

GENERIC · BODY

B0010

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B0010

Driver Frontal Stage 2 Deployment Control Circuit

B0010 indicates that the airbag control module has detected a fault in the deployment circuit for the second stage of the driver's frontal airbag, which is the circuit that fires the second charge in a dual-stage inflator during a crash. The module monitors the circuit's resistance and continuity and sets this code when the readings fall outside the expected range, which can prevent that stage from deploying properly.

SYSTEM

Body

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

High

FIX DIFFICULTY

Professional

AREA

Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems

Symptoms you may notice

- The airbag warning light stays illuminated on the dashboard after the bulb check.
- A warning message such as 'Service Airbag' or 'SRS Fault' appears on the driver information display.
- The airbag system may be disabled, so the driver's frontal airbag will not deploy in a collision.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving and behaving normally.
- In some vehicles, other safety systems that share the airbag module may be inhibited.
- Intermittent warning light that comes and goes over bumps or when the steering wheel is turned.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 A damaged or disconnected clock spring (spiral cable) inside the steering wheel, which is the most common cause because it carries the driver airbag circuits.
- 2 Corroded, loose, or damaged connector pins at the driver airbag module or at the airbag control unit.
- 3 A short or open in the wiring harness between the airbag control module and the driver airbag, often from chafing or pinching.
- 4 A faulty second-stage squib (the small detonator charge) inside the driver airbag assembly.
- 5 An internal fault in the airbag control module itself, though this is less common.
- 6 Water intrusion or crash damage that affects the airbag wiring or connectors.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for codes and record freeze-frame data to confirm B0010 is current and not history.
- 2 Inspect the clock spring and steering column wiring for visible damage, then perform a resistance check on the second-stage circuit with a proper airbag-safe ohmmeter.
- 3 Disconnect the battery and wait the manufacturer-specified time, then inspect and clean the connector at the driver airbag and at the airbag control module.
- 4 Check the wiring harness for continuity and shorts between the airbag control module and the driver airbag, repairing any damaged sections.
- 5 If the circuit tests good, substitute a known-good clock spring or airbag module only as a test, following the manufacturer's procedure.
- 6 Clear the codes and verify the repair by cycling the ignition and confirming the warning light goes out and stays out.
- 7 If the fault persists after all circuit checks, replace the airbag control module and perform any required programming or calibration.

Clock spring failures that mimic this code

- A failing clock spring often sets B0010 along with codes for other steering-wheel circuits such as horn or cruise control, so check those systems before condemning the airbag itself.
- The second stage of a dual-stage airbag is only used in more severe crashes, so a vehicle with this code may still deploy the first stage, but the system cannot be trusted to protect the occupant fully.
- Many technicians replace the airbag when the real fault is a chafed wire under the driver's seat or at the steering column, so always perform a resistance test before parts swapping.
- After any airbag circuit repair, the airbag control module may need a learn or calibration procedure, and some vehicles require a scan tool to clear the crash data.
- A weak or failing battery can cause intermittent airbag codes because the module may not initialize properly during cranking, so check the charging system as part of diagnosis.

Can I keep driving with B0010?

Because this code can disable the driver's frontal airbag, the vehicle is not safe to drive until the fault is repaired; avoid driving and have the system diagnosed promptly, and never attempt airbag repairs without proper training and safety precautions.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with airbag/SRS capability
- Digital multimeter with low-ohm and min/max recording
- Airbag simulator or load tool
- Trim removal tools
- Torque wrench for airbag fasteners
- Manufacturer service information for wiring diagrams and procedures

Reading B0010

B	Body: airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
0	Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
0	Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
10	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B0001 Driver Frontal Stage 1 Deployment Control Circuit · **B0011** Right Front/Passenger Frontal Stage 2 Deployment Control · **B0012** Right Front/Passenger Frontal Stage 2 Deployment Control · **B0013** Passenger Knee Bolster Deployment Control · **B0014** Driver Knee Airbag Deployment Control

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [How Airbags Work: A 50 km/h Crash in Slow Motion](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/b0010/>

