



# Tech Talk



## ***Transmission & Differential Fluids***

***Source - Larry Rains Retired Automotive Industrial Arts Teacher***

I have written articles about both transmission and differential fluids. Lately, I decided to change the transmission oil in my 1999 6-speed. I don't know if it has ever been changed so I decided it was about time.

In the process of deciding what type of fluid to use, I came across quite a bit of information I thought I would share.

The main thing I wanted to know was if I could use Royal Purple Synchronax in my 6-speed. I had read articles that said not to use it in 1997-2000 Corvettes because of the paper fiber blocking rings. The blocking ring works as a mini-clutch: one for each gear. These are the main part of the synchronizer. It was reported on the old C-5's that Synchronax would make the blocking rings swell and cause hard shifting. I have used Synchronax with good results on the newer C-5's but decided not to on my 1999.

I used "AC Delco Manual Transmission and Transfer Case Fluid" part number 10-4033 and 88861800. This is the fluid GM recommends. You could also use automatic transmission Dexon 3. They don't want you to use Dexon \$ or Dexon 6ATF. They also say not to use synthetic ATF. Words like synchromesh, ATFmax, or Synchronax should not be used in this transmission. After 2000, the blocking rings were changed and the synthetics would be fine.

This fluid stuff gets very confusing. I found C-6 manual transmissions using both LS GM 88862624 and 88861800. C-6 automatic 6-speed transmissions use Dixon6. Differential oil recommendations are LS GM 75-90 88862624 or 89021677 with 1052358 additive. The newer LS oils are synthetic I believe. I told you it was confusing.