

HONDA · POWERTRAIN

P1768

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1768 · Honda

Automatic Transmission System Malfunction

P1768 on a Honda means the transmission control module (TCM) has detected a general malfunction within the automatic transmission system, but it has not isolated the fault to a specific sensor or solenoid circuit. The TCM sets this code when its self-checks see implausible data, a communication problem, or a mechanical/hydraulic issue that does not trigger a more specific code.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Honda specific	Medium	Professional	Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- The check engine light or transmission warning light (D indicator) illuminates on the dash.
- The transmission may enter limp mode, holding a single gear or refusing to shift.
- Harsh or delayed shifts, or a flare (engine RPM rise) during gear changes.
- The vehicle may feel sluggish or lack power because it is stuck in a higher gear.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent.
- In some cases, the transmission may slip or fail to engage a gear from a stop.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low or degraded automatic transmission fluid (ATF) due to a leak or overdue service.
- 2 A faulty transmission range switch (also called the linear solenoid or shift position sensor) sending incorrect gear position data.
- 3 Wiring damage or poor connections at the transmission solenoids, sensors, or TCM connectors.
- 4 A sticking or failing shift solenoid or linear solenoid inside the transmission valve body.
- 5 Internal hydraulic pressure loss from worn seals, a clogged filter, or a failing valve body.
- 6 A software glitch or internal fault in the TCM itself.
- 7 A weak battery or charging system causing voltage drops that upset the TCM.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check the ATF level and condition; top up or replace fluid if it is low, dark, or burnt-smelling.
- 2 Scan all modules for stored and pending codes, and record freeze-frame data to see when P1768 set.
- 3 Inspect the transmission wiring harness and connectors for chafing, corrosion, or loose pins.
- 4 Test the transmission range switch and shift solenoids for resistance and proper operation according to Honda service information.
- 5 Perform a battery and charging system test to rule out low voltage as a cause.
- 6 If electrical checks pass, perform a hydraulic pressure test and inspect the valve body for sticking valves or debris.
- 7 As a last step, consider TCM reflash or replacement only after all other causes are eliminated.

What P1768 really tells you about your Honda

- P1768 is a catch-all code, so it often appears alongside more specific transmission codes; always diagnose those first because they point to the actual failed component.
A weak or failing battery is a commonly overlooked cause on Hondas, as low voltage during cranking can set false transmission codes.
- The transmission range switch on many Honda models is prone to internal wear that sends erratic signals without setting a dedicated code, leading to P1768.
- Do not replace the TCM based on P1768 alone; wiring and solenoid faults are far more common and much cheaper to fix.
Intermittent P1768 codes that clear after a restart often trace to a poor ground connection or corroded connector rather than a mechanical failure.

Can I keep driving with P1768?

You can usually drive the vehicle to a shop if the transmission still shifts and the car is not in limp mode, but avoid heavy acceleration, towing, or long trips until the fault is diagnosed. If the transmission is stuck in one gear or slipping badly, stop driving to prevent further internal damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with Honda-specific software or a capable generic scanner
- Digital multimeter for circuit and resistance testing
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or service tool
- Battery load tester and charging system tester
- Honda service information for wiring diagrams and solenoid specifications
- Hydraulic pressure gauge set for transmission testing



Reading P1768

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

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0715** Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0720** Output Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0740** Torque Converter Clutch Circuit Malfunction · **P0750** Shift Solenoid 'A'

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How an Automatic Transmission Works, Gear by Gear](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/honda-p1768/>

