

GENERIC · BODY

B00D1

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B00D1

Passenger Seat Belt Indicator

B00D1 indicates a fault in the passenger seat belt indicator circuit, which is the warning light or chime that alerts the driver when the front passenger seat is occupied but the seat belt is not buckled. The body control module (BCM) monitors the passenger seat weight sensor and the seat belt buckle switch, and it sets this code when the electrical circuit for the indicator does not behave as expected, such as an open, short, or out-of-range signal.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- The passenger seat belt warning light stays on continuously even when the seat is empty or the belt is buckled.
- The passenger seat belt chime sounds intermittently or fails to sound when the seat is occupied and the belt is unbuckled.
- The airbag warning light may also illuminate because the occupant classification system shares data with the seat belt indicator circuit.
- The driver may notice the seat belt reminder works normally for the driver but not for the passenger.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, with all seat belt functions operating correctly.
- In some vehicles, the passenger airbag may be disabled automatically if the fault is interpreted as a seat sensor failure.

Common causes, most likely first

- Faulty passenger seat belt buckle switch, which is the most common cause due to wear or contamination.
- Damaged or pinched wiring harness under the passenger seat, often from seat movement or cargo.
- Failed passenger seat weight sensor (occupant detection sensor) or its calibration.
- Corroded or loose electrical connector at the seat belt buckle or under the seat.
- Body control module (BCM) software glitch or internal fault, though less common.
- Blown fuse or poor ground connection for the seat belt indicator circuit.
- Aftermarket seat covers or heavy objects on the passenger seat interfering with the weight sensor.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Inspect the passenger seat area for any objects, aftermarket seat covers, or cargo that could press on the seat and trigger the weight sensor.
- 2 Check the wiring harness and connectors under the passenger seat for visible damage, corrosion, or loose pins; reseal connectors and repair any chafed wires.
- 3 Use a scan tool to read live data from the occupant classification system and seat belt buckle switch to see if the BCM is receiving correct signals.
- 4 Test the passenger seat belt buckle switch with a multimeter for continuity in both buckled and unbuckled states, replacing it if out of specification.
- 5 Verify the passenger seat weight sensor operation by comparing its readings with known weights and recalibrating or replacing it if faulty.
- 6 Check fuses and grounds related to the BCM and seat belt indicator circuit, repairing any open or high-resistance connections.
- 7 If all components test good, consult service information for BCM diagnostics and possibly reprogram or replace the BCM as a last resort.

Why the passenger seat belt light lies

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the seat belt buckle when the real problem is a chafed wire under the seat that only shorts when the seat is moved.
- The passenger seat weight sensor can be fooled by a heavy bag or pet on the seat, causing the indicator to activate without a person present.
- Some vehicles require recalibration of the occupant classification system after any seat or sensor replacement, and skipping this step will keep the code stored.
- The B00D1 code can be set by a low battery or voltage spike that corrupts the BCM's memory, so clearing the code after restoring power may resolve it.
- This code does not always mean the seat belt system is unsafe; it often only affects the reminder function, but the airbag deployment strategy may be altered if the fault is in the weight sensor.

Can I keep driving with B00D1?

The vehicle remains safe to drive because the seat belt itself still restrains occupants, but the passenger should always buckle up regardless of the warning light. Avoid placing heavy items on the passenger seat until the fault is repaired, as this can cause the airbag to be disabled or deployed incorrectly.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with live data capability
- Digital multimeter
- Trim removal tools
- Socket set
- Service information for occupant classification system

Reading B00D1

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.

D1 The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B00C5 Passenger Seat Track Position Restraints Sensor · **B00C6** Passenger Seat Recline Position Restraints Sensor · **B00D0** Driver Seat Belt Indicator · **B00D2** Restraint System Malfunction Indicator 1 · **U0151** Lost Communication With Restraints Control Module

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Fuel Trims Explained: Short-Term and Long-Term](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/b00d1/>

