SHIFTR OWNER GUIDE | HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

HYDRAULIC FLUID

How to check the level, top up with the right fluid, and keep your SHIFTR deck lifting and lowering smoothly. This guide forms part of your SHIFTR Owner's Manual.

WARNING

Stand clear of the deck whenever it is moving. Only check or top up the fluid with the deck fully lowered and the trailer empty. Never remove the filler cap while the pump is running or straight after a lift, as the tank can hold residual pressure.

DO NOT ADJUST THE VALVES

The valves on the pump are set at the factory. They control how smoothly the deck lowers and the maximum system pressure. With the trailer empty, the deck is set to take about **20 seconds** to lower. If yours lowers significantly faster or slower than that, contact Futura at trailers@futuratrailers.com. Do not try to adjust it yourself.

1. THE RIGHT FLUID

The specified fluid

SHIFTR hydraulic fluid	
Fluid	**Valvoline MaxLife Multi-Vehicle ATF Full Synthetic**. This is what your trailer was filled with at the factory. Check the label says Full Synthetic.
Always the same fluid	Top up or refill only with this fluid so nothing gets mixed. Never use hydraulic oil, engine oil or a different ATF.
Where to buy	AutoZone, NAPA, O'Reilly, Advance Auto Parts, Walmart and Amazon. Sold in 1 quart and 1 gallon bottles. A 1 quart bottle is plenty for a top up. Can't get it? Contact your SHIFTR dealer before using anything else.
Capacity	The tank holds 4 liters (about 4.2 US quarts). The full system holds about 5 liters (5.3 US quarts).

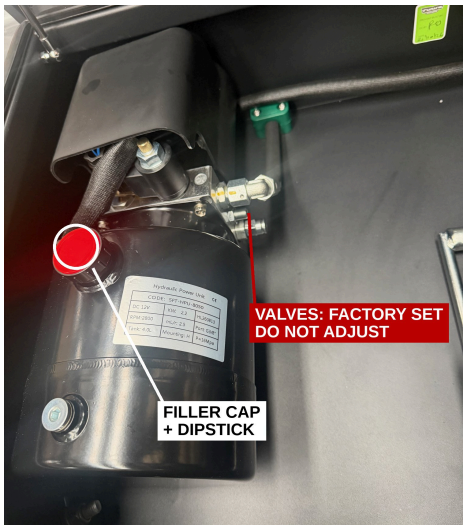
2. FIND THE TANK

The hydraulic pump sits inside the toolbox at the front of the trailer. The tank is the black cylinder with the **red filler cap** on top. The dipstick is built into the filler cap. The silver valve block on top of the pump is factory set. Leave it alone.

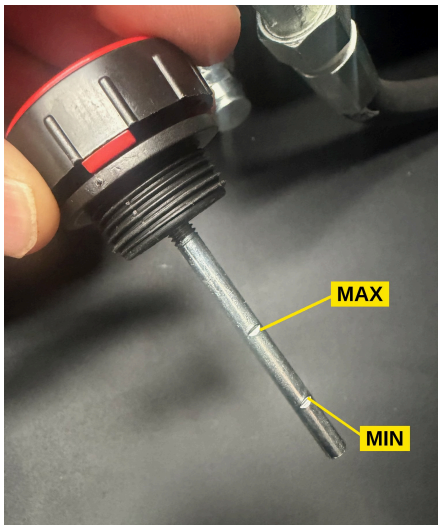
3. CHECK THE LEVEL

1. Park on level ground with the trailer empty. Lower the deck **fully**. With the deck raised the fluid sits in the lift cylinders and the reading will be wrong.
2. Open the toolbox. Wipe around the red filler cap so no dirt falls in.
3. Unscrew the cap and lift it out. Wipe the dipstick clean.

4. **Screw the cap fully back in**, then unscrew it and lift it out again. The reading is only correct with the cap screwed in.
5. Read the level. It should sit between the two marks: the upper mark (nearer the cap) is **MAX**, the lower mark (nearer the tip) is **MIN**.



The pump inside the toolbox



MAX and MIN marks on the dipstick

4. TOP UP

1. With the deck fully lowered, add Valvoline MaxLife Multi-Vehicle ATF Full Synthetic slowly through a clean funnel until the level reaches **MAX**. Do not fill above MAX. The tank needs the air space.
2. Screw the cap back in. Run the deck all the way up and down two or three times to clear any air from the lines.
3. Lower the deck fully and check the level again. Top up to MAX if needed.

If the fluid in the tank looks milky or dark, smells burnt, or you're not sure what's in there, don't top up. Contact your dealer.

5. LOSING FLUID?

A SHIFTR shouldn't lose fluid in normal use. If you've had to add more than a small amount, there's a leak. Look for wet patches or weeping fluid at:

- The rod seals on the four lift cylinders
- The hose connections at the pump and at each cylinder
- The filler cap seal

Don't keep topping up and using the trailer. A leak gets worse, and a cylinder seal can fail mid lift. Contact your dealer.

6. FLUID CHANGE

Have your dealer change the hydraulic fluid **every 2 years**, or sooner if it looks milky or dark, smells burnt, or the wrong fluid has been added. A fluid change is a dealer job. The tank is drained, refilled with the same Valvoline MaxLife Multi-Vehicle ATF Full Synthetic, and bled.

QUESTIONS

Talk to your SHIFTR dealer, or email trailers@futuratrailers.com.