

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0798

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0798

Pressure Control Solenoid 'C' Electrical

P0798 indicates that the transmission control module (TCM) has detected an electrical fault in the circuit for pressure control solenoid 'C', which is used to regulate hydraulic pressure inside the automatic transmission. The computer monitors the solenoid's electrical current and voltage and sets this code when the readings fall outside the expected range, indicating an open circuit, short circuit, or excessive resistance.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Transmission

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- Harsh or delayed gear shifts, especially when the transmission is cold or under load
- The transmission may enter limp mode, limiting vehicle speed and gear selection
- Slipping between gears or a sudden loss of power during acceleration
- Erratic shifting patterns or failure to downshift when passing
- In some cases, the vehicle may refuse to shift out of a particular gear

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty pressure control solenoid 'C' internally shorted or open
- 2 Damaged, chafed, or corroded wiring in the solenoid circuit
- 3 Loose or contaminated electrical connector at the solenoid or TCM
- 4 Transmission fluid contamination or degradation causing solenoid malfunction
- 5 Failed transmission control module (TCM) or internal circuit fault
- 6 Low transmission fluid level or clogged filter affecting solenoid operation

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if contaminated
- 2 Inspect the solenoid 'C' electrical connector for corrosion, tightness, and cleanliness
- 3 Test the solenoid 'C' circuit for continuity and resistance using a multimeter, comparing to manufacturer specifications
- 4 Check wiring harness for chafing, breaks, or shorts between the solenoid and TCM
- 5 If resistance is out of specification, replace pressure control solenoid 'C'
- 6 Clear the code and test-drive the vehicle to verify the repair and ensure the code does not return
- 7 If the code persists after solenoid replacement, diagnose the TCM and internal transmission wiring



What most technicians overlook with P0798

- A faulty solenoid 'C' can sometimes be caused by debris in the transmission fluid, so flushing the fluid may resolve the issue without parts replacement.
- The TCM may set P0798 due to a momentary voltage spike or low battery voltage, so always check the charging system and battery condition before condemning the solenoid.
- On some vehicles, the pressure control solenoid 'C' is part of the valve body assembly and cannot be replaced separately, requiring a more extensive repair.
- A code for solenoid 'C' does not always mean the solenoid itself has failed; the TCM or internal wiring can be the culprit, especially if multiple solenoid codes are present.
- Intermittent connections at the transmission pass-through connector are a common cause that can be missed during a simple resistance check.

Can I keep driving with P0798?

Driving with P0798 is generally possible but not recommended for long distances, as the transmission may enter limp mode or shift harshly, increasing wear. Avoid heavy acceleration or towing, and have the vehicle diagnosed promptly to prevent further transmission damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with transmission diagnostic capability
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool for fluid level
- Socket set and torque wrench
- Wiring diagram for the specific vehicle

Reading P0798

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

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0715** Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0796** Pressure Control Solenoid 'C' Performance or Stuck off · **P0797** Pressure Control Solenoid 'C' Stuck On · **P0799** Pressure Control Solenoid 'C' Intermittent



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Airbags Work: A 50 km/h Crash in Slow Motion](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p0798/>

