

Volume 1

TURBO DIESEL
Buyer's
Guide



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Vintage '94-'04 Lock/Unlock

How do I stop the automatic transmission from unlocking when the truck is in overdrive or third gear?

Unfortunately there is not a “one size fits all” answer to this question. However, at Geno’s we benefit from the millions of miles of knowledge from members of the Turbo Diesel Register magazine and from our own busted knuckle experiences.

Before we suggest some different part numbers and repair techniques we have to break this lock/unlock problem down into year models of the truck:

- '94-'98 with a 12-valve engine
- '98.5-'04 with the 24-valve engine
- '94-'98 with VP-44 fuel injection pump
- '03-'04 with HPCR

All year model trucks may benefit from a noise isolation product from BD Power, part number BD 1300030. Interference in the throttle position sensor circuits (APPS) on Dodge Cummins engines from '94-'04 will create false voltage readings in the APPS/TPS circuit and cause the lock-up torque converter to rapidly cycle on and off as you drive. This part removes the RF interference.

If the noise isolation is not the problem, for '98.5-'04 owners the next step is to look at the Accelerator Pedal Position Sensor (APPS), also known as the Throttle Position Sensor (TPS). The Geno’s Garage replacement is an aftermarket item that is half the price of the factory unity. Our part number is TPS98502.

You can read further about the lock/unlock problem in your TDR magazine(s). Related articles:

Transmission Noise

- Issue 70, page 28
- Issue 69, page 30
- Issue 62, page 25
- Issue 54, page 38
- Issue 53, page 10

APPS

- Issue 68, page 29
- Issue 66, page 30
- Issue 60, page 92

Shift Problems

- Issue 60, page 28