

GENERIC · BODY

B004B

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B004B

Third Row Right Frontal Stage 3 Deployment Control

B004B indicates that the restraint control module (RCM) has detected a fault in the deployment circuit for the third 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 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 on the instrument cluster
- SRS (Supplemental Restraint System) message displayed on the driver information center
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- The third row right airbag may be disabled and will not deploy in a collision
- Other restraint system codes may be stored alongside B004B
- In some vehicles, a chime or reminder to service the restraint system

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Damaged or disconnected wiring harness at the third row right airbag connector
- 2 Corroded or loose electrical connector terminals at the airbag or RCM
- 3 Open or shorted airbag squib (deployment circuit) inside the third row right airbag module
- 4 Faulty clock spring or wiring pass-through if the circuit routes through a moving component (less common for third row)
- 5 Internal failure in the restraint control module (RCM)
- 6 Aftermarket accessories or previous repairs that disturbed the SRS wiring
- 7 Water intrusion or physical damage to the wiring in the third row area



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for codes and record freeze-frame data to confirm B004B is current and not history
- 2 Visually inspect the third row right airbag connector and wiring for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 3 Disconnect the battery and wait the manufacturer-specified time, then measure resistance across the airbag squib to check for an open or short
- 4 Check continuity and resistance of the wiring harness between the airbag connector and the RCM, looking for opens or shorts to ground
- 5 Substitute a known-good airbag simulator at the connector to isolate whether the fault is in the airbag or the harness/RCM
- 6 If the harness and airbag test good, diagnose the RCM with a capable scan tool and follow manufacturer pinpoint tests
- 7 Clear codes and verify the repair with a scan tool and by cycling the ignition

Before you replace the third row airbag

- A common mistake is replacing the airbag when the real problem is a corroded connector or chafed wire under the third row seat, so always inspect the harness first.
- B004B can be set by a low battery or voltage spike during service, so check for history codes and verify the battery condition before condemning parts.
- The RCM may store this code if the airbag connector was unplugged with the ignition on, so always disconnect the battery before working on SRS components.
- Aftermarket seat covers or cargo accessories can pinch the third row wiring, causing intermittent faults that only appear when the seats are folded or loaded.
- Some vehicles require the RCM to be configured or programmed after replacement, and a used module may not work without proper initialization.

Can I keep driving with B004B?

The vehicle is not safe to drive because the third row right frontal airbag may not deploy in a crash, so have the fault diagnosed and repaired before carrying passengers in that seat. Avoid any impact to the third row area and do not attempt to repair SRS wiring without proper training.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with SRS capabilities
- Digital multimeter
- Airbag simulator tool
- Trim removal tools
- Service manual with wiring diagrams
- Battery disconnect tool



Reading B004B

- 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.
- 4B** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B004A Third Row Right Frontal Stage 2 Deployment Control · **B0050** Driver Pretensioner 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/b004b/>

