

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0751

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0751

Shift Solenoid 'A' Performance or Stuck Off

P0751 indicates that the transmission control module (TCM) has detected a performance problem with shift solenoid 'A', typically meaning the solenoid is stuck in the off position or not responding as commanded. The TCM monitors gear ratios and solenoid circuit feedback, and when the actual gear ratio does not match the expected ratio for the commanded solenoid state, it sets this code.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Professional	Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- The malfunction indicator lamp (MIL) illuminates on the dashboard.
- Transmission may be stuck in a single gear or fail to shift between gears.
- Harsh or delayed shifts, or a sudden slam into gear.
- The transmission may enter limp mode, limiting vehicle speed.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent.

Common causes, most likely first

- Faulty shift solenoid 'A' (stuck off or internally shorted).
- Low or contaminated transmission fluid causing solenoid malfunction.
- Damaged wiring or connector at the solenoid or TCM.
- Blocked solenoid screen or valve body passage.
- Failed TCM or internal transmission mechanical issue.
- Sticking valve body spool valve affecting solenoid 'A' operation.

How to diagnose and fix it

- Check transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace if contaminated.
- Inspect wiring and connectors at the solenoid and TCM for damage or corrosion.
- Perform a resistance test on shift solenoid 'A' and compare to manufacturer specifications.
- Use a scan tool to command the solenoid on and off and observe operation.
- Remove and clean or replace the solenoid if tests indicate failure.
- Inspect valve body for stuck valves or debris; repair or replace as needed.
- Clear codes and perform a road test to verify the repair.



What P0751 doesn't always mean

- A stuck-off solenoid 'A' can be caused by a simple wiring issue rather than a failed solenoid, so always check the circuit before replacing parts.
- Contaminated transmission fluid is a common culprit that mimics solenoid failure, and a fluid change may resolve the code without parts replacement.
- Some vehicles use solenoid 'A' for multiple gears, so a failure can cause different shift symptoms depending on the gear commanded.
- The TCM may set P0751 even when the solenoid electrically tests good, because the code is based on ratio errors that can stem from valve body or internal transmission problems.
- Intermittent faults often leave no stored freeze-frame data, making a road test with a scan tool essential for accurate diagnosis.

Can I keep driving with P0751?

Driving with P0751 is possible but not recommended because the transmission may enter limp mode or shift unpredictably, increasing the risk of damage. Avoid heavy acceleration and prolonged driving, and have the vehicle diagnosed promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional control
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level gauge
- Socket and wrench set
- Factory service information for solenoid specifications

Reading P0751

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
7	Transmission.
51	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0750** Shift Solenoid 'A' · **P0752** Shift Solenoid 'A' Stuck On · **P0755** Shift Solenoid 'B' · **P0760** Shift Solenoid 'C'



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/p0751/>

