



P1718 · Ford

TFT Sensor In Range Failure High

P1718 on Ford vehicles means the transmission control module has detected that the transmission fluid temperature sensor signal is higher than the normal operating range for the current conditions. The computer compares the sensor voltage against expected values and flags this code when the calculated temperature exceeds a calibrated threshold, indicating an over-temperature condition or a sensor circuit fault.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Ford specific	Medium	Intermediate	Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Transmission may enter limp mode or fail-safe mode with harsh or delayed shifts
- Temperature warning light or message displayed in the instrument cluster
- Poor fuel economy and sluggish acceleration due to elevated fluid temperature
- Transmission may slip or shudder, especially when hot
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, particularly if the fault is intermittent

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low or degraded transmission fluid level causing overheating
- 2 Faulty transmission fluid temperature sensor or damaged sensor wiring
- 3 Restricted transmission cooler or coolant flow to the cooler
- 4 Sticking or failed transmission thermostat (on models equipped)
- 5 Heavy towing or aggressive driving under high ambient temperatures
- 6 Internal transmission wear generating excessive heat
- 7 Corroded or loose electrical connector at the transmission

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if burnt or low
- 2 Inspect the transmission fluid temperature sensor connector and wiring for damage or corrosion
- 3 Use a scan tool to read live transmission fluid temperature data and compare with actual fluid temperature after a cold soak
- 4 Test the sensor resistance with a multimeter and compare to Ford specifications for the current temperature
- 5 Inspect the transmission cooler and lines for restrictions or blockages; flush if necessary
- 6 Verify thermostat operation if equipped and replace if stuck closed
- 7 If the sensor and circuit test good, perform a transmission diagnostic procedure to check for internal faults causing overheating



Don't overlook the cooler and fluid condition

- A restricted transmission cooler is a common cause of P1718 that many technicians miss because they focus only on the sensor circuit.
- The code can set intermittently from a poor electrical connection at the transmission, so always wiggle-test the harness while watching live temperature data.
- On some Ford models, the transmission fluid temperature sensor is part of the solenoid body assembly and cannot be replaced separately, requiring a more involved repair.
- Heavy towing or mountain driving in high ambient temperatures can temporarily trigger P1718 without any defective parts, so check driving conditions before condemning components.
- A failing transmission thermostat that stays closed will cause rapid overheating and set this code even when the sensor and wiring are perfect.

Can I keep driving with P1718?

You can drive the vehicle short distances at moderate speeds to a repair shop, but avoid towing, heavy loads, or sustained highway driving until the fault is diagnosed. Continuing to drive with an over-temperature condition can cause internal transmission damage and lead to costly repairs.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or inspection tool
- Infrared thermometer
- Basic socket and wrench set

Reading P1718

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
1	Manufacturer-specific code (Ford): its meaning depends on the make.
7	Transmission.
18	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P1783 Transmission Fluid Temperature High Input · **P1783** Transmission Fluid Temperature High Input · **P1783** Transmission Over-Temperature Condition · **P0711** Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit Range/Perf · **P0712** Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit Low · **P0713** Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit High · **P0714** Transmission Fluid Temperature Sensor 'A' Circuit Intermittent



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How a Turbocharger Works, Step by Step](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/ford-p1718/>

