

GENERIC · BODY

B009A

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B009A

Left Side Restraints Sensor 4

B009A indicates that the restraints control module has detected a fault in the circuit for the left-side restraints sensor number four, which is typically a side-impact or satellite sensor used to trigger airbags and seatbelt pretensioners. The module monitors the sensor's signal and sets this code when the voltage, resistance, or communication from that sensor falls outside the expected range.

SYSTEM

Body

CODE TYPE

Generic (all makes)

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems

Symptoms you may notice

- Airbag warning light illuminated on the instrument cluster
- Seatbelt pretensioner may be disabled, reducing occupant protection
- Side airbags may not deploy in a collision
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- In some vehicles, a chime or message indicating a restraint system fault

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty left-side restraints sensor number four
- 2 Damaged or corroded wiring harness or connector at the sensor
- 3 Water intrusion or physical damage to the sensor or its connector
- 4 Loose or improperly seated sensor mounting bolt affecting ground connection
- 5 Restraints control module internal fault
- 6 Aftermarket accessories or previous repairs disturbing the sensor circuit

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the sensor and its connector for physical damage, corrosion, or loose mounting
- 2 Check for technical service bulletins or recalls related to the restraint system
- 3 Measure resistance and voltage on the sensor circuit and compare to manufacturer specifications
- 4 Perform a wiggle test on the harness while monitoring sensor data to detect intermittent faults
- 5 Replace the sensor if it fails electrical testing or shows physical damage
- 6 Repair or replace damaged wiring and connectors as needed
- 7 Clear the code and verify the repair with a scan tool and test drive



What a left-side sensor code really means

- A loose sensor mounting bolt can cause this code because the sensor uses its mounting point as a ground reference, and poor contact corrupts the signal.
- Water leaks into the cabin or trunk often corrode the sensor connector, leading to this fault even when the sensor itself is good.
- The code can be set by a low battery or charging system issue that causes voltage spikes, so always check battery health before replacing parts.
- After a collision repair, the sensor may be incorrectly installed or the wrong part used, triggering this code.
- Some vehicles require recalibration of the restraints system after sensor replacement, and skipping this step will keep the light on.

Can I keep driving with B009A?

The vehicle is safe to drive, but the airbag system may not function correctly in a crash, so avoid aggressive driving and have the fault diagnosed promptly. Do not ignore the warning light, as occupant protection is compromised.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with airbag system capability
- Digital multimeter
- Wire terminal pick and electrical contact cleaner
- Socket set and torque wrench
- Service manual or wiring diagram for the specific vehicle

Reading B009A

- 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.
- 9A** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B009B Left Side Restraints Sensor 5 · **B009C** Left Side Restraints Sensor 6 · **B009D** Right Side Restraints Sensor 4 · **B009E** Right Side Restraints Sensor 5 · **B009F** Right Side Restraints Sensor 6



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/b009a/>

