2002 Volkswagen Jetta at 120,000 mi

3VWRK69MX2M123456

MODEL / CHASSIS	ENGINE	MILEAGE	DRIVETRAIN
Jetta · Mk4 Jetta GL 2.0 sedan	Volkswagen 2.0L 8-valve four ("2.slow")	120,000 mi	FWD
BUILD MONTH	**REPORT DATE**	**MODE**	**PREPARED FOR**
Not entered (door jamb)	October 28, 2026	Owner	Sample Owner

VIN check: check digit valid; model-year code '2' = 2002, 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: a qualified technician decides what the car actually needs.

1
inspection recommended now

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

2
to watch or check at each service

Safety recalls NHTSA lists for this model year (4 of 5)

- **07V-063** · Brake lights · brake light switch: The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes.
- **06V-183** · Brake lights · brake light switch: The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes.
- **04V-096** · Brake lights · brake light switch: The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes.
- **02V-031** · Brakes · ABS control unit: A short circuit inside the ABS control unit can start a fire.

A model-year list, not a VIN check. The full report lists the others. Repairs are free at a Volkswagen 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 Volkswagen dealer for a campaign printout. Read the build month (MM/YY) on the driver's door-jamb label.

Recommended now at the next service — $100–$160

Inspection: check now, while it's cheaper to fix — $100–$160

about 1 h of shop labor, our estimate

Four-speed automatic (01M) valve body and solenoid faults: Past the range (55,000–86,000 mi, the middle half of 203 owner reports) · if it fails: $3,650–$6,500
Known weak point for this engine, not a finding on your car. The inspection shows whether yours has early signs.

Next 12 months up to about 132,000 mi

Nothing scheduled here.

Within the next 30,000 miles up to 150,000 mi

Nothing else enters its reported range in this window.

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

Ignition coil failure (misfire) — $155–$217

independent shop, installed

Past the range (22,000–73,000 mi, the middle half of 18 owner reports) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Coolant temperature sensor, thermostat and water pump — $425–$558

independent shop, installed

Past the range (42,000–70,000 mi, the middle half of 23 owner reports) · Inspect at each service; fix at the first sign

Recommended now

$100–$160

Independent shop, installed. Dealers often charge more.

Planned through 150,000 mi

$100–$160

No other repairs on the list before 150,000 mi. Now + next 12 months + next 30,000 miles. Excludes factory maintenance (listed separately), “watch” and optional items.

Costs are published independent-shop ranges (low end + low end, high end + high end). 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 120,000 mi to 150,000 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
Spark plugs VW lists 2.0 plugs every 40,000 miles.	every 40,000 mi	**Due at 120,000 mi** [M1][M2]
Brake fluid Every 2 years regardless of mileage.	every 2 years	**By time: check the records** [M1][M2]

M1. Bentley Publishers: VW 2001 Jetta, Golf, GTI factory maintenance schedule SHOP/RETAILER
https://bentleypubs.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/tech/pages/437453493

M2. Bentley Publishers: VW 2006 Jetta, Rabbit, GTI factory maintenance schedule SHOP/RETAILER
https://bentleypubs.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/tech/pages/437453575

M3. Volkswagen Service: Maintenance Schedule, 2013 models (VW owner's literature) OFFICIAL
https://ownersliterature.vw.com/owners-literature-service/v1/document/8db4252c-5991-4f79-a654-5c725d09bdf8

M4. Volkswagen Service: Maintenance Schedule, 2014 models (VW owner's literature) OFFICIAL
https://ownersliterature.vw.com/owners-literature-service/v1/document/033ff2d5-58e3-4663-97cf-1bbdb864258d

M5. Volkswagen Service: Maintenance Schedule, 2015 models (VW owner's literature) OFFICIAL
https://ownersliterature.vw.com/owners-literature-service/v1/document/e6d745d2-dc65-41eb-89b8-843fdeacb5ab

WHERE 120K SITS FOR EACH WEAK POINT

#	WEAK POINT	REPORTED RANGE	THIS CAR
1	Four-speed automatic (01M) valve body and solenoid faults	55,000–86,000 mi (middle half of 203 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range
2	Ignition coil failure (misfire)	22,000–73,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA	Past the range
3	Coolant temperature sensor, thermostat and water pump	42,000–70,000 mi (middle half of 23 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 2002 Volkswagen Jetta

Safety recall repairs are free at Volkswagen 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 3VWRK69MX2M123456.
2. Note every recall shown as “Recall incomplete” and keep a screenshot.
3. Ask a Volkswagen dealer for a campaign printout; it also lists completed campaigns.

2.0L 8-VALVE FOUR (EA827/EA113) RECALLS WE TRACK

Other 2.0L 8-valve four (EA827/EA113) recalls we track, not listed by NHTSA for this model and year: 05V-154 (fuel pump supply nipple can crack (1999–2000 Golf)).

EVERY RECALL NHTSA LISTS FOR THE 2002 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA (5)

RECALL	COMPONENT	WHAT CAN HAPPEN (NHTSA, SHORTENED)
07V-063	Brake lights · brake light switch	The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes. Details
06V-183	Brake lights · brake light switch	The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes. Details
04V-096	Brake lights · brake light switch	The brake lights can stop working or stay on, so drivers behind may get no warning when the car brakes. Details
02V-031	Brakes · ABS control unit	A short circuit inside the ABS control unit can start a fire. Details
04V-584	Turn signals · hazard switch relay	The turn signals and hazard flashers can work only some of the time or stop working. Details

Source: NHTSA recalls API, fetched 2026-10-28 and combined across NHTSA model names: JETTA. 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 (JETTA): 14E-007 (Gates aftermarket water pump, part TFW 41127) and 07E-023 (Cardone aftermarket master cylinders) cover aftermarket replacement parts only and are left out of this sample; they apply only if those parts were fitted.

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 (Mk4).

1 Four-speed automatic (01M) valve body and solenoid faults

Past the range

Severity: High: overheating, stalls, limp mode or a big bill · 707 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 120,000 mi this car is past the reported range (55,000–86,000 mi (middle half of 203 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 55,000–86,000 mi (middle half of 203 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: Mk4 Jetta, Golf, New Beetle and Cabrio with the 4-speed automatic

WHAT FAILS FORUM/BLOG [3][2]

The 4-speed automatic (01M) used with this engine can lose its shift solenoids, valve body or the internal wiring harness, which becomes brittle with heat. The transmission then sets solenoid codes and drops into limp mode. Volkswagen also has a bulletin for slow engagement when shifting out of Park.

SYMPTOMS

- Stuck in one gear (limp mode)
- Harsh or delayed shifts
- Slow engagement from Park
- Codes P0753 or P0758

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

A neglected fault can wear out clutches and need a rebuild or replacement transmission.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Check fluid level and condition; diagnose solenoid codes early.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Valve body, solenoid or internal harness repair, reported range	**$600–$2,800** FORUM/BLOG [3] independent shop, installed
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=71)	**$3,650–$6,500** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

3.0× The failure-bill midpoint ($5,075) is about 3.0× the early-fix midpoint ($1,700). A cost ratio, not a probability.

Where the numbers come from: Computed from 71 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $5,700). Examples: ODI 10204787, 10445076, 10434774, 10327823. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR MK4

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

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any limp mode or harsh shifts?
- Transmission fluid ever changed?
- Transmission repaired or replaced?

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2 Ignition coil failure (misfire)

Past the range

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 179 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 120,000 mi this car is past the reported range (22,000–73,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 22,000–73,000 mi (middle half of 18 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: 2001–2005 cars; Volkswagen campaign 28F3

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [4][5]

Volkswagen ran campaign 28F3 to inspect and replace ignition coils that could fail on many early-2000s gasoline models, including this engine's nameplates. A failing coil causes misfires, a flashing check-engine light and reduced power. Volkswagen later told technicians to diagnose misfires fully before replacing more coils.

SYMPTOMS

- Flashing check-engine light
- Rough idle
- Loss of power

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

A long misfire can damage the catalytic converter.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Replace the coil when a misfire is confirmed; check the campaign status.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Ignition coil replacement, Jetta estimate	**$155–$217** SHOP/RETAILER [6] independent shop, installed
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=5)	**$700–$900** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

4.3× The failure-bill midpoint ($800) is about 4.3× the early-fix midpoint ($186). A cost ratio, not a probability.

Where the numbers come from: Computed from 5 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $740). Examples: ODI 10129883, 10100856, 10228140, 10174595. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR MK4

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

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Coil campaign 28F3 done?
- Any misfire codes?

3 Coolant temperature sensor, thermostat and water pump

Past the range

Severity: Medium: leaks and wear · 128 mentions in counted NHTSA complaints

COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA

At 120,000 mi this car is past the reported range (42,000–70,000 mi (middle half of 23 owner complaints that state a mileage)). If the original parts are still fitted, have them checked and plan for them. Range: 42,000–70,000 mi (middle half of 23 owner complaints that state a mileage) COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1]



Applies to: Any mileage

WHAT FAILS OFFICIAL [7][1]

Volkswagen issued a bulletin on the engine coolant temperature (ECT) sensor for these cars. Owners also report coolant leaks, thermostat and water pump replacements, and temperature gauges that read wrong.

SYMPTOMS

- Temperature gauge reads wrong or jumps
- Coolant warning light
- Coolant leaks
- Fan runs oddly

IF IT'S LEFT TOO LONG

Low coolant or a stuck thermostat can overheat the engine.

IS IT WORTH DOING EARLY? OUR ESTIMATE

Fix leaks and faulty sensors early; use the specified coolant.

ESTIMATED REPAIR COST

Thermostat replacement, 2005 Jetta 2.0L (shop/dealer estimate)	**$425–$558** SHOP/RETAILER [8] independent shop, installed
Owner-reported repair bills in NHTSA complaints (n=11)	**$450–$1,000** COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA [1] reported range for the bill after a failure
Dealer	**Often 1.5–2× the independent-shop price** OUR ESTIMATE

1.5× The failure-bill midpoint ($725) is about 1.5× the early-fix midpoint ($492). A cost ratio, not a probability.

Where the numbers come from: Computed from 11 NHTSA owner complaints that quote a repair bill for this problem (middle half of the bills; median $650). Examples: ODI 10106309, 10103035, 10295474, 10132168. Owner-reported, often dealer prices; not shop quotes.

PARTS FOR MK4

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

WHAT TO ASK YOUR SHOP

- Any coolant top-ups or overheating?
- Water pump or thermostat replaced?

5 · ALSO REPORTED, NOT RANKED

Other themes in 2.0L 8-valve four (EA827/EA113) 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	350	Mixed causes in the complaint text (coils, sensors, transmission limp mode, electrical); not one engine fault.
Window regulators	200	Door window regulator clips and cables (Volkswagen bulletins 0307 / 0501); a body item, not an engine fault.
Idle / throttle	76	Volkswagen bulletin 0402 covers fluctuating or low idle on 2000–2002 cars; usually a throttle body cleaning and adaptation.
Catalytic converter	41	Catalytic converter complaints; often follow long misfires. No program found.

6 · BUYING OR SELLING

Used-car checklist and resale helper

For owners this is a resale checklist: it's what a careful buyer will ask.

Ask the inspecting shop to check

- Transmission shifts cold and warm
- Misfire counters
- Coolant level, leaks and temperature reading

Ask the seller

- Transmission service or repairs?
- Coil campaign done?
- Thermostat or water pump replaced?

Documents to request

- Dealer service-history printout for the VIN (shows campaigns and extended-warranty repairs)
- nhtsa.gov/recalls screenshot

WHAT A BUYER MAY DEDUCT

FINDING	ESTIMATED ADJUSTMENT
Four-speed automatic (01M) valve body and solenoid faults: symptoms or fault codes present	$600–$2,800
Ignition coil failure (misfire): symptoms or fault codes present	$155–$217
Coolant temperature sensor, thermostat and water pump: symptoms or fault codes present	$425–$558
Pre-ticked rows (●), if no records clear them	**None at this mileage**

● = expected at this mileage. Estimated repair costs, not an appraisal. Recalls cost the seller nothing: ask for open recalls to be completed rather than discounted. OUR ESTIMATE

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. The worst-case cost of every item failing is not shown: it isn't an expected cost.

Labels. `OFFICIAL` NHTSA/Volkswagen 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 27, 2026 from NHTSA's complaints API for 2000–2004 Jetta, 2000–2006 Golf, 2000–2005 New Beetle complaints that do not name a 1.8T/turbo, TDI or VR6, all 2000–2002 Cabrio complaints, and 2005 and 2011–2015 Jetta complaints that name the 2.0 (and not a turbo, TDI, 1.4/1.8/2.5 or hybrid): 4,147 complaints. Some of these nameplates were sold with other engines too; for those we left out complaints whose text names another engine or a hybrid, so a few complaints about other engines can remain. Themes are keyword matches on the complaint text.
`COMPUTED FROM NHTSA DATA`

THEME	COMPLAINTS	IN THIS REPORT
Transmission	707	Item 1
Stalling / loss of power	350	Also reported
Window regulators	200	Also reported
Ignition coil / misfire	179	Item 2
Cooling / coolant temperature	128	Item 3
Idle / throttle	76	Also reported
Catalytic converter	41	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 2000–2004 Jetta, 2000–2006 Golf, 2000–2005 New Beetle and 2000–2002 Cabrio complaints that do not name a 1.8T, turbo, TDI or VR6, plus 2005 and 2011–2015 Jetta complaints that name the 2.0, pulled Oct 27, 2026 (ODI numbers in the cost notes) `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem#complaints

2. Volkswagen Service bulletin 0201: Automatic transmission engage time appears excessive when shifting from Park (2002-10-10), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10000582

3. Au7o known issues: P0758 on Volkswagen (Mk4 Jetta 1999–2005 01M valve body and solenoid harness, reported $600–$2,800) (AI-assisted site, not independently verified) `FORUM/BLOG`
https://au7o.io/known-issues/dtc/p0758/volkswagen

4. Volkswagen Campaign SB-28F3: Gasoline engine vehicles may have ignition coils that could malfunction; inspect and replace (Golf, GTI, Jetta, New Beetle, Cabrio and others) (2009-10-28), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10033207

5. Volkswagen Technical Bulletin 01-12-04: Misfire diagnosis after campaign 28F3/P1 (model years 2002–2007 gasoline engines) (2012-02-10), filed with NHTSA `OFFICIAL`
https://static.nhtsa.gov/odi/tsbs/2012/SB-10043602-4523.pdf

6. RepairPal: Volkswagen Jetta ignition coil replacement estimate ($155–$217), via search extract Oct 27, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://repairpal.com/volkswagen/jetta

7. Volkswagen Service bulletin 004: Engine coolant temperature (ECT) sensor (2004-11-09), filed with NHTSA OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/?nhtsaId=10011567

8. YourMechanic: Volkswagen Jetta thermostat replacement estimate (2005 Jetta 2.0L, shop/dealer $425–$558), via search extract Oct 27, 2026 SHOP/RETAILER
https://www.yourmechanic.com/estimates/volkswagen/jetta/thermostat-replacement

9. NHTSA recall records: 05V-154 (1999–2000 Golf fuel pump supply nipple), checked Oct 27, 2026 OFFICIAL
https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=05V154000

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. Nobody from RepairAhead has seen, driven or inspected this vehicle.

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 Volkswagen dealer or qualified shop. Safety recall repairs are free at Volkswagen dealers. Confirm recalls for this VIN at nhtsa.gov/recalls.

No warranty

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Wrong input (VIN, mileage, build date)? Email hello@repairahead.com with report ID RA-VW20-123456-20261028 and we'll correct and reissue it.

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.