SAC **Springfield Auto Care** EXAMPLE SHOP
service@springfield-auto-care.example

2008 Nissan Frontier at 112,000 mi

1N6AD07U88C123456

MODEL / CHASSIS	ENGINE	MILEAGE	DRIVETRAIN
Frontier · D40 Frontier SE Crew Cab 4.0 V6 automatic	Nissan VQ40DE 4.0L V6	112,000 mi	RWD
BUILD MONTH	**REPORT DATE**	**MODE**	**PREPARED FOR**
Not entered (door jamb)	October 28, 2026	Shop	Sample Owner

VIN check: check digit valid; model-year code '8' = 2008, matches the year entered. The VIN doesn't record the build month. Sample report: synthetic VIN.

1 · SUMMARY

What this car needs, in order

Each item compares this car's mileage with when owners and shops report the part failing. It is not an inspection: our technician decides what the car actually needs.

2
jobs recommended now

0
to plan in the next 30,000 miles · plus 2 factory maintenance items

0
to watch or check at each service

Safety recalls NHTSA lists for this model year (3 of 4)

- **10V-075** · Fuel system · fuel level sending unit: The fuel tank shell can deform so the gauge shows about a quarter tank when the tank is empty. The truck can run out of fuel and stall in traffic. Dealers replace the sending unit.
- **23V-067** · Air bags · driver air bag cover emblem: The emblem on the driver air bag cover can crack and come loose when the air bag deploys, and can hit an occupant. Dealers replace the air bag cover.
- **08V-690** · Air bags · front crash zone sensor: In road-salt states, salty water can get into the front crash zone sensor, so the front air bags may not deploy in a crash. Dealers fit a redesigned sensor (salt states); other states got a 10-year sensor warranty.

A model-year list, not a VIN check. The full report lists the others. Repairs are free at a Nissan dealer if open. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Check this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

Step 0 · Free: run the VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls and ask a Nissan dealer for a campaign printout, including 10V-075. Read the build month (MM/YY) on the driver's door-jamb label.

Recommended now at the next service — $140

Inspection: check now, while it's cheaper to fix — $140

inspection EXAMPLE

Radiator cooler crack: coolant mixes into the automatic transmission: Past the range (80,000–106,000 mi, the middle half of 669 owner reports) · if it fails: $3,000–$6,000

Timing chain guides and tensioner (whine): Past the range (55,000–88,000 mi, the middle half of 62 owner reports) · if it fails: $1,590–$3,050

Known weak points for this engine, not findings on your car. The inspection shows whether yours has early signs.

Fuel gauge reads wrong (fuel level sending unit) — Free if open

Recall 10V-075 is listed for this model year. Check the VIN; the repair is free at a Nissan dealer if it is open.

Next 12 months up to about 124,000 mi

Nothing scheduled here.

Within the next 30,000 miles up to 142,000 mi

Nothing else enters its reported range in this window.

Watch inspect at each service, fix on condition, or optional

Nothing scheduled here.

Recommended now

$140

Springfield Auto Care prices (example)

Planned through 142,000 mi

From $568

Now + next 12 months + next 30,000 miles, with the factory maintenance on this report if the records don’t show it done. Excludes “watch” and optional items.

Prices are Springfield Auto Care's estimates for typical parts and labor. They don't include tax, shop supplies or disposal fees, and may change after inspection or if part prices change. Not a written repair estimate: Springfield Auto Care confirms the price and gets your OK before any work.

Bundled jobs are priced together because the labor overlaps. Routine service (oil, brakes, tires) isn't included; factory fluid and spark plug intervals are listed below.

FACTORY MAINTENANCE

Scheduled maintenance from 112,000 mi to 142,000 mi

The maker's normal schedule for this car. Service history isn't known here, so an item is shown at its next interval mark; skip it if the records show it was done.

ITEM	INTERVAL	THIS CAR	OUR PRICE
Spark plugs Iridium/platinum plugs; replace early if gap exceeds spec.	every 105,000 mi	**Was due at 105,000 mi (check records)** [M1][M2][M3]	**$249**
Engine coolant First change at 60,000 mi or 48 months, then every 30,000 mi or 24 months.	first at 60,000 mi, then every 30,000 mi or 2 years	**Was due at 90,000 mi and by age (check records)** [M1][M2][M3][M5]	**From $179**
Automatic transmission fluid Nissan normal schedule says inspect only; replace every 30,000 mi / 24 months only under severe use (towing, rough or muddy roads).	no fixed interval	— [M1][M2][M3]	—

M1. Nissan USA official maintenance schedule lookup: 2016 Frontier (component pages, Standard Driving Conditions) OFFICIAL
https://maintenance-schedules.nissanusa.com/maintenance-schedules/2016/frontier/components/engine-coolant/

M2. Nissan USA official maintenance schedule lookup: 2012 Xterra (component pages, Standard Driving Conditions) OFFICIAL
https://maintenance-schedules.nissanusa.com/maintenance-schedules/2012/xterra/components/engine-coolant/

M3. Nissan USA official maintenance schedule lookup: 2009 Pathfinder (component pages, Standard Driving Conditions) OFFICIAL
https://maintenance-schedules.nissanusa.com/maintenance-schedules/2009/pathfinder/components/engine-coolant/

M4. 2011 Nissan Service and Maintenance Guide (Nissan North America, Pub. MB1E 0ALLU0) OFFICIAL
https://archive.org/details/manualzilla-id-6037219

M5. 2009 Nissan Service and Maintenance Guide (Nissan North America, Pub. MB9E-0ALLU3) OFFICIAL
https://archive.org/details/manualsonline-id-da55dbac-c063-433d-9f2d-509baa711699

WHERE 112K SITS FOR EACH WEAK POINT

#	WEAK POINT	REPORTED RANGE	THIS CAR
1	Radiator cooler crack: coolant mixes into the automatic transmission	80,000–106,000 mi (middle half of 669 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range
2	Timing chain guides and tensioner (whine)	55,000–88,000 mi (middle half of 62 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range
3	Fuel gauge reads wrong (fuel level sending unit)	39,000–66,000 mi (middle half of 326 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range

Colors compare mileage with reported failures, not the car's condition. Red: past the range. Amber: inside or approaching. Green: below, or not listed for a recall.

2 · RECALLS AND BULLETINS

Recalls to check for this 2008 Nissan Frontier

Safety recall repairs are free at Nissan dealers. On a car over 15 years old, ask the dealer whether a newer recall is still repaired free. Nothing here can tell whether a recall is open or already done on this VIN; only the official VIN lookup or a dealer can.

Official VIN check (2 minutes)

1. Go to nhtsa.gov/recalls and enter 1N6AD07U88C123456.
2. Note every recall shown as “Recall incomplete” and keep a screenshot.
3. Ask a Nissan dealer for a campaign printout; it also lists completed campaigns.

4.0L VQ40DE V6 RECALLS WE TRACK

10V-075 · Fuel tank can deform; gauge reads 1/4 tank when empty (2006 and 2008)

NHTSA lists this model and year: check by VIN

The tank shell can deform so the sender float arm hits it and the gauge shows about a quarter tank when the tank is empty. The truck can run out of fuel and stall. Free sending-unit replacement. OFFICIAL [7]

☐ VIN checked ☐ Open: booked with dealer ☐ Completed (printout kept)

Other 4.0L VQ40DE V6 recalls we track, not listed by NHTSA for this model and year: 10V-517 (ECM relay can cause stalling (2005–2006)), 11V-592 (oil cooler bolt can break and leak oil (2011–2012)).

EVERY RECALL NHTSA LISTS FOR THE 2008 NISSAN FRONTIER (4)

RECALL	COMPONENT	WHAT CAN HAPPEN (NHTSA, SHORTENED)
10V-075 4.0L VQ40DE V6 tracked	Fuel system · fuel level sending unit	The fuel tank shell can deform so the gauge shows about a quarter tank when the tank is empty. The truck can run out of fuel and stall in traffic. Dealers replace the sending unit. Details
23V-067	Air bags · driver air bag cover emblem	The emblem on the driver air bag cover can crack and come loose when the air bag deploys, and can hit an occupant. Dealers replace the air bag cover. Details
08V-690	Air bags · front crash zone sensor	In road-salt states, salty water can get into the front crash zone sensor, so the front air bags may not deploy in a crash. Dealers fit a redesigned sensor (salt states); other states got a 10-year sensor warranty. Details
08V-045	Labels · tire placard	The tire placard shows the wrong load capacity, so the truck could be overloaded. Nissan mails a corrected placard. Details

Source: NHTSA recalls API, fetched 2026-10-28 and combined across NHTSA model names: FRONTIER. Safety categories (air bags, fire, brakes, stalling, roll-away and loss of control) are listed first; listings whose NHTSA text names another engine, or an aftermarket part, go last. OFFICIAL

Left out of this list (FRONTIER): 10V-401 (Garmin nuvi 750 portable navigation battery) covers a dealer accessory, and 10E-019 covers replacement lower links sold as parts in 2009–2010, not factory parts; both are left out of this sample. A VIN check would show them if they applied.

SERVICE ACTIONS, BULLETINS AND WARRANTY PROGRAMS

Manufacturer bulletins and warranty programs for this engine are cited on each weak point in section 4, where they apply.

4 · THE 3 WEAK POINTS

Each weak point, one card each

Every figure carries its source. Retailer part numbers are shown only when the retailer lists them for this chassis (D40). Left out because they apply to other models, years, engine sizes or body codes: Exhaust manifold catalyst code P0420.

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1 Radiator cooler crack: coolant mixes into the automatic transmission

Past the range

Severity: Critical: rare, but can badly damage the engine · 3572 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 112,000 mi this car is past the reported range (80,000–106,000 mi (middle half of 669 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 80,000–106,000 mi (middle half of 669 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: 2005–2010 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder with automatic transmission; the extension ended at 10 years / 100,000 miles

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [2]

The radiator has a built-in cooler for the automatic transmission fluid. An internal crack in that cooler tube lets engine coolant leak into the transmission. Nissan extended radiator coverage on 2005–2010 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder with automatics to 10 years / 100,000 miles, including damage to the transmission. Those windows have now closed on every truck.

SYMPTOMS

- Pink, milky transmission fluid
- Shudder or slipping, harsh or flaring shifts
- Coolant level dropping with no outside leak
- Transmission warning or limp mode

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Coolant ruins the transmission clutches and solenoids; the usual fix is then a transmission plus radiator.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

On a 2005–2010 automatic, replace the original radiator before it cracks, or fit a separate transmission cooler. Check the transmission fluid color first.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Radiator replacement, 4.0L V6 (YourMechanic estimate and shop/dealer range)	**Our price is in the plan above** ask us for a written quote
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=320)	**$3,000–$6,000** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure

Where the numbers come from: Early: replacing the radiator before it fails (YourMechanic). If it fails: Computed from 320 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $5,000). Examples: ODI 10896261, 10788472, 10736026, 10692392. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR D40

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

QUESTIONS TO ASK US

- Radiator ever replaced? With what part and when?
- Any transmission repair or fluid flush?
- Shudder or slipping?

2 Timing chain guides and tensioner (whine)

Past the range

Severity: High: overheating, stalls, limp mode or a big bill · 205 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 112,000 mi this car is past the reported range (55,000–88,000 mi (middle half of 62 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 55,000–88,000 mi (middle half of 62 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: Bulletin 07042 lists 2005–2007 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder; owners report it on later trucks too

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [3]

Nissan describes a buzzing or whining noise from the timing chain area. It comes from worn timing-chain guides and tensioner shoes and rises with engine speed.

SYMPTOMS

- Whine or buzz from the front of the engine that rises with rpm
- Cam/crank correlation codes

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Worn guides can let the chain jump, which can damage the valves.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Fix it when the whine starts; it is cheaper before the chain skips.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=24)	**Our price is in the plan above** ask us for a written quote
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=24)	**$1,590–$3,050** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure

Where the numbers come from: Computed from 24 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $2,000). Examples: ODI 10492112, 10807161, 10563028, 11311562. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR D40

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

QUESTIONS TO ASK US

- Any whine that rises with rpm?
- Timing chain or guides replaced?

3 Fuel gauge reads wrong (fuel level sending unit)

Past the range

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 1893 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 112,000 mi this car is past the reported range (39,000–66,000 mi (middle half of 326 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 39,000–66,000 mi (middle half of 326 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: 2005–2008 trucks (bulletin NTB-07-069C, recall 10V-075 on 2006 and 2008); 2016 on (NTB22-026)

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [4][5][7]

The fuel gauge can be erratic or wrong, often with P0461, P0462 or P0463. Nissan replaces the fuel level sending unit. On some 2006 and 2008 trucks the tank shell can deform so the gauge shows about a quarter tank when it is empty (recall 10V-075). On 2016 and later trucks the level sensor can be replaced on its own, without the whole pump.

SYMPTOMS

- Gauge jumps around or never shows full
- Low-fuel light at the wrong time
- P0461 / P0462 / P0463

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

The truck can run out of fuel and stall.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Check the VIN for recall 10V-075; replace only the sending unit when the bulletin applies.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=55)	**Our price is in the plan above** ask us for a written quote
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=55)	**$410–$600** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure

Where the numbers come from: Computed from 55 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $600). Examples: ODI 10498502, 10363021, 10298309, 10863507. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR D40

- Ask your parts supplier for the OE part number for this VIN.

QUESTIONS TO ASK US

- Does the gauge read full after a fill-up?
- Recall 10V-075 done (2006 / 2008)?

5 · ALSO REPORTED, NOT RANKED

Other themes in 4.0L VQ40DE V6 owner complaints

Every NHTSA complaint theme with 10 or more counted reports is either a weak point above or explained here.

THEME	COMPLAINTS	WHY IT ISN'T A WEAK POINT
Stalling / loss of power	728	Mixed causes; includes recall 10V-517 (ECM relay, 2005–2006) and trucks that ran out of fuel with a wrong gauge.
Frame / brakes / steering	639	Body and chassis complaints; not an engine fault.
Air bags	527	Air bag recalls and complaints; not an engine fault.
Oil leak at the oil filter	60	Few reports; recall 11V-592 replaced weak oil cooler bolts on 2011–2012 trucks.

How this report is built

Inputs. VIN, model year, model, mileage and build month (if entered). Model and engine are checked with NHTSA's vPIC decoder.

Mileage positions. Below: more than 10,000 miles before the reported range. Approaching: within 10,000. Inside: in the range, or past the start of an open-ended range. Past: beyond the top of the range. These bands are our rules, not an industry standard.

The plan. Critical items inside or past their range go first; high-severity items follow, and jobs that share labor are bundled. At most three jobs land in “Recommended now”. Leaks that are cheap to watch are fixed on condition; inspections are asked for at each service.

Costs. Published independent-shop ranges from shop quotes, retailer prices and owner reports. Shop prices come from the issuing shop. The worst-case cost of every item failing is not shown: it isn't an expected cost.

Labels. `OFFICIAL` NHTSA/Nissan documents · `SHOP/RETAILER` parts prices and shop articles · `FORUM/BLOG` owner forums and blogs · `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA` our analysis of NHTSA data · `OUR ESTIMATE` ours.

NHTSA complaint data. Pulled Oct 28, 2026 from NHTSA's complaints API for 2005–2019 Frontier complaints that do not name the 2.5L four, all 2005–2015 Xterra complaints, 2005–2012 Pathfinder complaints that do not name the V8, and all NV1500 complaints (V6 only) and NV2500/3500 complaints that name the V6 or 4.0 (few do, so those vans under-count): 7,683 complaints. Some of these nameplates were sold with other engines too. For some we kept only complaints whose text names this engine (which under-counts); for others we left out complaints that name another engine or a hybrid (so a few about other engines can remain). Themes are keyword matches on the complaint text. `COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA`

THEME	COMPLAINTS	IN THIS REPORT
Transmission / coolant in transmission	3,572	Item 1
Fuel gauge / sending unit	1,893	Item 3
Stalling / loss of power	728	Also reported
Frame / brakes / steering	639	Also reported
Air bags	527	Also reported
Timing chain noise	205	Item 2
Catalytic converter	74	Other years or engine sizes
Oil leak at the oil filter	60	Also reported

Limits: complaints are self-reported and not adjusted for cars sold; keyword matching over- and under-counts; owners rarely file safety complaints about oil seeps, so leaks look rarer than they are.

SOURCES

1. NHTSA owner complaints for 2005–2019 Frontier (complaints that do not name the 2.5L four), 2005–2015 Xterra, 2005–2012 Pathfinder (complaints that do not name the V8) and 2012–2019 NV1500 and NV2500/3500 vans that name the V6 / 4.0, pulled Oct 27–28, 2026 (ODI numbers in the cost notes) `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem#complaints

2. Nissan Warranty extension MAILM: 2005–2010 Frontier, Pathfinder and Xterra with automatic transmission: radiator assembly coverage extended to 10 years / 100,000 miles for an internal crack in the transmission oil-cooler tube (co-pay after 8 years / 80,000 miles) (2012-10-12), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2012/MC-10192051-9999.pdf

3. Nissan Service bulletin 07042: Buzzing/whining noise from the timing chain area (2005–2007 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder among the listed vehicles) (2007-07-17), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10022421

4. Nissan NTB-07-069C: Fuel gauge erratic, inaccurate or inoperative and/or DTC P0461/P0462/P0463: replace the fuel level sending unit (2005–2008 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder among the listed vehicles) (2010-11-30), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10032627

5. Nissan NTB22-026: 2016–2022 Nissan: fuel gauge inaccurate with DTCs P0460–P0463; the fuel level sensor can be replaced separately from the fuel pump assembly (2022-04-05), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2022/MC-10213684-0001.pdf

6. Nissan NTB-10-045: DTC P0420 (catalyst bank 1) stored: check the ECM part number, replace the exhaust manifold catalyst and reprogram the ECM (2005–2006 Frontier) (2010-03-19), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10033344

7. NHTSA recall records: 10V-075 (2006 and 2008 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder: fuel tank shell can deform so the gauge reads about 1/4 tank when empty), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=10V075000

8. NHTSA recall records: 10V-517 (2005–2006 Frontier, Pathfinder and Xterra: ECM relay in the IPDM can cause stalling), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=10V517000

9. NHTSA recall records: 11V-592 (2011–2012 Frontier, Xterra and Pathfinder: oil cooler / oil filter connector bolt may break and leak oil), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=11V592000

10. YourMechanic: Nissan Frontier radiator replacement estimates, via search extract Oct 28, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://www.yourmechanic.com/estimates/nissan/frontier/radiator-replacement

This report contains no affiliate links; retailer prices are quoted as price sources only. Found an error? Email hello@repairahead.com.

PLEASE READ

Important

Based on public records and published repair costs. Not a diagnosis or a guarantee. Your technician's inspection decides what your car needs. Confirm recalls with a dealer using your VIN.

Informational only. This report is not a mechanical inspection, a diagnosis, or professional, legal or financial advice. It was issued by Springfield Auto Care using RepairAhead data; the inspection findings and prices are the shop's.

Reported ranges and estimates, not predictions

Failure mileages are reported ranges compiled from public owner complaints, manufacturer bulletins, recalls and repair-shop reports. Costs are estimates. Parts can fail earlier, later or not at all, and other problems can occur. Statistics from owner complaints describe past reports to NHTSA; NHTSA has not reviewed or endorsed this analysis.

Safety issues go to a dealer

If you notice overheating, a burning or fuel smell, smoke, a brake-assist problem, stalling or loss of power, pull over when it's safe and contact a Nissan dealer or qualified shop. Safety recall repairs are free at Nissan dealers. Confirm recalls for this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

No warranty

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