

NISSAN · POWERTRAIN

P1739

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1739 · Nissan

Automatic Transmission System Malfunction

P1739 is a manufacturer-specific code stored by the transmission control module (TCM) on Nissan vehicles when it detects a general malfunction within the automatic transmission system. The TCM monitors inputs from speed sensors, shift solenoids, and the valve body, and sets this code when the overall system behavior falls outside expected parameters without pointing to one specific component.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Nissan specific

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other symptoms
- Harsh or delayed gear shifts, especially when cold
- Transmission stuck in a single gear or limp mode
- Slipping during acceleration or failure to engage a gear
- Unusual noise or vibration from the transmission area
- Poor fuel economy or elevated engine rpm at highway speed

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low or degraded automatic transmission fluid (ATF)
- 2 Faulty transmission speed sensor (input or output)
- 3 Sticking or failed shift solenoid
- 4 Valve body wear or contamination
- 5 Damaged wiring or corroded connector at the transmission
- 6 Internal transmission mechanical wear (clutches, bands)
- 7 Faulty transmission control module (TCM) or its power/ground



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check ATF level and condition; top up or replace fluid if dark or burnt
- 2 Scan all modules for stored and pending codes, and record freeze-frame data
- 3 Inspect transmission wiring harness and connectors for damage or corrosion
- 4 Test transmission speed sensors with a multimeter or oscilloscope
- 5 Perform solenoid resistance and functional tests per Nissan service data
- 6 Check valve body for sticking valves or debris; clean or replace as needed
- 7 If internal mechanical damage is suspected, perform a line pressure test and consult a transmission specialist

What P1739 really tells you about your Nissan

- P1739 is a general code, so it rarely identifies the exact failed part; technicians must use live data and pinpoint tests to avoid replacing good components.
- A low battery or poor ground can cause the TCM to set this code intermittently, so always verify charging system health before condemning the transmission.
- Nissan CVT transmissions often store P1739 when the belt or pulley system is worn, but the code can also appear after a simple fluid change if the wrong fluid is used.
- The code may be accompanied by other transmission codes that are more specific; always address those first, as P1739 often clears once the underlying fault is fixed.
- Driving with P1739 in limp mode can cause the transmission to stay in a high gear, leading to overheating and further damage if ignored.

Can I keep driving with P1739?

It is safe to drive short distances to a repair shop, but avoid heavy acceleration, towing, or highway speeds until the fault is diagnosed. If the transmission is in limp mode or slipping severely, stop driving to prevent internal damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with Nissan-specific software
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool for fluid temperature
- Oscilloscope for sensor signal testing
- Factory service information for pinpoint tests



Reading P1739

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

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0720** Output Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0730** Incorrect Gear Ratio · **P0740** Torque Converter Clutch Circuit Malfunction · **P0840** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'A' Circuit

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/nissan-p1739/>

