Detroit™ DT12™ Transmission has 12 forward gears and two standard reverse gears that can be shifted automatically or manually. Shifting and clutch actuation are computer controlled and there is no clutch pedal needed to operate the vehicle.

Automatic shifts are selected for fuel economy or performance. The DT12 will not automatically shift gears in reverse but requires the driver to manually shift. To manually shift the transmission, push the lever away to request a downshift, or pull the lever toward you to request an upshift. In all cases, shifts depend on the following factors: engine speed, accelerator pedal position, engine brake operation, vehicle load status, and road grade.

For optimal fuel economy, use MB 235.16 75W-85. See DDC-SVC-BRO-0118 on DTNA Connect for more information.

**Power Up and Shift into Gear**
1. With the parking brake set and Neutral (N) selected on the shifter stalk, turn the ignition switch to the ON position. Before cranking, wait for the bulb check and gauge sweep to complete.
2. Start the engine.
3. Apply the service brake.
4. Engage Drive or Reverse with the shifter stalk.
5. Release the parking brake.
6. Release the service brake and apply the accelerator.

**Gear Display Window**
The gear display window shows the current transmission gear and drive mode.

**Suggested Shift**
In Manual mode only, a suggested shift is displayed to indicate the most economical gear available. The suggested shift is the number of up or down arrows from the current gear with a maximum of three up or down arrows.

Refer to the DTNA Driver’s Manual for All Vehicle Controls Information

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**Descent Control**
Descent Control helps control the vehicle and engine speed when descending a grade.

First determine an appropriate speed for the load and grade you are encountering.

To activate descent control, manually set the engine brakes with the shifter stalk and then set cruise at your desired descent speed while the engine brakes are actively working. You will notice a descent control icon populated in the dash, notifying that descent control is active.

Descent control will attempt to manage your speed by automatically varying engine brake level. If you are travelling too fast or the grade is too steep, you may need to intervene. For vehicles built before January 2019, application of the service brake cancels descent control and you will need to reset it using the normal procedure. Newer vehicles will remain in descent control. Once the service brake is released, the current vehicle speed becomes the new descent control set speed and you are notified by a pop-up screen in the instrument cluster.

When your descent is completed, return the engine brake stalk to the off/auto position and the descent set speed will become the new cruise speed.

Keep in mind, descent control does not fuel the engine during descent, and the CC Band Limit and IPM overrun settings are ignored.

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**Cruise Descent Control**
**Adaptive Cruise Control**
Adaptive Cruise Control (available on vehicles built before January 2019) enables maintenance of the set speed with minor vehicle speed changes and maintains a set distance to the vehicle in front. To engage Adaptive Cruise Control, press and hold the Adaptive Cruise Control button on the steering wheel.

**Decent Control**
Decent Control helps control the vehicle and engine speed when descending a grade. First determine an appropriate speed for the load and grade you are encountering.

To activate descent control, manually set the engine brakes with the shifter stalk and then set cruise at your desired descent speed while the engine brakes are actively working. You will notice a descent control icon populated in the dash, notifying that descent control is active.

Descent control will attempt to manage your speed by automatically varying engine brake level. If you are travelling too fast or the grade is too steep, you may need to intervene. For vehicles built before January 2019, application of the service brake cancels descent control and you will need to reset it using the normal procedure. Newer vehicles will remain in descent control. Once the service brake is released, the current vehicle speed becomes the new descent control set speed and you are notified by a pop-up screen in the instrument cluster.

When your descent is completed, return the engine brake stalk to the off/auto position and the descent set speed will become the new cruise speed.

Keep in mind, descent control does not fuel the engine during descent, and the CC Band Limit and IPM overrun settings are ignored.
Clutch Abuse Protection
A vehicle equipped with a Detroit transmission does not have a clutch pedal, but still has a clutch that is operated automatically and can be damaged by abusive driver actions. To protect the clutch, the vehicle has a series of clutch abuse alerts that warn the driver and restrict functionality when needed for events including...

- Extended periods in Creep Mode
- Slipping the clutch (using accelerator pedal to hold vehicle on a hill, for example)
- Mitigating high clutch temperatures

**TIPS FOR AVOIDING CLUTCH ABUSE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Tip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holding the vehicle stationary on an uphill slope</td>
<td>Use the service brakes, not the accelerator pedal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting off on an uphill slope</td>
<td>To start moving, accelerate and release the brakes as the vehicle begins to move.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooking up to a trailer</td>
<td>Ensure the trailer is raised enough to back under, and use first gear reverse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First start after attaching a trailer</td>
<td>Start in first gear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not overuse Creep Mode, and deactivate it when warned. If warned, stop the vehicle or apply throttle until clutch is completely closed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT:** The transmission system will disable Creep Mode if it determines the clutch temperature is too high. A display message notifies the driver when creep mode is about to be aborted.

**Engine Overspeed Alerts**
To help protect the engine, the system has display messages to notify the driver when the engine has exceeded certain thresholds and needs to be slowed down before significant engine damage occurs. There are two warnings, one at 2300 rpm and another at 2500 rpm.

**Hill Start Aid Feature**
The DT12 comes standard with a Hill Start Aid feature. Hill Start Aid engages and holds the service brakes of the tractor and trailer on grades greater than 3% to allow the driver time to transition from the service brake to the accelerator pedal. This feature prevents the vehicle from rolling backwards and permits the driver time to safely pull away from an intersection. Hill Start Aid will release brakes after 3 seconds. Hill Start Aid also works in reverse when backing up an incline greater than 3%.

**Note:** When a vehicle with a DT12 transmission is starting from a stop, the transmission automatically selects the proper launch gear based on mass calculation and grade. It is not uncommon for the transmission to start in a gear other than first.

**Note:** Hill Start Aid only works after the vehicle has come to a complete stop.

**Auto-Neutral**
If the parking brake is set with the transmission in gear for 5 seconds, an “N” will flash on the instrument cluster (Cascadia) or interactive dash display (New Cascadia) to warn of imminent Auto-Neutral. After 10 seconds, the transmission shifts to Neutral and activates the buzzer for 1 second. After Auto-Neutral is engaged, the driver must select “N” on the shifter stalk and reselect “D” to engage gear. The purpose of this feature is to prevent the driver from leaving the transmission in gear when parked.

**Engine Brake Control**
- Is set using the shifter stalk.
- To activate automatically the shifter stalk must be perpendicular to the steering column or in the upmost position.
- The driver can operate the engine brakes manually by moving the shifter stalk in a clockwise direction. There are 3 detents for low, medium and high engine braking (see diagram.)
- When the shifter stalk is in the auto position and the cruise control is set, the engine braking is dictated by the parameters settings for the optional Cruise Control Band Switch (Classic Cascadia feature).
- The engine brake does not provide precise control of the vehicle, and is not a substitute for service brakes.

**Creep Mode**
Creep mode allows the vehicle to be maneuvered automatically at very slow speeds. To begin using it from a parked position, shift from neutral to either drive or reverse, release the service brakes, and briefly depress and release the accelerator pedal. Creep mode will be engaged and the vehicle will begin to move.

**Low Transmission Air Warning**
Pneumatic controls are used to shift the transmission. If there is a loss of air pressure, a warning is displayed and the quality of gear shifts may degrade.

Refer to the DTNA Driver’s Manual for Complete Information on all of the Vehicle Controls.

**DT12 Automatic Upshift Feature**
Cascadias built in April, 2020, and later will have the capability for the DT12 to upshift automatically when descending grades. Without engine brake or service brake application, the DT12 will upshift at 2000 rpm. During engine brake or service brake application, the DT12 will upshift at 2400 rpm.

**New Cascadia: Cruise Control - Interactive Dash Display Cards**
1. Select the Vehicle Operations Icon from the main menu.
2. Toggle down and select Cruise Control.
3. Select Overspeed for upper speed setting.
4. Go back and select Underspeed for lower speed setting.

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Dash Display Pop-ups for New Cascadia

Hill Start Aid only works after the vehicle has come to a complete stop.

**Auto-Neutral**
- “Auto”
  - ↓ Detent 1 Low
  - ↓ Detent 2 Med
  - ↓ Detent 3 Max