

GENERIC · BODY

**B0041**

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

**B0041**

## Third Row Left Frontal Stage 1 Deployment Control

B0041 means the airbag control module has detected a fault in the deployment circuit for the third row left frontal airbag, which is the stage 1 squib responsible for the initial, lower-force inflation. The module monitors circuit resistance and continuity and sets this code when the measured value falls outside the expected range, so the airbag may not deploy correctly in a crash.

SYSTEM

**Body**

CODE TYPE

**Generic (all makes)**

SEVERITY

**High**

FIX DIFFICULTY

**Professional**

AREA

**Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems**

### Symptoms you may notice

- Airbag warning light illuminated steadily on the instrument cluster
- SRS (Supplemental Restraint System) warning message displayed on the driver information center
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with the vehicle driving normally
- Airbag system disabled for the third row left frontal stage 1 deployment circuit
- In some vehicles, a chime or reminder that the restraint system requires service

### Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or chafed wiring harness at the third row left seat or seatback pivot
- 2 Loose, corroded, or unseated electrical connector at the third row left airbag module
- 3 Open or shorted clock spring-style ribbon or seat-integrated wiring in the third row left seat
- 4 Failed third row left frontal stage 1 airbag squib (inflator assembly)
- 5 Water intrusion or corrosion in the third row left seat wiring or connector
- 6 Internal fault in the airbag control module (less common)



## How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules and record the exact B0041 status and any related SRS codes before clearing anything
- 2 Inspect the third row left seat wiring harness and connectors for chafing, corrosion, or loose pins
- 3 Disconnect the battery and wait the manufacturer-specified time, then measure resistance across the stage 1 squib circuit at the airbag connector
- 4 Compare the measured resistance to the manufacturer's specification and check for shorts to ground or power on each leg of the circuit
- 5 Repair or replace the damaged section of harness or connector, then clear the code and verify it does not return
- 6 If the circuit tests good, substitute a known-good airbag squib or use a simulator to isolate the module from the airbag
- 7 Replace the airbag control module only after all wiring and squib tests pass and the fault persists

## Third row airbag faults that fool technicians

- A common miss is a chafed harness where the third row seat folds or slides, which only shows an open circuit when the seat is in a particular position, so test with the seat moved through its full travel.
- The code does not always mean the airbag itself has failed; a corroded connector pin or a pin that has backed out of its housing can set the same resistance fault.
- Never measure resistance directly on an airbag squib with a standard ohmmeter unless the manufacturer's procedure explicitly allows it, because the meter's test current can trigger deployment.
- After any repair, the airbag module may need a learn or configuration procedure, and some vehicles will keep the light on until the crash data is cleared with a capable scan tool.
- A weak or failing battery or a poor ground at the airbag module can cause intermittent deployment circuit codes that disappear after a charging system repair.

## Can I keep driving with B0041?

Because this fault can prevent the third row left frontal airbag from deploying correctly in a collision, have it diagnosed promptly and avoid carrying passengers in that seating position until the repair is complete. The vehicle remains driveable, but treat the airbag warning light as a safety system failure rather than a cosmetic issue.

## Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with SRS (airbag) capability
- Digital multimeter with low-current resistance measurement
- Manufacturer service information for airbag circuit resistance specifications
- Airbag simulator or load tool
- Trim removal tools for third row seat and panel access
- Battery disconnect tool and wait timer



### Reading B0041

- 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.
- 41** The exact fault within that area.

### Often seen with

**B0042** Side Deployment Loop Open (Generic) · **B0043** Third Row Left Frontal Stage 3 Deployment Control · **B0046** Left Curtain Deployment Loop Open

### 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/b0041/>

