



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Auto Safety Hotline

Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire

NATIONWIDE 1-800-424-9393
DC METRO AREA (202) 366-0123
INTERNET: <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 258

Date Received

20-JUN-2001

Od_or _____
rt_dt _____
pd_rt _____
rp_lr _____

Reference No.

747118

Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? YES NO
In the absence of an authorization, NHTSA WILL NOT provide your name and address to the vehicle manufacturer.

Signature of Owner _____ Date ____/____/____

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Ident. No. (VIN) <small>(Location at bottom of and/or above driver's side)</small>	Vehicle Make	Vehicle Model	Vehicle Year	Current Odometer Reading		
1B7GG23X8T5642439	DODGE TRUCK	DAKOTA	1996			
Purchase Date 01-FEB-1999	Dealer's Name _____	Engine Size (CID/CC/L) 3.9L	<input type="checkbox"/> Turbo <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuel Injectio			
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	No Cylinders _____				
Transmission Type <input type="checkbox"/> Manual <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic	Antilock Brakes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Restraint System <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Point Belt <input type="checkbox"/> Motorbelt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Driverside Airbag <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Point Bel <input type="checkbox"/> Passengerside Airbag	Cruise Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Drive Train <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-Wheel	Vehicle Type <input type="checkbox"/> Car <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Util <input type="checkbox"/> Van <input type="checkbox"/> Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Minivan <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Body Style <input type="checkbox"/> 2-Door <input type="checkbox"/> 4-Door <input type="checkbox"/> Stationwagon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pick Up Truck <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Component 05150022	Part Name(s) ENGINE:GASKETS:OIL PAN	Location <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Front <input type="checkbox"/> Rear	Failed Part's <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement
No of Failure	Date(s) of Failure(s) 01-MAY-2001 596000	Failed Part(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	NHTSA Previously <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mileage at Failure(s) _____			

APPLICATION INCIDENT INFORMATION

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies) on the back of this form)

Crash <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Number of Persons Injured 0	Number of Fatalities 0	Estimated Property Damag	Reported to Police <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF FAILURE(S), INCIDENT(S), INJURY(IES)

I HAVE A 1996 DODGE DAKOTA PICKUUP TRUCK THAT EXPERIENCED ENGINE FAILURE AT LESS THAN 60,000 MILES. THE CAUSE FOR THIS ENGINE FAILURE WAS INADEQUATE OILING BECAUSE OF SLUDGE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE OIL PAN. I BOUGHT THE VEHICLE USED FROM A CAR DEALER WITH APPROXIMATELY 33,000 MILES ON IT AND HAVE MAINTAINED IT PROPERLY SINCE THAT TIME. I AND THE MECHANIC I TOOK IT TO BELIEVE THAT PART OF THE REASON FOR SLUDGE ACCUMULATION IN THE OIL PAN IS POOR OIL PAN DESIGN. THE WAY THE DRAIN PLUB IS SITUATED IT DOESN'T ALLOW FOR COMPLETE DRAINAGE OF THE OIL DURING AN OIL CHANGE. THIS PROBLEM IS PROBABLY AGGRAVATED BY THE FACT THAT THIS VEHICLE IS 4-WHEEL DRIVE AND THE SLUDGE GETS RESUSPENDED WITH OFF-ROAD USE ON STEEP TERRAIN OR ROUGH ROADS. ON CONFERRING WITH AN ATTORNEY, SHE SUGGESTE

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The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.