



5L40E/5L50E Fluid Level Check

The 5L40E and 5L50E are rear wheel drive, 5-speed transmissions that have been used in some Cadillacs between 2001 and 2010. Many of these transmissions no longer provide a dipstick for checking the fluid level. Here's how to check the transmission fluid level on these units.

1. The transmission must be cold (below 85°F [30°C]) to perform this check.
2. Set the vehicle on a lift so that remains level when raised.
3. Start the engine.
4. Connect your scan tool to the diagnostic link connector (DLC) and set it to display transmission temperature.
5. Run the transmission lever through the gears, giving each gear time to engage. This allows the clutch packs and passages to fill.
6. Raise the vehicle.
7. Remove the fluid plug; the location may vary — use the graphic to help identify the plug on the vehicle you're working on.
8. When the transmission reaches between 85° and 120°F (30°–50°C), fluid should begin to drip out of the fill hole. If not, add the proper fluid as necessary until it begins to drip out of the fill hole.
9. Reinstall the plug.

