

FORD P1381: VARIABLE CAM TIMING OVERADVANCED

OVERVIEW

Severity	:	High
DIY Difficulty Level	:	Advanced
Repair Cost	:	\$250-\$350
Can I Still Drive?	:	No

What Does The Ford P1381 Code Mean?

Indicates short or open in VCT solenoid circuit. This DTC will illuminate the MIL.

What Are The Potential Causes Of The Ford P1381 Code?

- Cam timing improperly set
- No oil flow to VCT piston chamber, or low engine oil pressure
- VCT solenoid valve stuck in closed position
- Camshaft advance mechanism binding (inside the VCT unit)

Reference Sources

[Technical Service Bulletin for P1381](#) - 1998-2000 Ford Contour, Escort ZX2