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Strex SP50

Strex OBD2 Scanner User Manual

Model: SP50

Brand: Strex

1. Introduction

The Strex OBD2 Scanner (Model SP50) is a versatile and user-friendly automotive diagnostic tool designed for both professional technicians and home users. Its primary function is to detect and diagnose engine malfunctions by reading and clearing Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs). This device also provides access to live data streams, I/M Readiness status, and vehicle information, making it an essential tool for maintaining vehicle health and ensuring compliance with emission standards.





Figure 1: Strex OBD2 Scanner displaying the diagnostic menu with options like Read Codes, Erase Codes, Live Data, View Freeze Frame, I/M Readiness, and Vehicle Info. This image shows the main interface of the device.



Figure 2: An overview of the Strex OBD2 Scanner's comprehensive features, illustrated with icons. These include compatibility with all OBD II vehicles, reading fault codes, a fault code library, live data, freeze frame data, engine malfunction clearing, I/M readiness test, vehicle information, and multi-language support.

2. Setup and Connection

The Strex OBD2 Scanner is designed for simple plug-and-play operation, requiring no external power source or complex configuration. It draws power directly from your vehicle's OBD-II port.

2.1 Locating the OBD-II Port

Most vehicles manufactured after 1996 are equipped with an OBD-II (On-Board Diagnostics II) port. This 16-pin connector is typically located under the dashboard on the driver's side, though its exact position may vary by vehicle model. Refer to your vehicle's owner's manual if you have difficulty locating it.

2.2 Connecting the Scanner

1. Ensure your vehicle's ignition is in the OFF position.

2. Locate the vehicle's 16-pin OBD-II Data Link Connector (DLC).
3. Firmly plug the Strex OBD2 Scanner's 80 cm cable connector into the vehicle's DLC.
4. Turn the vehicle's ignition to the ON position (engine can be off or running, depending on the test). The scanner will automatically power on and initiate communication with the vehicle's onboard computer.



Figure 3: This image illustrates the plug-and-play nature of the Strex OBD2 Scanner. It shows the device connected to a vehicle's OBD port, with the screen displaying live data such as DTC counts and various sensor readings. It also highlights its compatibility with almost any car and the ability to read fault codes with descriptions.



Figure 4: A detailed compatibility chart showing various car manufacturers and the minimum manufacturing year for which the Strex OBD2 Scanner is compatible. This includes American cars (post-1996), European cars (post-2000), French cars (post-2000), Chinese cars (post-2005), and Asian cars (post-2005).

3. Operating Instructions

Once connected and powered on, the Strex OBD2 Scanner will display the main diagnostic menu. Use the 'ENTER' and 'EXIT' buttons, along with the up/down arrows, to navigate through the menu options.

3.1 Reading Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs)

This function allows you to retrieve stored, pending, and permanent diagnostic trouble codes from the vehicle's computer. Each code is accompanied by a description to help identify the issue.

1. From the main menu, select 'Read Codes' and press 'ENTER'.
2. The scanner will display any detected DTCs along with their descriptions.
3. Use the arrow buttons to scroll through multiple codes if present.



Figure 5: This image demonstrates the scanner's ability to display diagnostic trouble codes (DTCs) along with their detailed descriptions, eliminating the need for online searches. An example code P0455 ('Evaporative Emission System Leak Detected (Large Leak)') is shown, along with the multi-language support.

3.2 Erasing Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs)

This function clears all diagnostic trouble codes from the vehicle's computer and turns off the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL), also known as the 'Check Engine' light. **Note:** Clearing codes does not fix the underlying problem. The issue must be resolved, or the codes will reappear.

1. From the main menu, select 'Erase Codes' and press 'ENTER'.
2. Confirm your action when prompted.
3. The MIL will turn off, and all diagnostic data will be reset.



Figure 6: This image illustrates the primary function of the Strex OBD2 Scanner: to diagnose and clear engine malfunction indicator lights (MIL). It shows a car dashboard with the 'Check Engine' light on, indicating that the scanner can read fault codes and quickly and easily turn off the warning light.

3.3 Viewing Live Data

This function displays real-time data from the vehicle's sensors and systems, such as engine RPM, vehicle speed, coolant temperature, fuel system status, and more. This data can help in diagnosing intermittent problems or verifying repairs.

- Fuel Pressure
- Lambda Sensor (Oxygen Sensor)
- Engine Speed (RPM)
- Engine Power
- Engine and Oil Temperature
- Fuel System Status
- Vehicle Speed
- Fuel Value

- Intake Pressure
- Ignition Timing
- Intake Air Temperature
- Throttle Position
- Air Flow Rate
- And more...

3.4 I/M Readiness Test

The I/M Readiness function checks the status of the emission-related monitoring systems to determine if they are running correctly. This is crucial for passing emission tests.

3.5 Vehicle Information

This option allows you to retrieve vehicle information such as the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), Calibration ID (CALID), and Calibration Verification Number (CVN).

4. Maintenance

To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of your Strex OBD2 Scanner, follow these simple maintenance guidelines:

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the scanner's exterior. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the scanner in a clean, dry environment, away from direct sunlight, extreme temperatures, and excessive humidity.
- **Cable Care:** Avoid bending or twisting the OBD cable excessively. Do not pull the cable to disconnect the scanner; always grasp the connector.
- **Software Updates:** While this model typically does not require user-performed software updates, always check the manufacturer's website for any potential firmware updates if issues arise.



Figure 7: This image emphasizes the compact and user-friendly design of the Strex OBD2 Scanner, showing its dimensions (approximately 12 cm in length and 6.8 cm in width) and the 80 cm OBD cable. It highlights its clear informative display and suitability for both amateurs and professionals.

5. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues while using your Strex OBD2 Scanner, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

5.1 Scanner Does Not Power On

- **Check Connection:** Ensure the OBD cable is securely plugged into the vehicle's OBD-II port and the scanner.
- **Vehicle Ignition:** Make sure the vehicle's ignition is turned to the ON position. The scanner draws power from the vehicle's battery.
- **Vehicle Battery:** Verify that your vehicle's battery has sufficient charge. A low battery voltage can prevent the scanner from powering on or communicating.

5.2 Communication Error

If the scanner displays a 'Communication Error' message:

- **Verify Vehicle Compatibility:** Ensure your vehicle is OBD-II compliant (generally vehicles manufactured after 1996).
- **Check Connections:** Disconnect and reconnect the scanner to the OBD-II port.
- **Ignition Cycle:** Turn the vehicle's ignition OFF, then ON again, and retry.
- **Check for Blown Fuse:** In some cases, a blown fuse in the vehicle's fuse box (often labeled 'Cigar' or 'Accessory') can affect the OBD-II port's power supply. Consult your vehicle's manual for fuse box diagrams.

5.3 Codes Reappear After Clearing

If diagnostic trouble codes reappear shortly after being cleared, it indicates that the underlying issue causing the code has not been resolved. The scanner only reads and clears codes; it does not perform repairs. You must diagnose and fix the root cause of the problem.

6. Specifications

Feature	Specification
Manufacturer	Strex
Model	Scanner OBD2 (SP50)
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	12.5 x 2.2 x 7 cm
Screen Size	2.8 Inches (LCD, 128 x 64 pixels, white backlight)
Cable Length	80 cm (OBD cable)
Power Source	Vehicle's OBD-II port (no batteries required)
Supported Protocols	OBDII/EOBD+CAN
Supported Languages	Dutch, English, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, and more
ASIN	B0894453F6

7. Package Contents

The Strex OBD2 Scanner package typically includes the following items:

- Strex OBD2 Scanner Unit (Model SP50)
- Integrated OBD-II Cable (80 cm)
- User Manual (Multi-language)



Figure 8: This image displays the contents of the Strex OBD2 Scanner package, including the main OBD2 scanner unit, its retail packaging, and the included user manual, which supports multiple languages like English and Dutch.

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