



B00D3

Restraint System Malfunction Indicator 2

B00D3 is a body code indicating that the restraint control module has detected a fault in the second malfunction indicator circuit, which is the separate lamp or driver that alerts occupants to a supplemental restraint system problem. The module monitors the indicator circuit for open, short-to-ground, or short-to-battery conditions and stores this code when the expected voltage or current is outside the manufacturer's specified range.

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

Symptoms you may notice

- The airbag or supplemental restraint warning light may fail to illuminate when the ignition is first turned on.
- The restraint warning light may stay illuminated continuously after the bulb-check phase.
- A chime or audible alert may sound in some vehicles because the restraint indicator is not functioning as expected.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, because the fault is in the indicator circuit rather than the airbag deployment circuit.
- In some vehicles, the driver information center may display a message such as 'Service Restraint System' or 'Airbag Indicator Fault'.
- Other restraint system functions may be inhibited or a related warning may appear if the module sets multiple indicator codes.

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Failed or burned-out indicator bulb or light-emitting diode in the instrument cluster.
- 2 Open or damaged wiring between the restraint control module and the instrument cluster indicator.
- 3 Corroded or loose connector terminals at the restraint control module or cluster harness.
- 4 Short to ground or short to voltage on the indicator control circuit.
- 5 Internal fault in the instrument cluster or restraint control module driver circuit.
- 6 Water intrusion or physical damage to the harness routing near the dashboard or kick panel.
- 7 Aftermarket accessories or previous radio or alarm installation disturbing the cluster or module wiring.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the stored code with a scan tool that can access body codes and record any freeze-frame or circuit status data.
- 2 Perform a visual inspection of the instrument cluster indicator, checking that the lamp or LED illuminates during the bulb-check sequence.
- 3 Disconnect the battery and inspect the restraint control module and cluster connectors for corrosion, pushed terminals, or loose pins.
- 4 Measure resistance and voltage on the indicator control circuit between the module and cluster, comparing to the manufacturer's wiring diagram and specifications.
- 5 Check for shorts to ground or battery voltage on the indicator circuit with the module and cluster disconnected.
- 6 If the circuit tests good, substitute a known-good cluster or module only after confirming power and ground integrity to rule out a driver failure.
- 7 Clear the code and perform a complete restraint system verification, including all indicator and communication tests, before returning the vehicle.

Indicator circuit faults are not airbag faults

- Technicians often replace the restraint control module when the real fault is a failed cluster bulb or a chafed wire behind the dashboard, so always test the indicator circuit first.
- A B00D3 can be set by a completely functional airbag system because the code only reports that the warning indicator cannot be properly controlled or monitored.
- Some vehicles use the same indicator driver for multiple restraint warnings, so a single failed driver can set several indicator codes that look like separate problems.
- Aftermarket remote starters or alarm systems that tap into the cluster harness frequently cause indicator circuit codes by introducing resistance or intermittent shorts.
- A weak or failing battery can cause the module to log indicator circuit codes during cranking if voltage drops below the module's operating threshold.

Can I keep driving with B00D3?

The vehicle is generally safe to drive because this code affects the warning indicator rather than airbag deployment, but you should not ignore it because a non-functional restraint warning light can mask a real airbag fault. Avoid delaying diagnosis, and do not rely on the absence of a warning light as proof that the restraint system is healthy.



Tools that help

- Scan tool with body code and bidirectional control capability
- Digital multimeter with min/max and resistance measurement
- Manufacturer or equivalent wiring diagram for the restraint indicator circuit
- Trim removal tools for instrument cluster access
- Test light or logic probe for circuit integrity checks

Reading B00D3

- B** Body: airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
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- 0** Generic (SAE) code: it means the same thing on every OBD-II vehicle.
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- 0** Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
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- D3** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B0092 Side Impact Sensor Left Front Malfunction · **B00D2** Restraint System Malfunction Indicator 1 · **B00D4** Restraint System Malfunction Audible Indicator · **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/b00d3/>

