

Installation Tech Tip: Ensuring Proper Park Function on Your New Powerglide Transmission

It is crucial that the parking mechanism is set up correctly when assembling your new Powerglide transmission. Due to the wide variety of aftermarket parts available, your vehicle could potentially fall out of park if the following steps are not properly checked.

To ensure proper operation of the parking mechanism, follow these steps while your transmission is disassembled:

1. ****Install Components****: Begin by installing the rear support, bearing, and planetary assembly. Next, install the park pawl bracket, park pawl pin, parking pawl, and spring.
2. ****Test the Parking Mechanism****: After installation, test the parking mechanism to ensure it clicks and locks into place. If it does, you're finished—there's no further action required.
3. ****Check for Positive Engagement****: If you do not hear or feel a positive click/snap when shifting into the park detent, inspect the planetary assembly where the parking pawl engages. You may need to slightly rotate the planet gear to engage the next open tooth, allowing the pawl to lock in place (refer to Figure 1).
4. ****Confirm Proper Engagement****: If you achieve a positive click/snap after adjusting, your parking mechanism is properly engaged, and no further steps are necessary.
5. ****Address Insufficient Engagement****: If the mechanism still does not engage positively, check the depth of the parking pawl relative to the planetary assembly. If the pawl is bottoming out in the planetary (as shown in Figure 2), install two washers under the parking pawl bracket. To do this, unbolt the bracket, place the two provided washers underneath, and then reinstall the bracket and bolts (see Figure 3).
6. ****Final Test****: Retest the parking function to ensure you now have a positive click/snap. You should also observe a slight gap between the pawl and the planetary gear, as illustrated in Figure 1.

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