

GENERIC · POWERTRAIN

P08DA

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P08DA

Shift Solenoid K Control Circuit Range/Performance

P08DA indicates that the transmission control module (TCM) has detected an abnormal range or performance in the control circuit for shift solenoid K, which is responsible for managing hydraulic pressure during gear changes. The TCM monitors the solenoid's electrical current and response time, and when the signal falls outside the expected parameters, it sets this code and may command a fail-safe mode.

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
- Harsh or delayed gear shifts, especially when engaging overdrive or higher gears
- Transmission may enter limp mode, limiting vehicle speed and gear selection
- Slipping or flaring during acceleration
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, especially if the fault is intermittent

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty shift solenoid K, either electrically open or mechanically stuck
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the solenoid
- 3 Low or contaminated transmission fluid affecting solenoid performance
- 4 Valve body issues, such as stuck valves or worn bores, altering solenoid response
- 5 TCM software calibration error or internal fault
- 6 Poor electrical ground or power supply to the solenoid circuit

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify transmission fluid level and condition; top off or replace fluid if contaminated
- 2 Inspect the solenoid K connector and wiring for corrosion, chafing, or loose pins
- 3 Measure solenoid resistance and compare to manufacturer specifications
- 4 Perform a voltage drop test on the control circuit to check for excessive resistance
- 5 Check TCM for stored codes and software updates; reprogram if applicable
- 6 Replace shift solenoid K if electrical tests fail
- 7 Service or replace the valve body if mechanical binding is suspected



What the solenoid K code doesn't tell you

- A P08DA code can be set by a momentary electrical glitch that leaves no permanent fault, so always check for intermittent connection issues before replacing parts.
- Contaminated transmission fluid is a frequent hidden cause; even if the solenoid tests good, degraded fluid can cause sluggish response and set this code.
- The TCM may command a default gear or pressure strategy when this code sets, masking the original symptom and leading to misdiagnosis of a mechanical problem.
- Shift solenoid K is often part of a solenoid pack, and replacing only one solenoid may not be possible or cost-effective on some transmissions.
- A weak battery or charging system can cause voltage spikes that disrupt solenoid control, so always verify battery and charging system health first.

Can I keep driving with P08DA?

If the vehicle is in limp mode or shifting harshly, avoid highway driving and seek service soon to prevent transmission damage. If the only symptom is a warning light and the vehicle drives normally, you can drive cautiously to a repair shop, but prolonged driving with a known solenoid fault may lead to more extensive transmission repairs.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with transmission capabilities
- Digital multimeter
- Transmission fluid level dipstick or scan tool for fluid level
- Wire terminal removal tools
- Factory service information for solenoid specifications

Reading P08DA

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

Often seen with

P0700 Transmission Control System Malfunction · **P0715** Input/Turbine Speed Sensor Circuit Malfunction · **P08D9** Shift Solenoid K Intermittent · **P08DB** Shift Solenoid K Control Circuit Low · **P08DC** Shift Solenoid K Control Circuit 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/p08da/>

