# SK<sup>®</sup>AXOD-C Shift Kit<sup>®</sup> 1986-91Lube and Calibration Upgrade

**Identification:** If valve body has one solenoid this is the correct kit. If valve body has five solenoids order SK® AXODE kit.

Give this trans something it never had before:

# Positive lube to front planet gears. This upgrade reduces planet burnup.

It also corrects/reduces the following complaints:

Slide 1-2 when hot——No max 1-2 hot——Hot light throttle 2-3 cutloose Kickdown cutloose/bang under 25 mph——2-3 slide at high throttle Cutloose and clangs at low speed——3-4 long slide with a bump Gumpy 3-2 kickdown——No 4th, or falls out of 4th when hot Lockup plate glazing——Can't feel lockup——Rough "N" to "D" 1-2 band breakage——2nd and 3rd clutch burnup——Rough 1-2 cold

There's often a difference between why the vehicle came in for repair [planet burnup, broken band, no upshifts] and the complaints that show up *after* repair. This can be painful. because just another quick glimpse inside can take a day; and if you don't see anything wrong, right off, another 3 days is average.

Most after-repair complaint are caused by under tightened bolts, VB alignment, friction plate quality, assembly errors, such as wrong plates and gaskets, checkballs, and poor quality or low boiling point fluid.

This kit reduces/corrects cold 1-2 bang, no high throttle 1-2 shift when hot, light throttle 2-3 cutloose, and the runaway with a bang during kicdowns under 30 MPH. [The runaway bang is what we believe causes the 1-2 band to break.

A casual 3 to 10 block road test will not usually reveal these complaints: But a long upgrade, or hot stop and go traffic brings them out in full force for your customer. Your attention to the instructions will prevent them.

This upgrade discontinues some systems that tend to malfunction, and replaces them with more reliable systems.

Hand-sand the 2nd gear steel plates and the forward and 4th drums with fine emery to assure long term shift quality and cool break-in. [Yes, sand steel plates even if they are new].

Product Support: (626) 443-7451 It's a long way back in. Call, we will help.

Max pressure: At stall in "D" should be 185 to 212 psi on all models.

**Min regulated pressure:** At 40 mph in "3", lift throttle, should be 70-91 psi.

Min pressure at HOT idle: 52 psi; and must increase to 80-91 at twice idle speed.

Upgrade brings all year models to 3.8 pressures and capacity. This will allow more interchange freedom between years/models.

Type of fluid (boil and flame resistant) and fluid level is critical to avoid failure:
Use 8 qts of synthetic ATF, and finish the fill with Dexron II. Original level is not enough to prevent air on corners or curves.
Too much causes whine noise.

Use NEW FLUID LEVEL: ½ to ¾" above the full mark. Check level at twice idle speed in Park after HOT road test.

N\axod\lube

Halfway between original full mark and the "D" in DON'T

DON'T ADD IF IN CROSSHATCHED AREA CHECK WHEN HOT

# **Sprocket Support**

A. Drill the small inside hole with .187 to .196 drill. Deburr inside hole in sleeve with file. Air blow "Z" holes

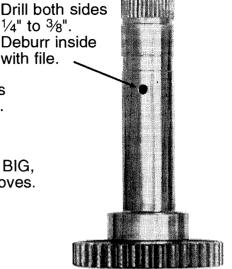
# **Sprocket Shaft**

1/4" to 3/8". Deburr inside with file.

Open plastic rings up BIG, and Vaseline into grooves.

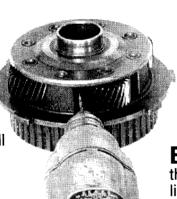
to cleanout chips.

**B.** With a punch install bushing furnished into lube hole and then redrill hole with .055 to .073 drill.



### **Front Planet**

A. Drill up high under the cover past the planet gear to enlarge two holes with the .110 drill furnished. If you can't reach the holes to drill them, it's OK, just drill two new .110 holes.



C. Enlarge this lube hole to 1/4"

**B.** Drill a 1/4" hole thru a clutch notch in line with lube hole.

## Sun Gear

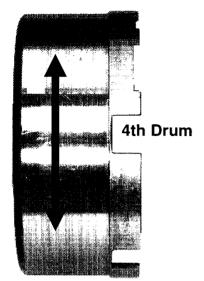
Wire Clip

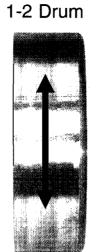
A. Grind two notches 1/32" to 1/16" deep on the end of the sun gear. Don't worry: It's not fussy.

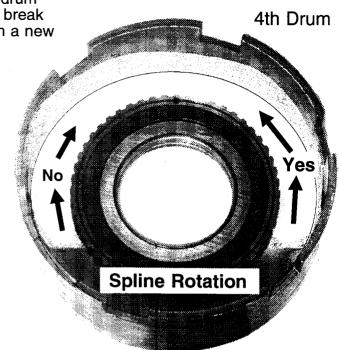
Two notches

> **B.** Slide the wire clip over the end of the sun gear to align with the holes and insert the ends into the spray holes.

Positive lube flow now squirts out of the notches on end of sun gear directly onto the planetary gear teeth and the needle bearing. **Useful Methods:** Sand 4th and 1-2 drum around and around with 180 or finer emery to break the glaze. This will assure a fast break-in with a new band and knock the glaze off of a used band.







#### Assembly: With Stone Age Engineering™

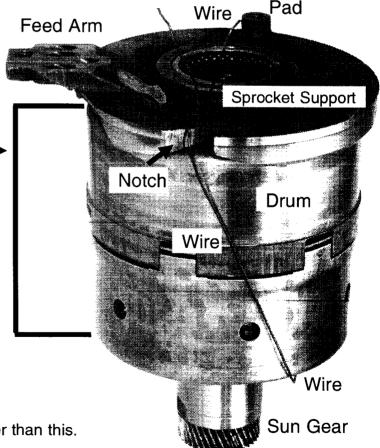
1. Install all the planets, the reverse clutch and the reverse clutch housing into the final drive. [The reverse clutch housing looks like a center support.]

#### Don't install 4th band.

2. Stack forward, 2nd and 3rd clutch packs, and the 4th drum into the sun gear shell.

Then install the sprocket support.

- 3. Loop safety wire to the right of sun gear, to the left of the pad, and through the notch as shown.
- 4. Rotate the manual valve shaft until parking pawl rod is sticking out of the case. This will give more room for assembly.
- 5. Insert the whole assembly into the case. Cut the wire and pull it out. While holding drum in place through the notch, remove sprocket support.
- 6. Install the 4th band.
- 7. Re-install sprocket support.
  - 8. Smile; it don't get no better than this.



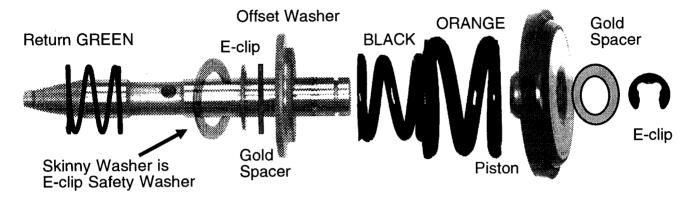
Suggestion: Now is a good time to install the 4th servo, while you can hand wiggle the band to make sure it has some clearance.

# 4th Band & Servo Assembly

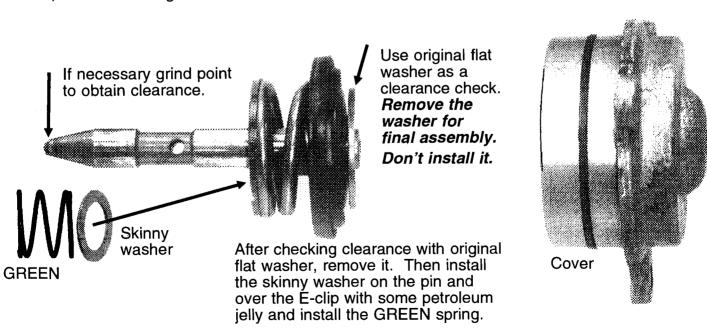
With chain cover removed: Discard original springs, spring seat and flat washer.

Swap the "E"-clips. [Middle "E"-clip is often opened/fatigued. The end one is good as new.] Assemble in this order: E-clip, gold spacer, offset spring seat, BLACK and ORANGE cushion springs, piston, gold spacer, E-clip. Install skinny washer over the center E-clip and into the offset spring seat with a small amount of petroleum jelly, so it will stick there during the installation. Install the GREEN return spring.

Insert the whole assembly into the case and install the cover. Check clearance by reaching into the case to wiggle the band---Or rotate the 4th drum to see if it is free. Clearance is not critical, but it must have some. If band is too tight grind the point end of the pin 1/16".

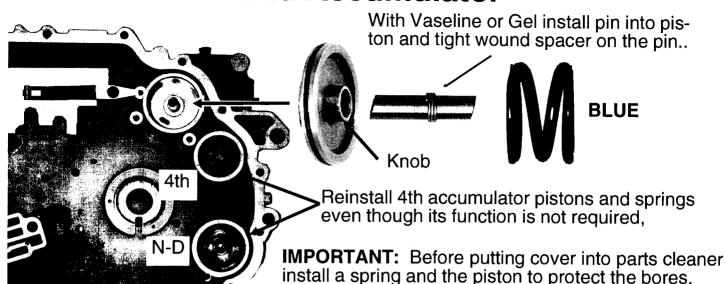


With chain cover installed: Assemble as shown above. Then place original flat washer on end of pin, on top of the E-clip. Install the assembly into the case without the GREEN return spring. The cover must install flush with the case with one finger pressure. If cover won't go flush with one finger, grind the point end of pin 1/16". After adjusting clearance, remove the original flat washer and install the GREEN spring.



N\axod\4thadj

#### 2nd Accumulator

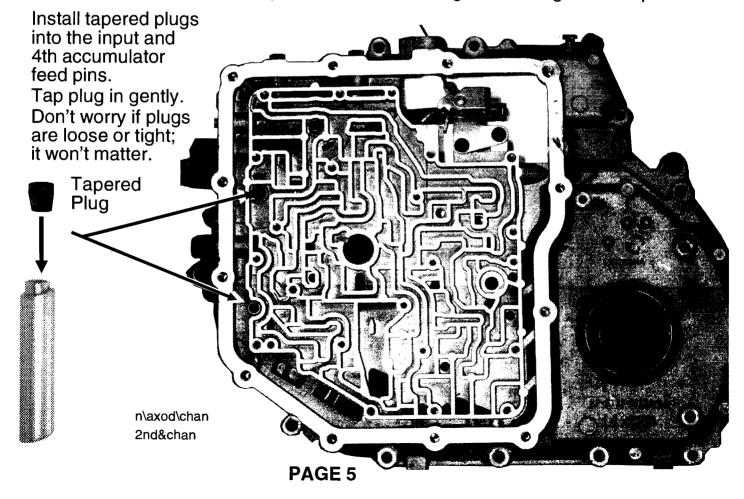


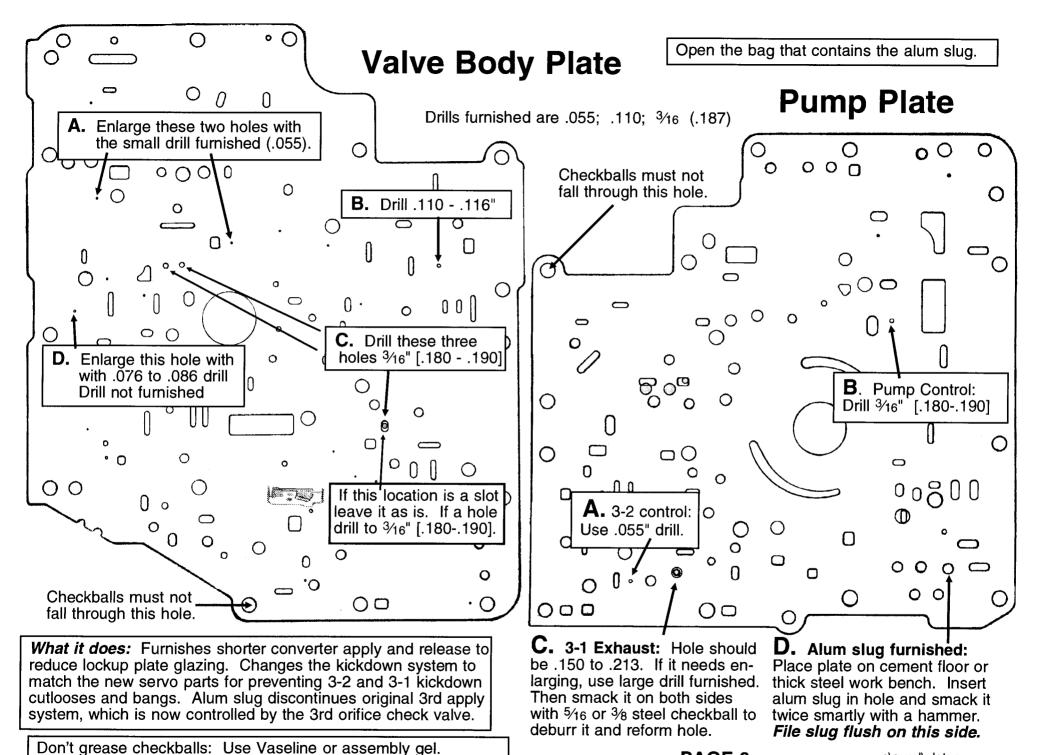
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## **Input & 4th Accumulator**

**Prevent gasket blowout.** Glue gasket to the chain cover with a hardening type, rubber cement. Also put some cement on the case. Ford D7AZ-19B508-B is perfect. Tighten bolts easy and slowly several times.

"Smart" 1-2 servo corrects the "gump" and double bump from neutral to drive. New 4th servo cushion system corrects the long slide during the 3-4 upshift.





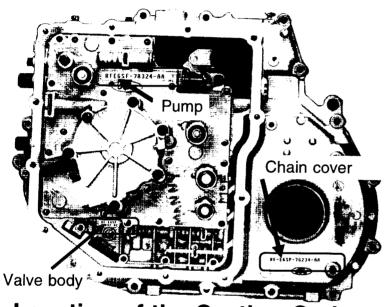
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n\axod\plates

Before starting VB and pump upgrades and assembly, circle casting codes the trans has on the chart below. You need to know them later.

VB Plate	Valve Body & Gaskets		Pump/Plate/Gaskets			Chain Cover
86 type:	E6	PLAIN	E6	86	PLAIN	E6
87 type:	<b>E</b> 7	WHITE	E6	87	WHITE	<b>E</b> 7
88 type:	E8	YELLOW	E8	88	YELLOW	E8
90 type:	<b>E</b> 9	YELLOW	<b>E</b> 9	90	BLUE	E8

These are the parts that match and the color code for the gaskets:



# Location of the Casting Codes 86-90 Parts ID (Condensed Version)

20% come in for repair with mismatched parts even when the customer says, "No one has worked on it". Save yourself a big pain, you know where, by identifying and matching the parts during assembly. With upgrades furnished, all 86 to 90's function the same. You can use any year, matching parts, in any 86-90 trans, or swap the transmissions. The only difference may be a slight change in max throttle upshift/kickdown speeds. Air check electrical pressure switches and re-install in same location as the car came with.

n\axod\matches

Pump plate identification Circle the type trans has:

86type: With 3-land accm valve: Has holes 1-2 & 3

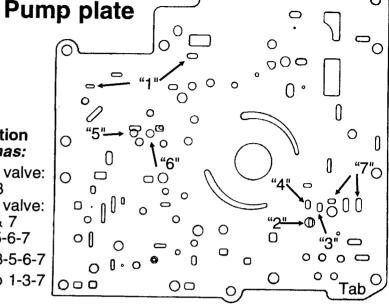
86type: With 4-land accm valve: Has holes 1-2-3 & 7

87type: Has 3; No 1-2-4-5-6-7

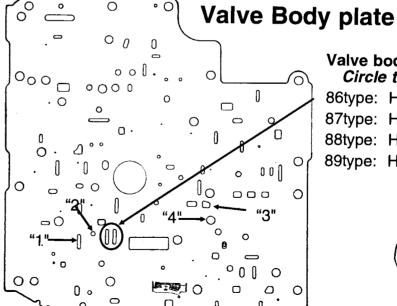
88type: Has 2 & 4; No 1-3-5-6-7

90type: Has 2-4-5 & 6; No 1-3-7

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# Valve body plate identification. Circle the type trans has:

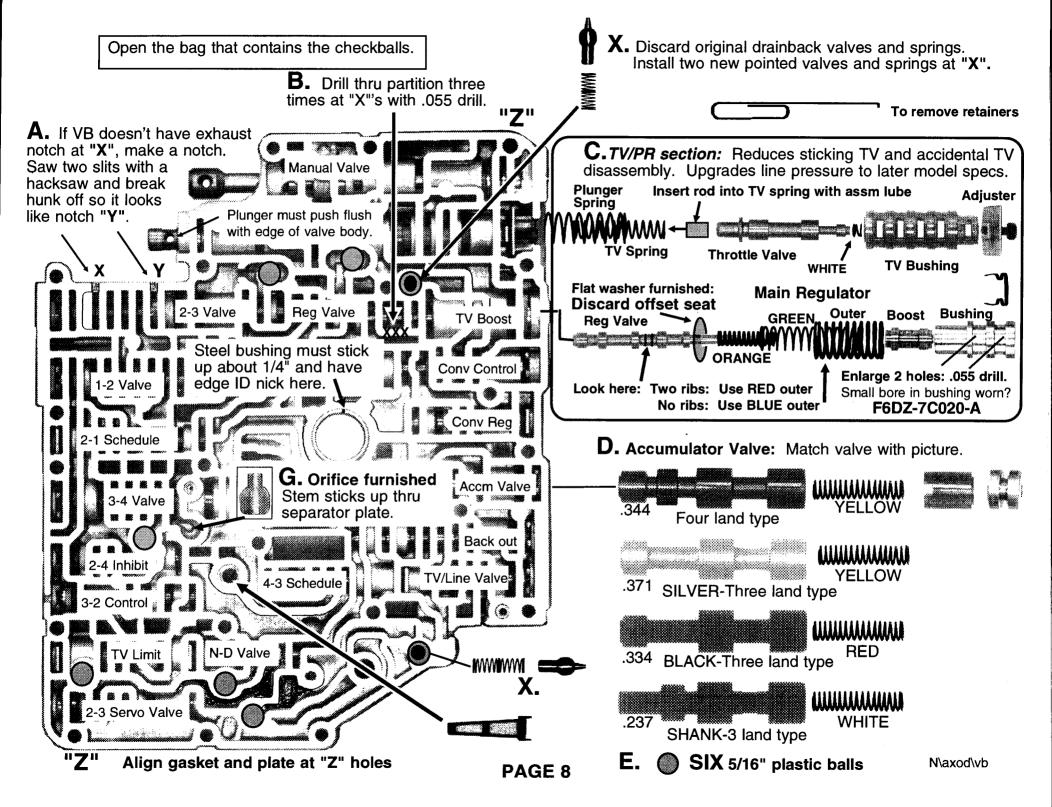
86type: Has dual slots circled 87type: Has 1 & 3; No 2 or 4

88type: Has 1-2-3; No 4

89type: Has 1-2-4; No 3



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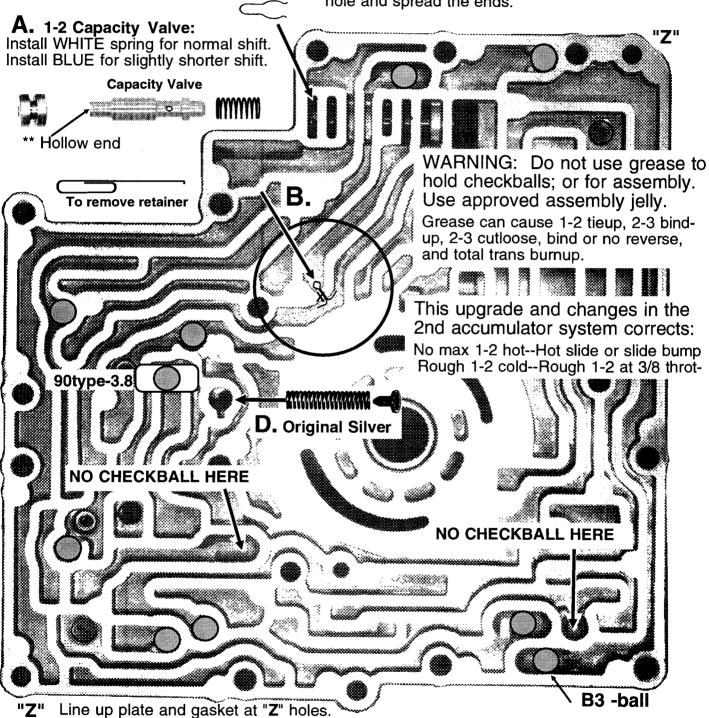
Open bag that contains the big WHITE spring.

# **Pump Body & 1-2 Capacity**

5/16" Plastic balls

C. 86-89 has nine.
90type 3.8 has ten.

**B.** In circle shown: Use ice pick or center punch to make a dink about ½" below top of partition "X" on the angle shown by arrow. At same angle use small drill furnished (.055) to drill a hole through partition "X". Install .038 cotter pin furnished through the hole and spread the ends.



Retainer

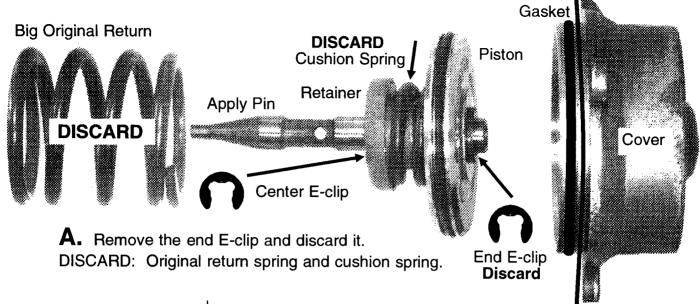
**Listen up:** The single biggest cause of rework is loose VB bolts. One tightening won't get the job done.

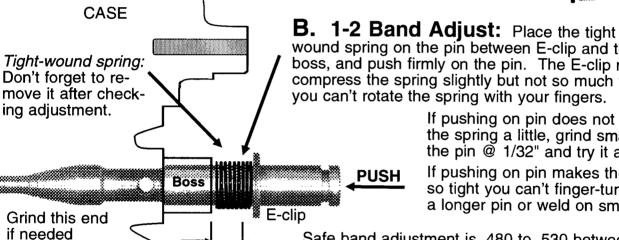
Tighten VB bolts 3 times: First time 6 ft lbs--Then to 8 ft lbs--then 10

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n\axod\pump

## Smart Act® 1-2 Servo





wound spring on the pin between E-clip and the pin boss, and push firmly on the pin. The E-clip must compress the spring slightly but not so much that you can't rotate the spring with your fingers.

If pushing on pin does not compress the spring a little, grind small end of the pin @ 1/32" and try it again.

If pushing on pin makes the spring so tight you can't finger-turn it, install a longer pin or weld on small end.

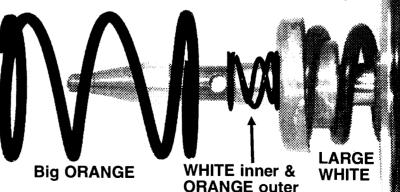
Safe band adjustment is .480 to .530 between end of boss and the E-clip, while pushing firmly onto the pin.

What you are fixing:

These changes function with the new 3rd feed circuit to reduce hot 2-3 cutloose. The pin bushing and cushion spring act with the valve body changes to eliminate the "gumpy" 3-2 kickdown at higher speeds and 3-2 and 3-1 kickdown cutloose bang at low speeds and produces a smooth 3-2 coast downshift. This also allows the use of higher flow 3rd circuit to prevent 3rd clutch burnup and the loss of 4th

**CASE** 

C. Install: New WHITE cushion spring and new WHITE and ORANGE pin return springs. Then install Big ORANGE piston return spring. Do not install E-clip on the end of the pin.



**PAGE 10** 

Don't install E-clip here

n\axod\bandadi

## Adjust/Fix Throttle/TV Cable Relationship

This is the part you'd like to skip -- but better not. Many shops have ended up paying for another trans job when TV comes unglued and strands customer on the way to see Gramps.

**Listen up:** TV malfunction is a main cause of planet gear burnup and the most common cause of complaint/failure. This kit reduces planet burnup and shift complaints.

Tie Knot

Flat

Bare Cable

Shaft

Shaft

Snout

Peoduct Support: (626) 443-7451

If you're happy with how TV is working, install #2 hose clamp on the cable housing up tight against the adjuster. You are finished.

If throttle is hard to push and trans has no upshifts, or has late hardshifts, the TV system has probably defaulted to "Fail-safe". The following will get it working again and keep it working right:

- 1. Disconnect the TV and tie a single knot in the cable. Insert snap ring pliers along side the flat on the shaft and open the wedge lock. With the other hand push the cable housing and shaft towards the bare cable ½" or more. (Decrease direction.)
- 2. Have someone floor the gas pedal from inside the car. While they are flooring the pedal, you bend or adjust the injector cable or bracket until injector throttle arm bottoms solidly against its wide open stop.
- 3. Install #2 hose clamp on the shaft as shown. It's OK to move the shaft to get room for the clamp. Tighten it on the shaft and then loosen it slightly so it will slide back and forth.
- 4. Insert snap ring pliers: Open wedge lock and slide shaft away from the bare cable as far as it will go.
- 5. While you push the snout away from the bare cable with one hand, have someone floor throttle from inside the car. As the throttle is pushed the shaft will rachet through the wedge lock towards the bare cable. The reason you are pushing against it is so that it won't over-jump through the notches.
- 6. Max points are now all adjusted. Make pocket knife mark on the shaft up against wedge lock. It's the max TV mark.
- 7. Slide the clamp against the adjuster and tighten it.
- 8. Road test. Remember: The clamp is holding TV adjusted to absolute max, which may be too much. On the road test, take snap ring pliers and a screwdriver to reduce/adjust TV.
- 9. To reduce TV: Loosen clamp and slide it away from adjuster about 3/32". Insert snap ring pliers to open wedge lock and slide shaft towards bare cable. Still too much TV? Do it again.
- 10. Gauge Method is Fastest: With a gauge on the TV port. With gage installed set TV to 3 to 9 lbs at idle.



Wedge Lock-

When shaft slips through wedge lock.

Fail-safe causes max line. This shuts

off lube & the throttle is hard to push.

#2 Hose Clamp

**DECREASE** DIRECTION

> Cable Housing



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## Additional Repair Info 3/98

#### **Forward Clutch Piston**

ALWAYS replace it with a new steel type piston

.F4DZ-7A262-A Piston

#### Intermediate Clutch

86 to 88: To avoid shopping mall 1-2 rough shift install a cushion spring against the piston.

**E8DZ-7E085-Ă Plate, Cushion**This clutch likes .010 to .030 clearance.

#### Why synthetic fluid is recommended?

Various types/brands of trans fluid will boil, ignite and lose lubricity at different temperatures. On average the fluid will boil or vaporize in the suction passage [between the filter and the pump] at about 300 F.

When the fluid boils or vaporizes there is only vapor going through the cooler and to lube. When that happens the planet is going to go up in smoke.

**Synthetic oil** boils at about 400 degrees. 8 qts of synthetic oil will raise the boiling temperature about 50F, and the ignition temperature about 100F. This gives your job more lubrication safety.

# Lead foots, police, taxis and towing, fill completely with synthetic fluid/oil.

If synthetic ATF is not available you can use **synthetic engine oil**, it works fine. We have used Mobil #1 engine oil with great success.

When the fluid boils or ignites, it will not cool the gears, bushings or bearings. 5 year old radiator won't won't keep this trans cool on long upgrade on a hot day.

**Protect your work:** Low engine coolant level, scaled and oxidized or plugged radiator or auxiliary cooler, and leaks, can burn-up trans BEFORE any engine problem is noticed.

At 100,000 miles these cars need a NEW radiator. With a new radiator trans will run up to 70 degrees cooler on hot trip.

#### **Check Cooling System**

Recovery tank: Flip up lid on tank.
Is it it full or empty?
Is it just water or is it Antifreeze?
Radiator: When cold, remove cap.
If the rubber in the cap is swollen oversize,
or soft, install a new cap.
I oak in the googeneak and tank for scale

Look in the gooseneck and tank for scale and scum.

Coolant level should be even with the

tubes just under the cap. Is it?\_\_\_\_\_\_
Is it just water or is it coolant?\_\_\_\_\_\_
If it is low, how low is it? Insert long screw driver and see how low it is:\_\_\_\_\_

Four inches down the tubes means 25% of cooling is missing. Eight inches means half the cooling is missing.

**Leaks:** Where did missing coolant go? Look around the side tanks (front and back) and around the water pump and hoses for signs of leak.

If the vehicle needs a cooling system service, write it on the job ticket, and recommend local reliable professional radiator shop. For example:

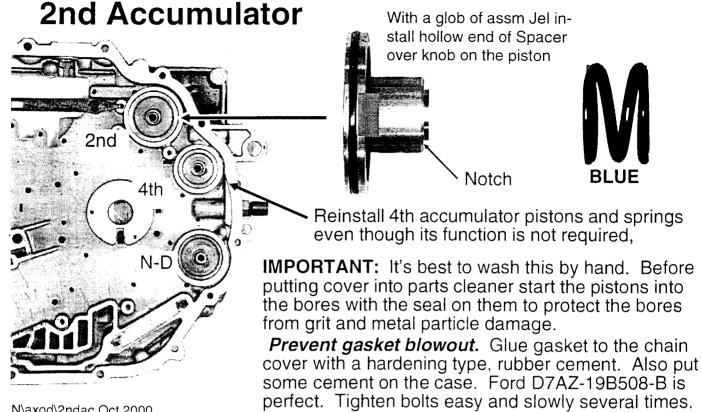
**CAUTION:** Needs immediate cooling system service to prevent trans damage.

We use: Tri-J Radiator

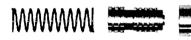
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"Thanks for listening."

# Use this instruction for the top of page 5



### **AX-BST** AXOD--AXODE--AX4S--AX4N



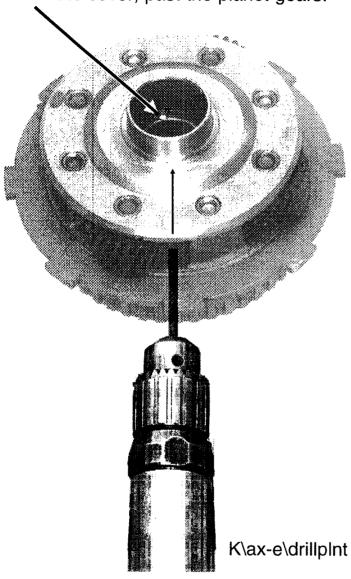
N\axod\2ndac Oct 2000

SPRING: Use only in AXOD. Do not install the spring in AXODE, AX4S or AX4N.

© TransGo 1999 AX-BSH-BST>AX-VL-BST

# AXOD & AXODE: Front Planet

Enlarge the two holes just above the bushing or needle bearing with the .110 drill furnished. Insert drill from the side under the cover, past the planet gears.



# Additional Repair Info 8/93 Inspect forward clutch piston and the 3rd clutch piston for cracks:

Cracked piston complaints: Falls into neutral at stop. Engages slow when hot. Slips on start off.

Look for cracks in <u>outside</u> diameters also.

Remove seal:

Insert screwdriver into groove at various places, and twist it gently while looking at the bottom corners of groove for cracks.

An air check may not reveal a crack under the seal.

Look for cracks.

If the forward piston is aluminum ALWAYS replace it with new steel type pistton

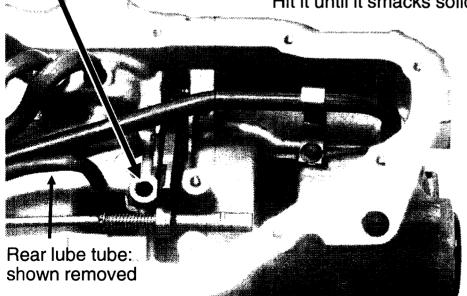
New Piston: #F4DZ-7A262-A

DUMPING LUBE TO THE PAN? Improper installation of rear lube tube seal [#212] can *cause loss of rear <u>and front lube pressure</u>.* [They are connected with oil grooves in the front planet bushing.]



Rear lube seal E6DZ 7G085-A

**Listen up:** Install this seal with a 5/16 punch or bolt *inside the steel shell*. Hit it until it smacks solid against support.



Don't be afraid to smack this seal. The shell is necked down to act as a solid stop. Hit it!

#### Biggest cause of rework and comebacks is leaking or blown gaskets:

COMPLAINTS: Slips on start off--Bindup or draggy reverse--Hard throttle makes fast early shifts--Bindy or draggy feeling in 2nd, 3rd or 4th--Erratic hard or soft upshifts or downshifts.

CAUSE: Bolts not tight enough. Valve body and chain cover crossleaks. CORRECTION: Glue the chain cover gasket with a hardening-type cement. Ford gasket & trim cement is recommended-- #D7AZ-19B508-B Valve body bolts: Some bolts compress 5 gaskets. One tightening won't do it. Use a long extension to keep tool aligned in the bolt head.

Tighten bolts three times: 1st time 8-10 ft lbs 2nd time 10-12 ft lbs 3rd time 10-12 ft lbs

#### Why synthetic fluid is recommended?

Various types/brands of trans fluid will boil, ignite and lose lubricity at different temperatures. A 3-5 year old radiator and cooler won't cool like new. When the fluid boils or ignites, it will not cool the gears, bushings or bearings.

8qts of synthetic oil will raise the boiling temperature about 40F, and the ignition temperature about 100F. This gives the job more lubrication safety, even when the cooling system isn't perfect.

If synthetic ATF is hard to find, use 8qts of any weight synthetic engine oil.

Lead foots, HD (Includes light towing): Fill completely with synthetic fluid/oil.

**Protect your work:** Low engine coolant level, restricted radiator tubes, scaling and oxidation of radiator or auxiliary cooler tubes, and leaks, can burn-up trans BE-FORE any engine problem is noticed.

#### **Check Cooling System**

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Is it it full or empty?
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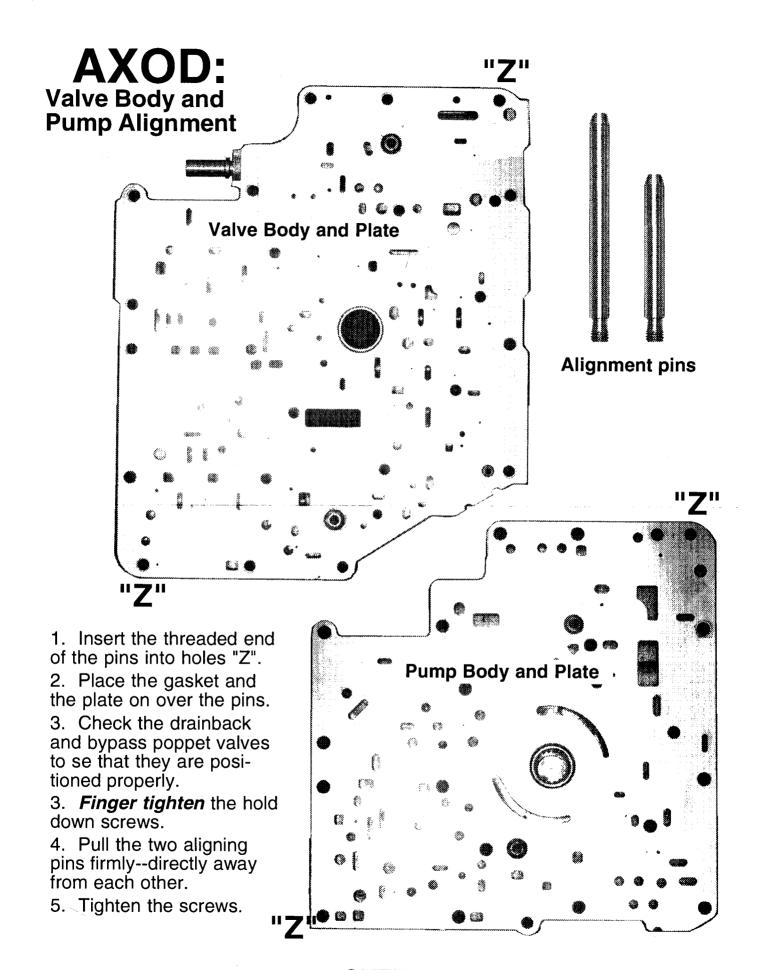
If the vehicle needs a cooling system service, write it on the job ticket, and recommend local reliable professional radiator shop. For example:

**CAUTION:** Needs immediate cooling system service to prevent trans damage. We use: Tri-J Radiator--Phone 465-7784

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If you have a question or the trans is giving you trouble, call our tech dept.

(626) 443 7451 Thanks for listening

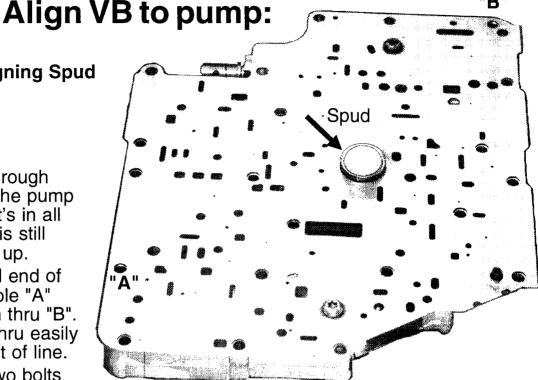


**OVER** 



**Aligning Spud** 

- 1. Insert spud through the VB and into the pump bearing. When it's in all the way in there is still about 1" sticking up.
- 2. Insert tapered end of lineup pin thru hole "A" and the other pin thru "B". If pins won't go thru easily the plates are out of line.
- 4. Tighten the two bolts on the pump side.



"R"

#### **Installing Valve Body:**

- 1. Screw lineup pins into holes "A" and "B" with very firm hand grip or gently with pliers.
- 2. Install gasket and valve body.
- 3. Install and tigthen a few bolts.
- 4. Remove pins with pliers.

