280 SE	450 SEL
Protection up to	Antifreeze US/Imp. qts. (I)	
4° F (-20° C) -22° F (-30° C) -40° F (-40° C)	3.9/3.3 (3.75 l) 5.3/4.4 (5.00 l) 6.1/5 (5.75 l)	5.6/4.6 (5.25 I) 7.1/6 (6.75 I) 8.2/6.7 (7.75 I)