

GENERIC · BODY

B003B

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B003B

Second Row Right Frontal Stage 3 Deployment Control

B003B indicates that the restraint control module (RCM) has detected a fault in the deployment circuit for the second-row right frontal airbag, stage 3. The module monitors the circuit's resistance and continuity and sets this code when the signal falls outside the expected range, which can prevent that airbag stage from deploying in a crash.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- Airbag warning light illuminated on the instrument cluster
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- Passenger airbag status indicator may show 'off' or 'service' for the second-row right position
- Supplemental restraint system (SRS) may be disabled for that seating position
- In some vehicles, a chime or message center alert about the restraint system

Common causes, most likely first

- Damaged or disconnected wiring harness at the second-row right seat, often from seat movement or cargo
- Corroded or loose electrical connector at the stage 3 airbag inflator
- Open or shorted stage 3 airbag inflator squib
- Faulty restraint control module (RCM) internal driver circuit
- Water intrusion or physical damage to the seat wiring from spills or cargo
- Aftermarket seat covers or accessories pinching the harness



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the second-row right seat wiring harness and connectors for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 2 Disconnect the battery and wait for the recommended time, then check the stage 3 airbag connector for proper seating and terminal tension
- 3 Measure the resistance of the stage 3 airbag squib with a digital multimeter and compare to the manufacturer's specification
- 4 Check for continuity and shorts to ground or power on the circuit between the RCM and the airbag connector
- 5 If the circuit tests good, substitute a known-good airbag or use a simulator to isolate the RCM
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring, connectors, or the airbag inflator as needed
- 7 Clear the code and verify the repair with a scan tool and by cycling the ignition

Before you replace the airbag module

- Seat movement and cargo loading frequently damage the second-row right harness, so inspect the wiring under the seat before condemning the airbag.
A stage 3 code does not always mean the airbag is defective; a poor connection at the yellow SRS connector can set the same code.
 - Aftermarket seat covers or objects stored under the seat can pinch or stress the harness, causing intermittent faults.
 - The RCM may set this code if battery voltage was low during a previous start, so check for related low-voltage codes before replacing parts.
- Always follow the manufacturer's procedure for disabling the SRS before probing airbag circuits to avoid accidental deployment.

Can I keep driving with B003B?

The vehicle remains driveable, but the second-row right frontal airbag may not deploy in a crash, so avoid carrying passengers in that seat until the fault is repaired. Have the system diagnosed promptly to restore full restraint protection.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with SRS capability
- Digital multimeter
- Airbag simulator tool
- Trim removal tools
- Battery disconnect tool



Reading B003B

- 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.
- 3B** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B003A Second Row Right Frontal Stage 2 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/b003b/>

