

GENERIC · BODY

B0116

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

B0116

Camera Washer Actuator N

B0116 indicates that the body control module has detected a fault in the electrical circuit for the camera washer actuator on the 'N' side, which typically refers to a specific output or ground path depending on the vehicle's configuration. The module monitors the actuator's current draw and voltage feedback, and when the signal falls outside the expected range, it stores this code and may disable the washer function.

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 camera washer may not spray fluid when activated, leaving the rearview or surround-view camera lens dirty.
- A warning light or message may appear on the dashboard indicating a washer system fault.
- The washer pump for the camera may run continuously or not at all, depending on whether the circuit is shorted or open.
- Often no symptoms besides the warning light, as the camera washer is a convenience feature and may not affect drivability.
- Other washer functions (windshield, headlight) may still work normally, but some vehicles may disable all washers if a fault is detected.
- In rare cases, the camera image may be obscured or degraded due to lack of cleaning, triggering additional driver assistance warnings.

Common causes, most likely first

- A failed camera washer actuator motor, often due to water intrusion or corrosion inside the actuator housing.
- Damaged or disconnected wiring harness at the actuator connector, commonly caused by road debris or repeated flexing.
- Corroded or loose electrical connector pins at the actuator or at the body control module.
- A blown fuse that supplies power to the camera washer circuit, though this often affects multiple washers.
- A faulty body control module (BCM) driver circuit, which is less common but possible if all other components test good.
- Blocked washer nozzle or hose causing the actuator to overheat or draw excessive current, leading to a circuit fault.
- Aftermarket accessories or improper previous repairs that tapped into the washer circuit and caused a short or open.



How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Verify the code with a scan tool and check for any related body codes that might indicate a shared power or ground issue.
- 2 Inspect the camera washer actuator connector and wiring for visible damage, corrosion, or loose pins, and repair as needed.
- 3 Test the actuator with a fused jumper wire or a bidirectional scan tool to command it on and off, listening for operation.
- 4 Measure resistance across the actuator motor; an open or shorted winding indicates a failed actuator that requires replacement.
- 5 Check the fuse and relay that supply power to the camera washer circuit, replacing any blown fuse and testing the relay.
- 6 If the actuator and wiring test good, backprobe the BCM connector to check for command signals and ground integrity; repair any faulty BCM driver or replace the module if necessary.
- 7 Clear the code and retest the system to confirm the repair, ensuring the washer sprays correctly and no codes return.

Camera Washer Circuit Diagnosis Traps

- A common misdiagnosis is replacing the body control module when the actual fault is a corroded connector at the actuator, which is often exposed to road spray and debris.
- The 'N' designation in B0116 can refer to a specific side or output channel, so always consult the vehicle's service information to identify the exact circuit before testing.
- Some vehicles use a shared ground for multiple washers, so a fault in one actuator can cause codes for others; check for a common ground point that may be loose or corroded.
- The camera washer may only operate under certain conditions, such as when the camera is active or the vehicle is in reverse, so testing must replicate those conditions to avoid false conclusions.
- After replacing the actuator, some vehicles require a recalibration or initialization procedure via the scan tool to enable the washer function and clear the code permanently.

Can I keep driving with B0116?

It is safe to continue driving with this code because the camera washer is a convenience feature and does not affect vehicle safety or drivability. Avoid relying on the camera washer until repaired, and clean the camera lens manually if visibility is reduced.



Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with bidirectional control capability
- Digital multimeter
- Fused jumper wire
- Trim removal tools
- Service information or wiring diagrams

Reading B0116

- 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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- 1** Airbags, seats, doors, lights and comfort systems.
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- 16** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

B0115 Camera Washer Actuator M · **B0117** Camera Washer Actuator O · **B0118** Camera Washer Actuator P
 · **B0120** Passenger Pelvic/Thorax Airbag Deployment Control · **B0121** Fluid Reservoir Level Sensor F

See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Manual Car Driving Simulator: Learn Clutch Control](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/b0116/>

