

CVT Installation and Programming Checklist

For continuously variable transmissions, including belt and chain CVT designs

Customer: _____	Order / Invoice #: _____
Vehicle Year / Make / Model: _____	VIN: _____
CVT Code / Tag: _____	Installation Date: _____

Before You Begin: CVTs require exact application matching, clean cooling circuits, the correct CVT fluid, and model-specific programming or relearn procedures. Do not treat a CVT as a conventional automatic transmission.

1. CONFIRM THE EXACT CVT

- ☐ Verify the complete VIN, CVT code or tag, engine size, production date, FWD or AWD configuration, final-drive ratio, and connector or valve-body version.
- ☐ Compare the case, bellhousing, mounts, axle openings, output or transfer interface, cooler fittings, sensors, range switch, valve body, and wiring connectors.
- ☐ Confirm whether the vehicle requires transfer of the original TCM, valve body, ROM/calibration data, external module, or speed sensors.
- ☐ Inspect the case, pan, shafts, connector, cooler ports, and mounting points. Photograph any concern before installation.

2. DIAGNOSE THE ORIGINAL CVT FAILURE

- ☐ Retrieve and save all powertrain and transmission diagnostic trouble codes before removing the original CVT.
- ☐ Inspect fluid for metal, belt or chain material, clutch material, coolant, water, or incorrect fluid.
- ☐ Check battery condition, charging voltage, grounds, wiring, wheel-speed data, engine performance, mounts, axles, differentials, and AWD components.
- ☐ Correct any control-system, cooling, electrical, engine, transfer-case, or driveline problem before installing the replacement CVT.

3. COOLER, FILTER, SEALS, AND FLUID

- ☐ Flush the CVT cooler and lines using an approved procedure and confirm proper flow. *Replace the cooler or radiator if contamination cannot be completely removed.*
- ☐ Replace serviceable CVT filters, strainers, pan gasket, axle seals, input seal, output seal, and cooler-line seals as appropriate.
- ☐ Use only the exact manufacturer-specified CVT fluid. *Conventional ATF or an unapproved universal fluid can damage the CVT.*
- ☐ Measure and document the amount and condition of fluid drained from the replacement unit where applicable.
- ☐ Do not run or road-test the CVT until the correct initial fluid level has been established.

4. MECHANICAL INSTALLATION

- ☐ Fully seat the torque converter when the CVT design uses one. Verify converter depth before joining the engine and transmission.
- ☐ Never use bellhousing bolts to pull the CVT against the engine. Recheck alignment, dowels, converter seating, and pilot engagement if it does not seat freely.

- ☐ Inspect the flexplate or flywheel, converter pilot, mounts, axles, splines, differential, transfer unit, and driveshaft components.
- ☐ Follow factory torque specifications, wiring routing, ground locations, cooler-line routing, linkage adjustment, and AWD transfer procedures.

5. PROGRAMMING AND RELEARN PROCEDURES

- ☐ Use a capable scan tool and follow the manufacturer service information for the exact VIN and CVT code.
- ☐ Program or configure the TCM/PCM as required before road testing.
- ☐ Transfer or write valve-body, ROM, calibration, or solenoid-characteristic data when required by the manufacturer.
- ☐ Perform all required initialization procedures, which may include clutch-point learning, ratio learning, line-pressure learning, selector learning, fluid-deterioration counter reset, and AWD calibration.
- ☐ Clear codes only after saving the original scan report and completing required setup procedures.

6. FLUID LEVEL, ROAD TEST, AND RECORDS

- ☐ Set the final CVT fluid level at the manufacturer-specified fluid temperature with the vehicle level and the engine operating as required.
- ☐ Cycle through all ranges, verify engagement, inspect for leaks, and monitor temperature and pressure data.
- ☐ Perform the specified relearn drive cycle. Use light throttle until normal operation and fluid level are confirmed.
- ☐ Recheck for codes, leaks, abnormal noise, judder, flare, slipping, or overheating after the road test.
- ☐ Complete installation and activate the warranty within 30 business days of delivery. *Keep the paid installation invoice, fluid receipts, cooler-service record, scan reports, and programming invoice.*
- ☐ Stop operating the vehicle and obtain written authorization before teardown or repair if a problem occurs.

CVT Non-Negotiables

- Exact CVT identification, correct CVT fluid, clean cooler circuits, proper fluid level, and required programming are essential.
- Do not release the vehicle until there are no active transmission codes and every required relearn procedure is complete.

INSTALLER SIGN-OFF

Installer / Technician: _____

Repair Facility: _____

Date: _____

Mileage: _____

This checklist is a general installation aid. Always follow the vehicle manufacturer service manual and the warranty terms issued with the order. If the documents conflict, the invoice and applicable written warranty terms control.