

GENERIC · BODY

B009B

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B009B

Left Side Restraints Sensor 5

B009B indicates that the restraint control module has detected a fault on the circuit for the left-side impact sensor number 5, which is typically a pressure or acceleration sensor mounted in the left door or B-pillar area. The module monitors the sensor's signal voltage and compares it to expected values; when the voltage stays out of range or the circuit resistance is abnormal, it stores this code and may disable the corresponding airbag deployment path.

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 steadily on the instrument cluster
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with no drivability change
- Supplemental restraint system (SRS) may be partially disabled, so airbags on the left side may not deploy in a collision
- In some vehicles, a chime or message center alert reminds the driver that the restraint system needs service
- Intermittent warning light if the fault is a loose connection or chafed wire that makes contact over bumps

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty left-side restraints sensor 5 (internal failure or water intrusion)
- 2 Damaged, chafed, or corroded wiring between the sensor and the restraint control module
- 3 Loose or contaminated electrical connector at the sensor or module
- 4 Failed restraint control module (less common but possible)
- 5 Low battery voltage or charging system issue causing momentary sensor signal dropout
- 6 Aftermarket accessories or previous collision repair that disturbed the sensor circuit



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify battery voltage and charging system health, as low voltage can set false restraint codes
- 2 Inspect the sensor connector and wiring for corrosion, looseness, or physical damage, and clean or repair as needed
- 3 Check the sensor mounting for proper torque and condition, since a loose sensor can produce erratic signals
- 4 Measure resistance and voltage on the sensor circuit and compare to manufacturer specifications
- 5 Substitute a known-good sensor of the same part number to see if the code clears
- 6 Clear the code and perform a road test to confirm the repair, then verify no pending codes return
- 7 If the circuit and sensor test good, follow the manufacturer's diagnostic flow for the restraint control module

Restraint sensor faults that fool technicians

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the sensor when the real problem is a chafed wire inside the door boot, where flexing over time breaks strands and causes intermittent shorts.
- Water leaks into the door or B-pillar can corrode the sensor connector pins, setting this code without any visible damage until the trim is removed.
- Some vehicles set B009B after a low-voltage event such as a jump start or weak battery, and the code will not clear until the battery is fully charged and the memory is reset.
- The left-side restraints sensor 5 is often a pressure sensor in the door, and its signal is used for side airbag deployment logic, so a fault can quietly disable that function even if the airbag light is the only clue.
- After a collision repair, a sensor that was painted over or installed with the wrong fastener can produce a signal outside the expected range, triggering this code.

Can I keep driving with B009B?

The vehicle remains safe to drive in normal conditions because the fault affects only the supplemental restraint system, but the left-side airbags may not deploy in a side impact. Avoid hard cornering or off-road driving that could worsen a wiring fault, and have the system diagnosed promptly to restore full protection.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with restraint system capability
- Digital multimeter
- Trim removal tools
- Torque wrench
- Manufacturer service information for circuit specifications



Reading B009B

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

Often seen with

B009A Left Side Restraints Sensor 4 · **B009C** Left Side Restraints Sensor 6 · **B009D** Right Side Restraints Sensor 4 · **B009E** Right Side Restraints Sensor 5 · **U0151** Lost Communication With Restraints Control Module

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/b009b/>

