

STRETCH

YOUR DOLLAR



Maintaining Your Automatic Transmission

The automatic transmission's primary job is to allow the engine to operate in its narrow range of speeds while providing a wide range of output speeds. The modern automatic transmission consists of many components and systems that are designed to work together. The main components that make up an automatic transmission include:

Planetary Gearsets: the mechanical system that provide the various forward gear ratios as well as reverse.

The Hydraulic System: sends a special transmission fluid under pressure by an Oil Pump through the Valve Body to control the Clutches and the Bands in order to control the planetary gear sets.

Seals and Gaskets: used to keep the oil where it is supposed to be and prevents it from leaking out.



The Torque Converter: acts as a clutch to allow the vehicle to come to a stop in gear while the engine is still running.

The Governor and the Modulator (or Throttle Cable): monitors speed and throttle position in order to determine when to shift.

The most common failure of automatic transmissions is due to overheating. When the transmission is heavily worked—such as towing a load heavier than the car is designed for—the transmission fluid heats up significantly. Damage to the transmission can also occur when shifting a moving vehicle into park or reverse. By detecting problems with the transmission early, they become much less expensive to repair.

To help stretch your automotive dollar, visit us at the Discount Service Center to have your automatic transmission system inspected.

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