

GENERIC · BODY

B0014

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B0014

Driver Knee Airbag Deployment Control

B0014 indicates that the restraint control module has detected a fault in the circuit for the driver's knee airbag, which is a supplemental inflatable restraint designed to protect the driver's lower body in a frontal collision. The module monitors the deployment loop for correct resistance and continuity, and it sets this code when the measured values fall outside the expected range or when a short or open is detected.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Body	Generic (all makes)	Medium	Professional	Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems

Symptoms you may notice

- The airbag warning light on the instrument cluster stays illuminated after the bulb check.
- A message such as 'Service Airbag' or 'SRS Fault' may appear on the driver information center.
- The knee airbag may be disabled and will not deploy in a collision.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with no noticeable change in vehicle operation.
- In some vehicles, other restraint functions such as seat belt pretensioners may be affected if the fault is in a shared circuit.

Common causes, most likely first

- Damaged or disconnected electrical connector at the driver's knee airbag module.
- Open or shorted wiring in the knee airbag deployment circuit, often due to pinched or chafed harness.
- Faulty clock spring or spiral cable if the knee airbag circuit is routed through the steering column (less common).
- Internal failure of the driver's knee airbag module itself, such as a defective inflator or shorted squib.
- Corrosion or water intrusion in the connector or wiring harness.
- Failed restraint control module (airbag control unit) not properly monitoring the circuit.
- Aftermarket accessories or previous repairs that disturbed the airbag wiring.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool that can read body codes and check for any related codes in the restraint system.
- 2 Inspect the driver's knee airbag connector and wiring for damage, corrosion, or loose pins; reseal the connector if necessary.
- 3 Disconnect the battery and wait the recommended time, then use a digital multimeter to measure resistance across the knee airbag squib circuit; compare to manufacturer specifications.
- 4 Check for continuity and short-to-ground or short-to-voltage on the wiring between the airbag module and the restraint control module.
- 5 If the wiring and connectors are good, substitute a known-good knee airbag module (if possible) to see if the code clears.
- 6 If the code persists after replacing the airbag module, diagnose the restraint control module and its programming.
- 7 Clear the code and perform a road test to confirm the repair, ensuring the airbag light does not return.

Before you replace the knee airbag

- A common mistake is replacing the knee airbag when the real problem is a loose or corroded connector under the driver's seat or at the base of the steering column.
- The code can be set by a low battery or charging system issue that causes a momentary voltage drop, so always check battery health and connections first.
- After any airbag circuit repair, the restraint control module may need to be reset or reprogrammed, and some vehicles require a dealer-level scan tool to clear the code.
- Never use a standard ohmmeter to probe an airbag squib directly; the small current from the meter can trigger deployment, so always use a proper airbag simulator or follow manufacturer procedures.
- If the vehicle has been in a flood or had water leaks, the knee airbag circuit may be affected even if the connector looks dry, so inspect the entire harness for hidden corrosion.

Can I keep driving with B0014?

The vehicle remains safe to drive in normal conditions because the airbag system is supplemental, but the knee airbag will not deploy in a crash, reducing occupant protection. Avoid any impact to the driver's knee area and have the fault repaired promptly to restore full restraint function.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with body/restraint code capability
- Digital multimeter (with low-current resistance measurement)
- Airbag simulator tool (to safely test circuits without deploying the airbag)
- Trim removal tools (to access connectors and modules)
- Battery disconnect tool and memory saver
- Manufacturer service information for wiring diagrams and resistance specifications

Reading B0014

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.
14	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B0012 Right Front/Passenger Frontal Stage 2 Deployment Control · **B0013** Passenger Knee Bolster Deployment Control · **B0015** Passenger Knee Airbag Deployment Control · **B0016** Right Front/Passenger Frontal Deployment Loop Short to Groun · **B0017** Right Front/Passenger Frontal Deployment Loop Short to Batte

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/b0014/>

