

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P080A

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P080A

Clutch Position Not Learned

P080A means the transmission control module (TCM) has not successfully completed the clutch position learning procedure, so it does not know the exact engagement points of the clutch. The computer detects this when the learned clutch position values are missing, invalid, or outside the expected range after a relearn attempt.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illuminated check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other symptoms
- Harsh or jerky gear engagements, especially from a stop
- Delayed or inconsistent clutch engagement when pulling away
- Transmission may enter limp mode or refuse to shift normally
- Rough downshifts or a shudder during acceleration
- In some vehicles, the engine may stall when coming to a stop

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Clutch position sensor or clutch actuator sensor faulty or out of calibration
- 2 Wiring damage or poor connection at the clutch position sensor or TCM
- 3 Clutch wear or mechanical binding preventing the clutch from reaching learned positions
- 4 Failed or interrupted clutch learn procedure after battery disconnect or clutch replacement
- 5 TCM software issue or corrupted adaptive memory
- 6 Low or contaminated transmission fluid affecting clutch actuator operation (where applicable)
- 7 Faulty clutch actuator or release bearing mechanism



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for stored codes and check freeze-frame data to confirm P080A is current
- 2 Inspect the clutch position sensor and its wiring for damage, corrosion, or loose connectors
- 3 Verify battery voltage and charging system are healthy before attempting any relearn
- 4 Perform the manufacturer's clutch position learn procedure exactly as specified, including any required driving cycle
- 5 Check clutch mechanical condition and actuator travel for binding or excessive wear
- 6 If relearn fails, test the clutch position sensor signal with a scan tool or oscilloscope and replace if out of specification
- 7 Update TCM software if a known calibration bulletin applies, then repeat the learn procedure

Why clutch learn fails after repairs

- A battery disconnect or clutch replacement often erases learned clutch positions, and the code sets simply because the relearn was never completed.
Many technicians replace the clutch position sensor when the real problem is a worn clutch disc or release mechanism that prevents the learn from succeeding.
- The clutch learn procedure can fail silently if battery voltage drops below a threshold during the routine, so a stable power supply is critical.
- P080A can be stored by a TCM that has never been initialized after replacement, even though all hardware is functioning correctly.
Some vehicles require a specific drive cycle with defined gear shifts and clutch operations before the TCM will accept the learned values.

Can I keep driving with P080A?

The vehicle may drive but with harsh engagements or limited shifting, so avoid aggressive acceleration and highway merging until the fault is repaired. If the transmission enters limp mode or the engine stalls, stop driving and seek professional diagnosis.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional control and relearn capability
- Digital multimeter
- Oscilloscope for sensor signal testing
- Battery charger or power supply
- Manufacturer service information for the clutch learn procedure



Reading P080A

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

Often seen with

P0805 Clutch Position Sensor Circuit · **P0806** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit Range/Performance · **P0807** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit Low · **P0808** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit High · **P0809** Clutch Position Sensor Circuit Intermittent

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Manual Car Driving Simulator: Learn Clutch Control](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p080a/>

