

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P08BE

OBD-II TROUBLE CODE

P08BE

Pressure Control Solenoid L Intermittent

P08BE indicates that the transmission control module has detected an intermittent fault in the pressure control solenoid L circuit, which is used to regulate hydraulic pressure inside the transmission. The computer monitors the solenoid's electrical current and response, and it sets this code when the signal momentarily falls outside the expected range without being a hard failure.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light or transmission warning light, often with no other noticeable symptoms.
- Intermittent harsh or delayed shifting, especially when the transmission is cold or under light load.
- Occasional slipping or flaring during gear changes that may come and go.
- The transmission may enter limp mode (stuck in a single gear) for a short period before recovering.
- Rough engagement when shifting from park to drive or reverse, but only sporadically.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A failing pressure control solenoid L that has developed an intermittent internal short or open circuit.
- 2 Damaged, chafed, or corroded wiring in the solenoid circuit, often near connectors or where the harness bends.
- 3 Loose or contaminated electrical connectors at the solenoid or transmission control module.
- 4 Debris or sludge in the transmission fluid blocking the solenoid valve, causing erratic pressure control.
- 5 Low or degraded transmission fluid that affects solenoid operation and hydraulic response.
- 6 A fault in the transmission control module itself, though this is less common.
- 7 Internal transmission mechanical wear that causes pressure fluctuations the solenoid cannot compensate for.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Check the transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if it is low or contaminated.
- 2 Inspect the solenoid wiring harness and connectors for damage, corrosion, or loose pins, and repair as needed.
- 3 Use a scan tool to command the solenoid on and off while monitoring live data to confirm intermittent operation.
- 4 Measure the resistance of solenoid L and compare it to the manufacturer's specification to identify an intermittent coil fault.
- 5 If the solenoid is faulty, replace it and reset the transmission adaptive learning values.
- 6 Clear the code and perform a road test under various conditions to verify the repair.
- 7 If the code persists, diagnose the transmission control module and internal wiring for intermittent faults.

Intermittent Solenoid Codes Can Mislead

- A loose ground connection at the transmission or chassis can cause intermittent solenoid codes that mimic a failing solenoid.
- Heat and vibration often cause solenoid coils to fail intermittently, so the code may not set during a cold shop test.
- Debris in the valve body can temporarily block the solenoid, setting the code without any electrical fault.
- Some vehicles require a relearn procedure after solenoid replacement to prevent repeat codes and harsh shifting.
- The code may be stored alongside other solenoid codes if the root cause is a shared power or ground circuit.

Can I keep driving with P08BE?

You can usually drive the vehicle, but avoid heavy acceleration or towing until the fault is repaired, as intermittent pressure control can lead to unpredictable shifting or limp mode. If the transmission frequently enters limp mode or shifting becomes severely erratic, stop driving and seek professional service.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data and bidirectional control
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level gauge
- Socket and wrench set
- Wire repair kit with crimpers and heat shrink



Reading P08BE

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

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0715** Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P0741** Torque Converter Clutch Circuit Performance or Stuck Off · **P08BD** Pressure Control Solenoid L Electrical · **P08BF** Pressure Control Solenoid L Control Circuit/Open

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Helicopter Flight Simulator: Learn the Three Controls](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/p08be/>

