

JAGUAR · POWERTRAIN

P1700

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1700 · Jaguar

Transmission Indeterminate Failure Failed To Neutral

P1700 on a Jaguar means the transmission control module (TCM) has detected an indeterminate failure that prevents it from reliably engaging or confirming neutral gear. The TCM sets this code when it cannot determine the actual gear state or when a commanded shift to neutral fails to complete within expected parameters, often due to electrical or hydraulic inconsistencies.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Jaguar specific

SEVERITY

High

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

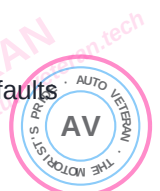
- Transmission may fail to engage neutral when selected, leaving the car in gear or in limp mode
- Harsh or delayed engagement when shifting from park or neutral into drive or reverse
- Instrument cluster may show a transmission fault message or flashing gear indicator
- Vehicle may enter limp mode with reduced power and limited gear selection
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low or contaminated transmission fluid causing hydraulic pressure issues
- 2 Faulty transmission range sensor (also called neutral safety switch) sending incorrect position signals
- 3 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connectors at the transmission or TCM
- 4 Internal transmission mechanical failure, such as a stuck valve in the valve body
- 5 Failing transmission control module (TCM) or software glitch requiring reflash
- 6 Solenoid pack failure affecting shift control and neutral engagement

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check transmission fluid level and condition; top up or replace fluid if contaminated
- 2 Inspect and test the transmission range sensor for proper continuity and alignment
- 3 Perform a visual inspection of wiring and connectors between the TCM and transmission for damage or corrosion
- 4 Use a diagnostic scanner to read live data and command gear changes to verify TCM response
- 5 Check for software updates or technical service bulletins for the TCM and perform reflash if available
- 6 Test solenoid pack resistance and operation; replace faulty solenoids if out of specification
- 7 If all electrical and hydraulic checks pass, perform internal transmission inspection for mechanical faults



Don't overlook the range sensor and wiring

- A misadjusted transmission range sensor is a common cause that mimics internal transmission failure, so always verify its alignment before condemning the gearbox.
- Corroded connectors at the transmission often set P1700 without any other codes, especially on older Jaguars where water ingress is common.
- The code can be stored intermittently due to a low battery or voltage spikes, so clear it and recheck after ensuring the charging system is healthy.
- A software glitch in the TCM may cause false neutral detection, and a reflash often resolves the issue without any hardware replacement.
- P1700 does not always mean the transmission is mechanically broken; many cases are resolved with fluid service and sensor replacement.

Can I keep driving with P1700?

If the transmission fails to engage neutral or the car is in limp mode, avoid driving to prevent further damage and safety risks. Have the vehicle towed to a qualified Jaguar specialist for diagnosis.

Tools that help

- OBD-II diagnostic scanner with Jaguar-specific software
- Digital multimeter for electrical testing
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool for fluid level check
- Socket set and wrenches for sensor and connector access
- Jack and axle stands or a lift for under-vehicle inspection

Reading P1700

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

Often seen with

P0705 Transmission Range Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0706** Transmission Range Sensor Circuit Range/Performance · **P0715** Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0720** Output Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0730** Incorrect Gear Ratio



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/jaguar-p1700/>

