

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P0867

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P0867

Transmission Fluid Pressure

P0867 is a generic powertrain code that indicates the transmission control module has detected an abnormal condition in the transmission fluid pressure circuit, often when the measured pressure does not match the expected value for the current operating conditions. The computer typically sets this code when the pressure sensor signal is out of range or the solenoid response is inconsistent, which can affect shift quality and transmission protection strategies.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

High

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 engagements, especially when shifting from park to drive or reverse
- Slipping during acceleration or while climbing a hill, with engine speed flaring between shifts
- Erratic or inconsistent shift points that may vary from one drive to the next
- Transmission entering limp mode, limiting vehicle speed and holding a single gear
- A burning smell or fluid leak noticed under the vehicle in some cases

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Low or degraded transmission fluid level due to a leak or neglected service
- 2 Faulty transmission fluid pressure sensor or a damaged sensor wiring harness
- 3 Sticking or contaminated pressure control solenoid valve
- 4 Clogged transmission fluid filter restricting flow and causing pressure deviations
- 5 Internal transmission wear, such as a failing pump or leaking valve body seals
- 6 Corroded or loose electrical connectors at the transmission control module or solenoid pack
- 7 Software calibration issues in the transmission control module requiring a reflash



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check the transmission fluid level and condition according to the manufacturer's procedure, topping off or replacing fluid if it is low or burnt
- 2 Inspect the pressure sensor and solenoid wiring for chafing, corrosion, or loose connections, repairing as needed
- 3 Use a scan tool to read live transmission pressure data and compare it to the specified values for the current gear and temperature
- 4 Test the pressure control solenoid for resistance and function, replacing it if it is out of specification
- 5 Replace the transmission fluid filter and pan gasket if the filter is clogged or the fluid is contaminated
- 6 Perform a pressure test with a mechanical gauge to verify actual line pressure against the sensor reading
- 7 If internal wear is suspected, remove the valve body for inspection or refer the vehicle to a transmission specialist for overhaul

What the pressure code does not always mean

- A P0867 is frequently set by a simple low fluid level after a slow leak, so always verify the fluid level and condition before condemning the transmission.
- The code can be triggered by a faulty pressure sensor even when the transmission is mechanically healthy, so comparing sensor data to a mechanical gauge is essential.
- Some vehicles set this code after a battery replacement or low voltage event because the transmission control module loses its adaptive pressure learning, and a relearn drive cycle may resolve it.
- A clogged filter or restricted cooler line can cause pressure deviations that mimic a failing pump, so flow testing is often more revealing than pressure testing alone.
- After repairs, the transmission adaptive memory must be reset and a relearn procedure performed, or the code may return even though the fault is fixed.

Can I keep driving with P0867?

If the transmission warning light is on and the vehicle drives normally, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but avoid heavy acceleration or towing. If the transmission is slipping, shuddering, or in limp mode, stop driving and have the vehicle towed to prevent further internal damage.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with transmission live data capability
- Digital multimeter for circuit and solenoid testing
- Transmission pressure gauge kit
- Fluid pump and drain pan for fluid service
- Factory service information for fluid level and pressure specifications



Reading P0867

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

Often seen with

P0715 Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0730** Incorrect Gear Ratio · **P0841** Transmission Fluid Pressure Sensor/Switch 'A' Circuit Range/ · **P0868** Transmission Fluid Pressure Low · **P0869** Transmission Fluid Pressure High

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/p0867/>

