

Wheels: We have an e-mail from Mike with problems with his Ford. He took it to a service facility and they were able to retrieve a diagnostic trouble code (DTC). The code was 32. The technician followed that by saying “and then you go into pinpoint checks after the first diagnosis of the code.” What does this mean? Are there other codes than 32?

Halderman: The code means that it can be either the EGR (exhaust gas recirculation) valve itself or the unit that monitors the operation of the EGR valve. It sounds as if there is only one code and what the technician is saying is that a more thorough diagnosis has to be performed to determine the root cause for the code. A code by itself does not mean that a particular part is defective. I think the most likely fault is due to clogged EGR passages. To clean these passages often requires that the intake manifold and/or throttle body assembly be removed from the engine and cleaned using a tool similar to a plumber’s snake. If the passages are cleaned, then the EGR valve or related sensor may have to be replaced.

