



# Description

The automatic transmission is a combination of a 3-element torque converter and a triple-shaft electronically controlled automatic transmission which provides 4 speeds forward and 1 speed reverse. The entire unit is positioned in line with the engine.

## Torque Converter, Gears, and Clutches

The torque converter consists of a pump, turbine, and stator, assembled in a single unit.

They are connected to the engine crankshaft so they turn together as a unit as the engine turns.

Around the outside of the torque converter is a ring gear which meshes with the starter pinion when the engine is being started. The entire torque converter assembly serves as a flywheel while transmitting power to the transmission mainshaft. The transmission has three parallel shafts: the mainshaft, the countershaft, and the secondary shaft. The mainshaft is in line with the engine crankshaft.

The mainshaft includes the 1st and 4th clutches, and gears for 3rd, 4th, reverse, and 1st (3rd gear is integral with the mainshaft, while reverse gear is integral with 4th gear).

The countershaft includes the 1st-hold and 3rd clutches, and gears for 2nd, 3rd, 4th, reverse, 1st, and parking.

The secondary shaft includes the 2nd clutch and gears for 2nd and 3rd.

The 4th and reverse gears can be locked to the countershaft at its center, providing 4th gear or reverse, depending on which way the selector is moved.

The gears on the mainshaft and secondary shaft are in constant mesh with those on the countershaft.

When certain combinations of gears in the transmission are engaged by clutches, power is transmitted from the mainshaft to the countershaft to provide **1**, **2**, **3/M**, **D**, and **R** positions.

## Electronic Control

The electronic control system consists of the Transmission Control Module (TCM), sensors, a linear solenoid, a shift switch, and 4 solenoid valves. Shifting and lock-up are electronically controlled for comfortable driving under all conditions.

The TCM is located on the insulator center bulkhead, behind the driver's seat.

## Hydraulic Control

The valve bodies include the main valve body, secondary valve body, servo body, regulator valve body, throttle valve body, lock-up valve body, and the 2nd accumulator body.

They are bolted to the torque converter housing as an assembly.

The main valve body contains the manual valve, 1-2 shift valve, 2-3 shift valve, 3-4 shift valve, relief valve, one-way relief valve, and oil pump gears.

The secondary valve body contains the 3-2 kick-down valve, clutch pressure control (CPC) valve, 2nd orifice control valve, 3rd orifice control valve, modulator valve, 4th exhaust valve, servo control valve, 2nd exhaust valve, and 4-3 kick-down valve.

The servo body contains the accumulator pistons and servo valve. The throttle valve body includes the throttle valve B which is bolted to the servo body.

The regulator valve body contains the pressure regulator valve, lock-up control valve, and cooler relief valve. Fluid from the regulator passes through the manual valve to the various control valves.

The lock-up valve body contains the lock-up timing B valve and lock-up shift valve. The 2nd accumulator body contains the accumulator pistons and limited slip differential relief valve.

The torque converter check valve is located in the torque converter housing, under the main valve body.

The 1st, 1st-hold, 3rd, and 4th clutches receive fluid from their respective feed pipes and the 2nd clutch receives fluid from the internal hydraulic circuit.

## Shift Control Mechanism

Input from various sensors located throughout the vehicle determines which shift control solenoid valve the TCM will activate. Activating a shift control solenoid valve changes modulator pressure, causing a shift valve to move. This pressurizes a line to one of the clutches, engaging that clutch and its corresponding gear.

## Lock-up Mechanism

In **3/M** position and **D** position in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, pressurized fluid is drained from the back of the torque converter through a fluid passage, causing the lock-up piston to be held against the torque converter cover. As this takes place, the mainshaft rotates at the same speed as the engine crankshaft. Together with hydraulic control, the TCM optimizes the timing of the lock-up mechanism.

The lock-up valves control the range of lock-up according to lock-up control solenoid valves A and B, and throttle valve B. When lock-up control solenoid valves A and B activate, modulator pressure changes. The lock-up control solenoid valves A and B are mounted on the torque converter housing, and are controlled by the TCM.

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## Gear Selection

The shift lever has seven positions: **P** PARK, **R** REVERSE, **N** NEUTRAL, **D** 1st through 4th gear positions, **3/M** 3rd gear and sport shifting (manual shifting) mode (1st through 4th gears) with shift switch, **2** 2nd gears and **1** 1st gear.

Position	Description
<b>P</b> PARK	Rear wheels locked; parking pawl engaged with parking gear on countershaft. All clutches released.
<b>R</b> REVERSE	Reverse; reverse selector engaged with countershaft reverse gear and 4th clutch locked.
<b>N</b> NEUTRAL	All clutches released.
<b>D</b> DRIVE (1st through 4th: automatic shifting)	General driving; starts off in 1st, shifts automatically to 2nd, 3rd, then 4th, depending on vehicle speed and throttle position. Downshifts through 3rd, 2nd, and 1st on deceleration to stop. The lock-up mechanism comes into operation in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th gear.
<b>3/M</b> DRIVE (1st through 4th: manual shifting)	Manual Shifting Driving; starts off 1st or 2nd, shifts to 2nd, 3rd, and 4th with the shift switch operation. Although, this position has an automatic shifting area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1-2 upshift</li><li>• 4-3 downshift, 3-1 downshift, 2-1 downshift</li></ul> depending on vehicle speed. When the vehicle decelerates to a stop, the transmission shifts to 1st gear automatically. The transmission can shift to 2nd gear by pushing the shift switch up while the vehicle is stopped. The lock-up mechanism comes into operation in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th gear.
<b>2</b> SECOND	Driving in 2nd gear; stays in 2nd gear, does not shift up and down. For engine braking or better traction starting off on loose or slippery surface.
<b>1</b> FIRST	Driving in 1st gear, stays in 1st gear, does not shift up. For engine braking.

Starting is possible only in **P** and **N** positions through use of a slide-type, neutral-safety switch.

## Automatic Transaxle (A/T) Gear Position Indicator

The A/T gear position indicator in the instrument panel shows what gear has been selected without having to look down at the console.

With the shift lever in the **3/M** position, the indicator light next to the **M** in the instrument panel will display the gear selected.

## ATF Cooler

With this mid-engine type vehicle, the radiator is mounted at the front of the vehicle, so the ATF cooler is installed directly on the transmission housing.

