



FREE EBOOK

Driver's Guide to Transmission Service



The Driver's Guide to Transmission Service

You love the freeing feeling of effortlessly soaring down the highway behind the wheel of a healthy car. So, to preserve that seamless performance churned out by your vehicle when you press the pedal to the metal, regular transmission service is essential.

Fortunately, we're here to provide you with a little more insight into your transmission with the valuable information contained within this *Driver's Guide to Transmission Service* eBook.

Throughout this comprehensive guide, you'll get answers to some of the most common questions and topics about transmission service, such as:

- What does the transmission do?
- Manual vs. automatic transmissions
- Types of transmission services
- Why is transmission service important?

After you've read through this manual of transmission service tips, you'll schedule the right services to keep your transmission performing at its best and enjoy every drive from start to finish.

WHAT DOES YOUR TRANSMISSION DO?

Think about it: all the strength produced by the powerful engine inside your vehicle needs to go somewhere, right? Well, that's where the transmission comes into play.

Put simply, your automobile's transmission carries the necessary power to get you moving from the engine to the wheels. Without your transmission, your engine may be capable of churning out plenty of power, but that energy won't have any place to go.

To get your car soaring over the road, your transmission steps in and aids in transferring that strength where it needs to be for proper performance.

In addition to the starring role the gear shifter already plays in your automobile's performance, your transmission assists in controlling fuel consumption. How does that work? Well, automatic transmissions select the appropriate gear to match your driving situation.



For example, if you're taking off from a stoplight, the transmission will control the amount of power needed to drive through stop-and-go traffic by using a lower gear.

By doing so, your engine won't guzzle up too much gas by unloading a heftier dose of power than is needed for your particular driving environment.

Likewise, your car's transmission sets into a higher gear when it's time for you to travel at rapid highway speeds. From there, your transmission will help you sail along your route in a high gear ratio for optimal performance, all while managing the engine RPMs (Revolutions Per Minute) to reduce the amount of fuel used by your automobile.



You probably noticed that we mentioned an automatic transmission in the description above. For the most part, vehicles come with either an automatic transmission or a manual transmission, depending on the type of car you drive.

Not sure what the differences are? Don't fret! All you have to do is take a look at this simple guide:

MANUAL VS. AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS

Manual Transmission: With a manual transmission, your vehicle comes with a gear shifter that's used by the driver to manually change gears, depending on your driving scenario or how much power you need. This type of transmission system is great for drivers who like extra control or for those who prefer the athletic feel of a sports car.

Automatic Transmission: Just like its name suggests, an automatic transmission shifts between gears automatically without requiring any work from the driver. If you prefer to focus on the road and let your vehicle take care of the shifting, an automatic transmission is ideal for you.

Regardless if you own an automobile that contains a manual or an automatic transmission, frequent service is the key to top-notch performance. So, without further ado, let's dive into some of the most critical transmission services for optimal automotive performance and health.





TYPES OF TRANSMISSION SERVICES

Now that you understand more about what your transmission does and its different forms, it's time for us to get to the main event: transmission services! By seeking out these maintenance procedures, you'll know that you're armed with a healthy gear shifter that can handle anything thrown its way.

Transmission Fluid Change

Automatic Transmission: 60,000 to 100,000 miles

Manual Transmission: 30,000 to 60,000 miles (perhaps sooner)

Your transmission is comprised of a multitude of small parts that all work together to transfer your engine's power to the wheels.

That's why the first service on our list is transmission fluid replacement. Since the many parts inside your transmission require plenty of lubrication to function properly, having routine transmission fluid replacements is a wise move for any car owner.



By having your transmission fluid changed regularly, you'll sidestep any potential issues caused by dirty transmission fluid. That way, your transmission won't experience any of the side effects of overheating, rusting, or corrosion that are typically caused by old fluid.

Generally speaking, most automatic transmissions should receive fluid changes about every 60,000 to 100,000 miles, depending upon your driving conditions.

However, if you operate your car in more severe scenarios, whether you're towing cargo or battling stop-and-go city traffic, it's possible that your vehicle may need a transmission fluid replacement more frequently. To be sure, ask a trusted mechanic for their opinion.

Transmission Filter Replacement

Automatic Transmission: 60,000 to 100,000 miles

Manual Transmission: 15,000 to 30,000 miles (perhaps sooner)

While your automobile is receiving a transmission fluid change, ask your service technicians to also replace the transmission filter.

As the main component of what catches metal fragments and debris from entering the lubricating fluids for the transmission, it's essential that you opt for transmission filter replacements often.

This service can be done in conjunction with its fluid change at 30,000 to 60,000 miles or sooner, if you're noticing signs of wear. That way, you'll feel confident that the fluid inside your transmission is staying clean with the help of a fully functional transmission filter.

TIP: Since your transmission's filter is hard to reach, it's best to have this service performed by a trained automotive service professional. They'll be able to quickly replace the transmission filter, so you can get back on the road in no time.



Transmission Leak Repair

Manual or Automatic Transmissions: Puddle of Red Liquid Under Vehicle

Although transmission leak repairs aren't classified as preventative maintenance, it's critical to pay attention to any warning signs of a leak in the system. The most obvious sign of a transmission leak is when you notice a puddle of red fluid hanging out under your automobile.

If your car's transmission fluid is leaking, it's possible that it could be affecting the amount of lubrication your transmission has.

While this depends on how recent the leak is, you'll want to visit your local service center as soon as possible. Here, highly qualified technicians can repair the leak and help your transmission avoid any damage caused by too little lubrication.

To provide your mechanic with even more information on where the leak may be coming from before you head to your repair appointment, try out this easy trick:

Grab a piece of cardboard from your home and place it under your automobile. Wait for a few minutes and move the cardboard around as needed until you see fluid drip onto it. Once you see liquid on the cardboard, take note of where it was placed beneath your vehicle. This can give your automotive professional an idea of where the leak is located.

Other Signs That You Need Transmission Service

More often than not, identifying an issue with your transmission is as simple as using your eyes, ears, and nose. For example, if you notice a burning smell while shifting into a new gear or at any point while you're driving, this could be a warning sign that your transmission fluid is running low and having trouble preventing friction buildup. Some of the other signs you should pay attention to in your vehicle are:

- Sluggish shifting
- Slow acceleration
- Grinding gears
- Buzzing or humming noises
- Dashboard light (service engine soon)

Once you detect any of these symptoms that your automobile may need a transmission service, don't hesitate to reach out to your mechanic and schedule your appointment right away. Thanks to their expertise, they'll get your manual or automatic transmission fixed up and ready to serve up seamless doses of power during your journey.



Why Is Transmission Service Important?

Your car's transmission plays a vital role in its performance, which is part of what makes it so valuable to the overall functionality of your ride.

So, if you're looking for a way to keep your vehicle healthy and ensure that it remains by your side for years to come, schedule all your manufacturer's recommended transmission services.

Not only will these services assist you in avoiding more complicated repairs, but it will also preserve the vitality of your automobile, so you always know that you're seated inside a capable, dependable car.

To stay in pace with regular transmission service, all you have to do is give your local service facility a call or check your Owner's Manual. Both resources will provide you with further insight on when you should consider reserving your vehicle's transmission checkup.

SCHEDULE YOUR TRANSMISSION SERVICE TODAY!

Congratulations! You've finally reached the end of your *Driver's Guide to Transmission Service* eBook. While reading through this guide, you learned more about what your transmission does, the differences between manual and automatic transmissions, and some of the most important services for your vehicle.

Now that you're an expert on all things relating to your transmission, you're ready to schedule your next appointment. Simply call your dealership and choose your preferred date and time of service. After your maintenance visit, you'll be driving with the peace of mind that comes with a healthy transmission.

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